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INFORMATION FOR NON-ENGLISH SPEAKING RESIDENTS
SPANISH
Este informe contiene información muy importante sobre su agua beber. Tradúzcalo ó hable con alguien que lo entienda bien.

ALBERTSON WATER DISTRICT

Annual Drinking Water Quality Report For 2021

PUBLIC WATER SUPPLY ID # 2902815

INTRODUCTION

To comply with State regulations, the Albertson Water District annually issues a report 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. 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.

Last year, we conducted tests for over 100 contaminants. We are proud to report that our system did not violate an Action Level (AL) standard. However, concentrations of perfluorooctanoic acid (PFOA) and perfluorooctanesulfonic acid (PFOS) have continued to exceed the Maximum Contaminant Level (MCL) at Well 4. The Albertson Water District has submitted, and the New York State Department of Health has issued, a deferral to the Albertson Water District for PFOA and PFOS. We also failed to collect all repeat total coliform samples on the same day in response to a routine positive total coliform sample taken on July 12, 2021, as required by the Nassau County Department of Health (NCDH). One resample was taken on July 13, 2021 and two resamples were taken on July 14, 2021. The three resamples were required to be taken on the same day, whether July 13, 2021 or July 14, 2021. Further information regarding this deferral and monitoring violation can be found in the section below entitled **"IS OUR WATER SYSTEM MEETING OTHER RULES THAT GOVERN OPERATIONS?"**

If you have any questions about this report or concerning your drinking water, please contact Rudolph Henriksen, Superintendent of the Albertson Water District, at (516) 621-3610, the EPA Safe Drinking Water Hotline (1-800-426-4791), or the Nassau County Department of Health (NCDH) at (516) 227-9697. We want our valued customers to be informed about your drinking water. If you want to learn more, please visit the EPA's website at http://www.epa.gov/safewater/, the Department of Health's website at http://www.health.state.ny.us/, or attend any of our regularly scheduled board meetings. The meetings are held on the first and third Tuesday of each month at 4 p.m. All meetings are at the District Office unless otherwise announced.

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 Department and the FDA's regulations establish limits for contaminants in bottled water which must provide the same protection for the public health.

One hundred percent of the water distributed to the District's consumers is pumped from wells drilled into the Magothy aquifer that underlies northwest Nassau County. The water levels in this aquifer dropped in the drought period of the mid-1960s and have risen in response to generally favorable precipitation that has occurred between 1970 and 2021. Available well supply from the aquifer has not diminished.

The Albertson Water District includes five wells located on three separate well fields located at Shepherd Lane, Hollow Court, and Stratford Drive South. The District maintains interconnections with the neighboring water supplies of the Village of Williston Park, the Village of East Williston, and the water districts of Garden City Park, Roslyn, and Manhasset-Lakeville. The District is 100% metered and has an active cross connection control program in compliance with the State sanitary code. During 2021, our system did not experience any restriction of our water source.

All water pumped to the distribution system in 2021 was treated to remove volatile organic chemicals using packed tower aeration (air stripping towers). The process is completely natural, using air delivered through the packing media in the tower past the cascading water to remove the volatiles from the water. The treated water discharges from the tower to a clear well where it is pumped to the distribution system. In addition to packed tower aeration, source water for the district is treated with sodium hydroxide to increase pH and reduce corrosivity. Disinfection is required by the NCDH. The District disinfects its water supply by feeding small amounts of liquid chlorine into the distribution system at each pumping station.

The NCDH completed a Source Water Assessment Program for the Albertson Water District. Possible and actual threats to this drinking water source were evaluated. The source water assessment includes a susceptibility rating based on the risk posed by each potential source of contamination and how rapidly contaminants can move through the subsurface to the wells. The susceptibility of a water supply well to contamination is dependent upon both the presence of potential sources of contamination within the well's contributing area and the likelihood that the contaminant can travel through the environment to reach the well. 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 the section **"ARE THERE CONTAMINANTS IN OUR DRINKING WATER?"** for a list of the contaminants that have been detected. The source water assessments provide resource managers with additional information for protecting source waters into the future.

