

The E.P Forrestel Water Treatment  
Facility

-And-

The Akron Water System

*Present the:*

Annual Water Quality Report

For the Year of 2021

*Annual Drinking Water Quality Report for 2021  
Village of Akron Water System  
21 Main St, Akron, NY 14001  
Public Water Supply ID# NY1400397*

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21 Main St, Akron, NY 14001  
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## **INTRODUCTION**

To comply with State regulations, the Village of Akron will be issuing a report annually describing the quality of your drinking water. The purpose of this report is to raise your understanding of drinking water and awareness of the need to protect our drinking water sources. Last year, our tap water met all State drinking water health standards. We are proud to report that our system did not violate a maximum contaminant level. We conducted tests for over 30 contaminants, detected five of those contaminants, and did not find any contaminants at a level higher than the State allows. This report provides an overview of last year's water quality. Included are details about where your water comes from, what it contains, and how it compares to state standards.

If you have any questions about this report or concerning your drinking water, please contact **The E.P. Forrestel Treatment Plant at 585-547-9410**. We want you to be informed about your drinking water. If you want to learn more, please attend any of our regularly scheduled village board meetings. The meeting schedule is available from the Village Clerk's Office, located at 21 Main St, Akron, NY 14001, or by calling 716-542-9636.

## **WHERE DOES OUR WATER COME FROM?**

In general, the sources of drinking water (both tap water and bottled water) include rivers, lakes, streams, ponds, reservoirs, springs, and wells. As water travels over the surface of the land or through the ground, it dissolves naturally-occurring minerals and, in some cases, radioactive material, and can pick up substances resulting from the presence of animals or from human activities. Contaminants that may be present in source water include microbial contaminants; inorganic contaminants; pesticides and herbicides; organic chemical contaminants; and radioactive contaminants. In order to ensure that tap water is safe to drink, the State and the EPA prescribe regulations which limit the amount of certain contaminants in water provided by public water systems. The State Health Departments and the FDA's regulations establish limits for contaminants in bottled water which must provide the same protection for public health.

Our water source is the Murder Creek Reservoir, which is located in the Town of Bennington, NY. The E.P. Forrestel Water Treatment Plant is located adjacent to the reservoir, in the Town of Darien. Water entering the treatment plant is chlorinated and filtered using the coagulation, flocculation, sedimentation, and filtration processes. During 2021, our water system did not experience any restrictions.

The New York State Department of Health (NYSDOH) has completed a source water assessment for the Village of Akron water system, based on available information. Possible and actual threats to this drinking water source were evaluated. The state source water assessment includes a susceptibility rating based on the risk posed by each potential source of contamination and how easily contaminants can move over the land to the reservoir and whether they remain in the reservoir or dissipate. The susceptibility rating is an estimate of the potential for contamination of the source water. It does not mean that the water delivered to consumers is, or will become contaminated. See section "Are there contaminants in our drinking water?" for a list of the contaminants that have been detected. The amount of pasture in the assessment area results in an elevated potential for pesticide, DBP precursor, phosphorus and microbial contamination. No permitted discharges are found in the assessment area. There are no noteworthy contamination threats associated with other discreet contaminant sources. Finally it should be noted that hydrological characteristics (e.g. basin shape and flushing rates) generally make reservoirs highly sensitive to existing and new sources of phosphorous and microbial contamination.

While the source water assessment rates our reservoir as being susceptible to microbial contamination, please note that our water is disinfected to ensure that the finished water delivered into your home meets New York State's drinking water standards for microbial contamination. A copy of the assessment can be obtained at the Village office.

## **FACTS AND FIGURES**

Our water system serves roughly 3085 people in the village through 1192 service connections. In 2021 we served 12 industrial accounts, 1139 residential, 5 municipal and 36 easement customers. The total water produced in 2021 was 169.3 million gallons, of which 157.4 million gallons were consumed by the village. This leaves an unaccounted for total of 11.9 million gallons. This water was used to treat the water, flush mains, fight fires and leakage, and accounts for the remaining 11.9 million gallons. The average amount of water treated each day was 463,835 gallons. Our highest daily production was 599,300 gallons on June 2, 2021.

### **Residential charges are as follows:**

Base charge \$18.75 for 2000 or less gallons; then \$8.20 per thousand.

### ***Residential low user charges:***

Base charge \$15.75 for 2000 or less, then 1,000 gallons at \$16.40 per thousand; additional thousands at \$8.20/thousand.

### ***Industrial Rates:***

Base charge of \$266.75 for 34,000 gallons or less, then \$8.20/thousand.

### ***Easement customers***

Base charge of \$22.87 for 2000 or less, then \$10.25/thousand.

### ***Outside Village Water Customers***

Base charge \$27.00 for 2000 or less, then \$12.30/thousand.