Drinking water is derived from five wells in the Albertson Water District. The source water assessment has rated most of the wells as having a very high susceptibility to industrial solvents and a high susceptibility to nitrates. The very high susceptibility to industrial solvents is due primarily to point sources of contamination related to transportation routes and commercial/industrial activities in the assessment area. The high susceptibility to nitrate contamination is attributable to high-density residential land use practices in the assessment area, such as fertilizing of lawns.

A copy of the assessment, including a map of the assessment area, can be obtained by contacting the NCDH.

FACTS AND FIGURES

Our water system serves approximately 13,500 residents through 4,055 service connections. The total amount of water pumped from the ground in 2021 was 733,837,000 gallons. Through metered sales, 605,059,000 gallons were delivered to the consumers of the Albertson Water District. This leaves an unaccounted-for total of 128,778,000 gallons (17.5% of the total amount produced). This water was used in firefighting, sewer cleaning, hydrant flushing to alleviate turbid water conditions, water main breaks, service leaks, and theft of service. In 2021, the annual water charge for the average consumer was $398.40.

ARE THERE CONTAMINANTS IN OUR DRINKING WATER?

As State regulations require, we routinely test your drinking water for numerous contaminants. These contaminants include: total Coliform, Escherichia Coliform, turbidity, inorganic compounds, nitrate, nitrite, lead and copper, organic compounds, total trihalomethanes, haloacetic acids, radiological compounds, and synthetic organic compounds. The table presented below, Table 1, depicts which compounds were detected in your drinking water.

A supplement to this report showing laboratory results of all samples (treated and untreated) is available upon request. Contact Rudolph Henriksen, Superintendent, at the Albertson Water District Office, (516) 621-3610, or at P.O. Box 335, Albertson, NY 11507.

Contamination of the groundwater from Albertson Water District has been detected in samples from some wells. All groundwater pumped to the distribution system from the operating Water District wells complies with New York State Department of Health (NYSDOH) Standards for public drinking water supplies. It should be noted that all drinking water, including bottled water, may reasonably be expected to contain at least small amounts of some contaminants. The presence of contaminants does not necessarily indicate that the 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 (1-800-426-4791) or the NCDH at (516) 227-9697.

Table 1 shows the detected results of our monitoring for the period of January 1 to December 31, 2021.

2021 ANNUAL DRINKING WATER QUALITY REPORT: **TABLE 1**

Contaminant	Violation Yes/No	Date of Sample(s)	Level Detected Avg/Max (Range) [1]	Unit Measurement	MCLG OR MRDLG	Regulatory Limit (TT, MCL or MRDL)	Likely Source of Contamination
Microbiological Contaminants							
Total Coliform	No	7/12/2021	1 positive sample [2]	n/a	0	TT - greater than or equal to 5% samples positive	Naturally present in the environment
Inorganic Contaminants							
Barium	No	1/6/2021	0.016 (0.003 - 0.016)	mg/L	2	MCL - 2	Discharge of drilling wastes; Discharge from metal refineries; Erosion of natural deposits
Calcium	No	1/8/2021	15.2 (6.8 - 15.2)	mg/L	n/a	n/a	Naturally occurring
Chloride	No	1/6/2021	58.0 (14.8 - 58.0)	mg/L	n/a	MCL - 250	Naturally occurring or indicative of road salt contamination
Magnesium	No	1/8/2021	8.4 (3.6 - 8.4)	mg/L	n/a	n/a	Naturally occurring
Nickel	No	1/8/2021	0.00068 (ND - 0.00068)	mg/L	n/a	n/a	Naturally occurring
Sodium	No	1/6/2021	29.1 (8.4 - 29.1)	mg/L	n/a	20 / 270 [3]	Naturally occurring; Road salt; Water softeners; Animal waste
Sulfate	No	1/8/2021	26.3 (8.6 - 26.3)	mg/L	n/a	MCL - 250	Naturally occurring
Inorganic Contaminants (Nitrates)							
Nitrate	No	1/8/2021	3.6 (2.2 - 3.6)	mg/L	10	MCL - 10	Runoff from fertilizer use; Leaching from septic tanks, sewage; Erosion of natural deposits

Inorganic Contaminants (Nitrates) continued							
Nitrate-Nitrite	No	1/8/2021	3.6 (2.2 - 3.6)	mg/L	10	MCL - 10	Runoff from fertilizer use; Leaching from septic tanks, sewage; Erosion of natural deposits
Physical Characteristics							
Calcium Hardness	No	1/8/2021	38.0 (17.0 - 38.0)	mg/L	n/a	n/a	Naturally occurring
Corrosivity	No	1/6/2021	-1.88 [-3.43 - (-1.88)]	units	n/a	n/a	Naturally occurring
Langelier Saturation Index	No	1/6/2021	320.0 (320.0 - 320.0)	LSI	n/a	n/a	Naturally occurring
pH	No	1/6/2021	6.8 (5.9 - 6.8)	units	n/a	7.5 - 8.5 (4)	Naturally occurring
Total Alkalinity	No	1/6/2021	24.7 (11.4 - 24.7)	mg/L	n/a	n/a	Naturally occurring
Total Dissolved Solids	No	1/6/2021	180.0 (73.0 - 180.0)	mg/L	n/a	n/a	Naturally occurring
Total Hardness	No	1/8/2021	70.5 (31.9 - 70.5)	mg/L	n/a	n/a	Naturally occurring
Disinfectant							
Chlorine Residual	No	1/6/2021	1.3 (ND - 1.3)	mg/L	n/a	MRDL - 4 (5)	Water additive used to control microbes
Synthetic Organic Contaminants Including Pesticides and Herbicides (6)							
1,4-Dioxane	No	4/12/2021	0.65 (0.027 - 0.65)	ug/L	n/a	MCL - 1	Released into the environment from commercial and industrial sources and is associated with inactive and hazardous waste sites.
Perfluorooctanesulfonic Acid	Yes	2/9/2021	10.3 (ND - 10.3)	ng/L	n/a	MCL - 10	Released into the environment from widespread use in commercial and industrial applications.
Perfluorooctanoic Acid	Yes	2/9/2021	10.6 (ND - 10.6)	ng/L	n/a	MCL - 10	Released into the environment from widespread use in commercial and industrial applications.
Dieldrin	No	10/21/2021	0.06 (ND - 0.06)	ug/L	n/a	MCL - 5^{25}	Pesticide used in agriculture for soil and seed treatment; used in treatment of wood and mothproofing of woolen products; byproduct of the pesticide aldrin. In the United States, most uses were banned in 1987; however it is still found in our enviorment from past uses.
Volatile Organic Contaminants							
Tetrachloroethene	No	3/2/2021	0.6 (ND - 0.6)	ug/L	n/a	MCL - 5	Discharge from factories and dry cleaners; Waste sites; Spills.
Radioactive Contaminants							
Gross Alpha Activity	No	2/15/2019	3.19 (-0.152 - 3.19)	pCi/L	0	MCL - 15	Erosion of natural deposits
Gross Beta Activity	No	2/19/2019	3.02 (0.971 - 3.02)	pCi/L	0	50 (7)	Decay of natural deposits and man-made emissions
Combined Radium 226/228	No	2/15/2019	2.22 (0 - 2.22)	pCi/L	0	MCL - 5	Erosion of natural deposits
Total Uranium	No	2/11/2019	0.129 (0.017 - 0.129)	ug/L	0	MCL - 30	Erosion of natural deposits
Unregulated Contaminant Monitoring Rule 3 Contaminants (8)							
Perfluoroheptanoic Acid	No	2/9/2021	4 (ND - 4)	ng/L	n/a	MCL - 50,000	Released into the environment through consumer products and industrial processes
Perfluorohexanesulfonic Acid	No	4/12/2021	3.9 (ND - 3.9)	ng/L	n/a	MCL - 50,000	Released into the environment through consumer products and industrial processes
Perfluorononanoic Acid	No	7/6/2021	15.3 (ND - 15.3)	ng/L	n/a	MCL - 50,000	Released into the environment through consumer products and industrial processes
Contaminant	**Violation Yes/No**	**Date of Sample(s)**	**90th Percentile and Range**	**Unit Measurement**	**MCLG**	**Regulatory Limit (AL)**	**Likely Source of Contamination**
Lead and Copper Contaminants							
Copper	No	7/24/2019	0.028 (0.002 - 0.33) (9)	mg/L	1.3	AL - 1.3	Corrosion of household plumbing systems; Erosion of natural deposits
Lead	No	8/23/2019	1.2 (ND - 3.0) (10)	ug/L	0	AL - 15	Corrosion of household plumbing systems; Erosion of natural deposits
Contaminant	**Violation Yes/No**	**Date of Sample**	**Highest LRAA Detected And Range (10)**	**Unit Measurement**	**MCLG**	**Regulatory Limit (MCL)**	**Likely Source of Contamination**
Disinfection By-Products, Stage II Sampling							
Total Trihalomethanes	No	10/21/2021	0.59 (ND - 0.59)	ug/L	n/a	MCL - 80	By-product of drinking water chlorination needed to kill harmful organisms