**Please note, our entire water system is funded by the metered rate, we do not have water districts. In some larger systems, you pay the metered rate, plus taxes for the water district you are in.**

## **ARE THERE CONTAMINANTS IN OUR DRINKING WATER?**

As the State regulations require, we routinely test your drinking water for numerous contaminants. These contaminants include: total coliform, turbidity, inorganic compounds, nitrate, lead and copper, volatile organic compounds, total trihalomethanes, haloacetic acids, radiological and synthetic organic compounds. The table presented below depicts which compounds were detected in your drinking water. The State allows us to test for some contaminants less than once per year because the concentrations of these contaminants do not change frequently. Some of our data, though representative, are more than one year old.

It should be noted that all drinking water, including bottled drinking water, might be reasonably expected to contain at least small amounts of some contaminants. The presence of contaminants does not necessarily indicate that water poses a health risk. More information about contaminants and potential health effects can be obtained by calling the EPA's Safe Drinking Water Hotline (800-426-4791) or the Erie County Health Department at 716-961-6800.

<b>Table of Detected Contaminants</b>							
<b>Contaminant</b>	<b>MCL Violation Yes/No</b>	<b>Date of Sample</b>	<b>Level Detected (Avg/Max) (Range)</b>	<b>Unit Measurement</b>	<b>MCLG</b>	<b>Regulatory Limit (MCL, TT or AL)</b>	<b>Likely Source of Contamination</b>
Turbidity	No	Daily	Max: 0.357	NTU	N/A(6)	TT= 1.0	Soil Runoff
Turbidity (1)	No	Daily	Range: 0.022-0.357 100% below TT	NTU	N/A	TT= 95% of samples <=0.30	Soil Runoff
Distribution Turbidity (2)	No	Daily	Range: 0.048-0.240 100% below TT	NTU	N/A	MCL = 5	Soil Runoff
Copper	No	9/24/21	0.2012 (4) Range: 0.04 to 0.3664	mg/l	1.3	AL = 1.3	Corrosion of household plumbing; erosion of natural deposits.
Nickel	No	10/6/2020	0.0007	mg/l	Not established	Not established	Not available
Barium	No	10/6/20	0.0116	mg/l	2	MCL = 2	Discharge of drilling wastes; Erosion of natural deposits.
Total Trihalomethanes	No	2/12/21, 5/7/21, 8/13/21, 11/29/21	66.0 (5) Range: 14.8–72.67	ug/l	N/A	MCL = 80	By-product of drinking water chlorination needed to kill harmful organisms. TTHMs are formed when source water contains large amounts of organic matter.
Total Haloacetic Acids	No	2/12/21, 5/7/21, 8/13/21, 11/29/21	55.5 (5) Range: 0.9–0.52.1	ug/l	N/A	MCL= 60	By-product of drinking water disinfection needed to kill harmful organisms.
Chlorine	No	Daily	1.28 avg Range: <u>0.55-2.04</u>	mg/l	N/A	MRDL = 4	Water additive used to control microbes.
PFOA	No	9/21/21	1.7	ng/l	N/A	10	Released into the environment from widespread use in commercial and industrial applications.
PFBA	No	9/21/21	5.4	ng/l	N/A	N/A	

1 – Turbidity is a measure of the cloudiness of the water. We test it because it is a good indicator of the effectiveness of our filtration system. State regulations require that measurements always be less than or equal to 1.0 NTU and 95% of the monthly samples be less than or equal to 0.3 NTU.

2 - Distribution Turbidity is a measure of the cloudiness of the water found in the distribution system. We monitor it because it is a good indicator of water quality. High turbidity can hinder the effectiveness of disinfectants.

4 – The level presented represents the 90th percentile of the 10 sites tested. A percentile is a value on a scale of 100 that indicates the percent of a distribution that is equal to or below it. The 90th percentile is equal to or greater than 90% of the copper values detected at your water system. In this case, ten samples were collected at your water system and the 90th percentile value was the second highest value (0.2012 mg/l). The action level for copper was not exceeded at any of the sites tested.

5 – This level represents the highest locational running annual average (LRAA) calculated from data collected.  
6 – (N/A) = Not Applicable

#### **Definitions:**

**Maximum Contaminant Level (MCL):** The highest level of a contaminant that is allowed in drinking water. MCLs are set as close to the MCLGs as feasible.

**Maximum Contaminant Level Goal (MCLG):** The level of a contaminant in drinking water below which there is no known or expected risk to health. MCLGs allow for a margin of safety.

**Maximum Residual Disinfectant Level (MRDL):** The highest level of a disinfectant allowed in drinking water. There is convincing evidence that addition of a disinfectant is necessary for control of microbial contaminants.