Notes:

(1) When compliance with the MCL is determined more frequently than annually, the data reported is the maximum value or the highest average of any of the sampling points used to determine compliance and the range of detected values.

Notes (continued):

(2) In July 2021, total coliforms were detected in one of the routine compliance samples collected in our system. Coliforms are bacteria that are naturally present in the environment and are used as an indicator that other potentially harmful, waterborne pathogens may present or that a potential pathway exists through which associated contamination may enter the drinking water system. Since total coliforms were detected in <5% of the samples collected, the system did not trigger Level 1 assessments. It should be noted that E. coli, from human and animal fecal waste, was not detected in any of the samples collected.

(3) Water containing more than 20 mg/L of sodium should not be used for drinking by people on severely-restricted sodium diets. Water containing more than 270 mg/L of sodium should not be used for drinking by people on moderately-restricted sodium diets.

(4) Nassau County Department of Health regulatory guideline.

(5) The value represents the Maximum Residual Disinfectant Level (MRDL). MRDLs are not currently regulated, but, in the future, they will be enforceable in the same manner as MCLs.

(6) PFOA and PFOS MCLs were exceeded at the District's Well 4 facility. However, the District is currently operating under a deferral for PFOA and PFOS. Construction at Well 4 is ongoing. Details regarding the deferral can be found in the body of the report.

(7) The State considers 50 pCi/L to be the level of concern for beta particles.

(8) The Unregulated Contaminant Monitoring Rule 3 (UCMR3) is a US EPA water quality sampling program which monitors unregulated but emerging contaminants in drinking water. The results of the sampling will determine if such contaminants will need to be regulated in the future.

(9) The level represents the 90th percentile of the 29 sites tested and the range of values. 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, twenty-nine samples were collected at your water system and the 90th percentile value was the twenty-sixth highest value (0.18 mg/L). The action level for copper was not exceeded at any of the sites tested.

(10) The level represents the 90th percentile of the 29 sites tested and the range of values. The action level for lead was not exceeded at any of the sites tested.

Definitions:

MCLG: Maximum Contaminant Level Goal, 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.
MCL: Maximum Contaminant Level Goal, 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.
MRDLG: Maximum Residual Disinfectant Level Goal; 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.
MRDL: Maximum Residual Disinfectant Level; 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.
AL: Action Level; The concentration of a contaminant which, if exceeded, triggers treatment or other requirements which a water system must follow.
ND: Non-Detects, laboratory analysis indicates that the constituent is not present.
mg/L: Milligrams per Liter; Corresponds to one part of liquid in one million parts of liquid (parts per million - ppm).
ng/L: Nanograms per Liter; Corresponds to one part of liquid in one billion parts of liquid (parts per trillion - ppt).
ug/L: Micrograms per Liter; Corresponds to one part of liquid in one billion parts of liquid (parts per billion - ppb).
pCi/L: picoCuries per Liter; A measure of the radioactivity in water.
n/a: not applicable; i.e., no value is assigned by regulatory authorities.