**Maximum Residual Disinfectant Level Goal (MRDLG):** The level of a drinking water disinfectant below which there is no known or expected risk to health. MRDLGs do not reflect the benefits of the use of disinfectants to control microbial contamination.

**Action Level (AL):** The concentration of a contaminant which, if exceeded, triggers treatment or other requirements which a water system must follow.

**Treatment Technique (TT):** A required process intended to reduce the level of a contaminant in drinking water.

**Non-Detects (ND):** Laboratory analysis indicates that the constituent is not present.

**Nephelometric Turbidity Unit (NTU):** A measure of the clarity of water. Turbidity in excess of 5 NTU is just noticeable to the average person.

**Milligrams per liter (mg/l):** Corresponds to one part of liquid in one million parts of liquid (parts per million - ppm). Compare to 1 minute in two years.

**Micrograms per liter (ug/l):** Corresponds to one part of liquid in one billion parts of liquid (parts per billion - ppb). Compare to 1 second in 32 years.

**Nanograms per liter (ng/l):** Corresponds to one part of liquid to one trillion parts of liquid (parts per trillion - ppt).

#### **WHAT DOES THIS INFORMATION MEAN?**

***Although we did not exceed the Lead Action Level, we are required to present the following information on lead in drinking water:***

If present, elevated levels of lead can cause serious health problems, especially for pregnant women, infants, and young children. It is possible that lead levels at your home may be higher than at other homes in the community as a result of materials used in your home's plumbing. The Akron Water System is responsible for providing high quality drinking water, but cannot control the variety of materials used in plumbing components. When your water has been sitting for several hours, you can minimize the potential for lead exposure by flushing your tap for 30 seconds to 2 minutes before using water for drinking or cooking. If you are concerned about lead in your water, you may wish to have your water tested. Information on lead in drinking water, testing methods, and steps you can take to minimize exposure is available from the Safe Drinking Water Hotline (1-800-426-4791) or at <http://www.epa.gov/safewater/lead>.

#### **IS OUR WATER SYSTEM MEETING OTHER RULES THAT GOVERN OPERATIONS?**

During 2021, we worked with federal, state and local regulatory agencies to ensure safe drinking water that complies with the most current standards.

#### **DO I NEED TO TAKE SPECIAL PRECAUTIONS?**

Some people may be more vulnerable to disease causing microorganisms or pathogens in drinking water than the general population. Immune-compromised persons such as persons with cancer undergoing chemotherapy, persons who have undergone organ transplants, people with HIV/AIDS or other immune

system disorders, some elderly, and infants can be particularly at risk from infections. These people should seek advice from their health care provider about their drinking water. EPA/CDC guidelines on appropriate means to lessen the risk of infection by Cryptosporidium, Giardia and other microbial pathogens are available from the Safe Drinking Water Hotline (800-426-4791).

## **WHY SAVE WATER AND HOW TO AVOID WASTING IT?**

Although our system has an adequate amount of water to meet present and future demands, there are a number of reasons why it is important to conserve water:

- ◆ Saving water saves energy and some of the costs associated with both of these necessities of life;
- ◆ Saving water reduces the cost of energy required to pump water and the need to construct costly new wells, pumping systems and water towers;
- ◆ Saving water lessens the strain on the water system during a dry spell or drought, helping to avoid severe water use restrictions so that essential firefighting needs are met.

You can play a role in conserving water by becoming conscious of the amount of water your household is using, and by looking for ways to use less whenever you can. It is not hard to conserve water.

Conservation tips include:

- ◆ Automatic dishwashers use 9-15 gallons for every cycle, regardless of how many dishes are loaded. So get a run for your money and load it to capacity.
- ◆ Turn off the tap when brushing your teeth.
- ◆ Check every faucet in your home for leaks. Just a slow drip can waste 15 to 20 gallons a day. Fix it up and you can save almost 6,000 gallons per year.
- ◆ Check your toilets for leaks by putting a few drops of food coloring in the tank, watch for a few minutes to see if the color shows up in the bowl. It is not uncommon to lose up to 100 gallons a day from one of these otherwise invisible toilet leaks. Fix it and you save more than 30,000 gallons a year.
- ◆ Use your water meter to detect hidden leaks. Simply turn off all taps and water using appliances, then check the meter after 15 minutes, if it moved, you have a leak.

## **SYSTEM IMPROVEMENTS:**

### ***At the treatment plant:***

In 2021, additional security monitoring including cameras and motion detectors were installed. Work was performed on upgrades to our Caustic tank and permanganate system for increased capacity and less daily maintenance. Divers were hired to replace aging boards on the trash rack on our water intake.

### ***In the distribution system:***

We flushed hydrants and dead ends on a regular basis. New York Rural Water Association assisted us with a system canvass regarding hydrant listening and leak detection.

***Thank you for allowing us to serve you with water. Please call 585-547-9410 with any questions on your water system.***