Not included in the table are the more than 100 other contaminants which were tested for and not detected in the wells and distribution system. These undetected contaminants are listed herein:

Organics:1,1,2-tetrachloroethane, 1,1,2,2-tetrachloroethane, 1,1,2-trichloroethane, 1,1,2-trichlorotrifluoroethane, 1,1-dichloroethene, 1,1-dichloropropene, 1,2,3-trichlorobenzene, 1,2,3-trichloropropane, 1,2,4-trichlorobenzene, 1,2,4-trimethylbenzene, 1,2-dichlorobenzene, 1,2-dichloroethane, 1,2-dichloropropane, 1,3,5-trimethylbenzene, 1,3-dichlorobenzene, 1,3-dichloropropane, 1,4-dichlorobenzene, 2,2-dichloropropane, 2/4-chlorotoluene, benzene, bromobenzene, bromochloromethane, bromodichloromethane, bromomethane, carbon tetrachloride, chlorobenzene, chloroethane, , chloromethane, dibromomethane, dichlorodifluoromethane, ethylbenzene, hexachloro-1,3-butadiene, isopropylbenzene, methyl tert-butyl ether, styrene, toluene, , trichlorofluoromethane, vinyl chloride, cis-1,2-dichloroethene, cis-1,3-dichloropropene, m,p-xylene, n-butylbenzene, n-propylbenzene, o-xylene, p-isopropyltoluene, sec-butylbenzene, tert-butylbenzene, perchlorate, 1,2-dibromo-3-chloropropane, 1,2-dibromoethane, alachlor, aldrin, chlordane, endrin, heptachlor, heptachlor epoxide, hexachlorobenzene, hexachlorocyclopentadiene, methoxychlor, PCB screen, toxaphene, gamma-BHC (lindane), 2,4,5-TP (Silvex), 2,4-D, dalapon, dicamba, dinoseb, pentachlorophenol, picloram, atrazine, benzo(a)pyrene, butachlor, metolachlor, metribuzin, propachlor, simazine, bis(2-ethylhexyl)adipate, bis(2-ethylhexyl)phthalate, 3-hydroxycarbofuran, aldicarb, aldicarb sulfone, aldicarb sulfoxide, carbaryl, carbofuran, methomyl, oxamyl, glyphosate, endothall, and diquat.

Disinfection By-Products [Trihalomethanes (THMs) and Haloacetic Acids (HAA5s)] – chloroform, bromodichloromethane, bromoacetic acid, chloroacetic acid, dibromoacetic acid, dichloroacetic acid, total haloacetic acids, and trichloroacetic acid.

Inorganics and Physical Characteristics – antimony, arsenic, beryllium, fluoride, iron, mercury, selenium, silver, thallium, free cyanide, MBAS, ammonia nitrogen (as N), nitrite (as N), color, and odor.

Microbiological – Escherichia Coliform and Turbidity.

Unregulated Contaminant Monitoring Rule 3 – Perfluorobutanesulfonic acid.

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 a year old.

Sampling for radiological contaminants is done every three years in accordance with NCDH standards. The sampling results presented in this report are from the most recent radiological sampling that was done in 2019 for Wells 1, 2, 3A, 4, and 5. Raw water samples were collected and analyzed for gross alpha and beta activities, radium 226, radium 228, and total uranium. The maximum contaminant level for gross alpha activity in water is 15 pCi/L. The 2019 highest sampling result for gross alpha is 3.19 pCi/L. The State level of concern for beta particles is 50 pCi/L. The 2019 highest sampling result for gross beta is 3.02 pCi/L. The maximum contaminant level for combined radium 226/228 in water is 5 pCi/L. The 2019 highest result for the combined radium 226/228 sampling is 2.22 pCi/L. The maximum contaminant level for uranium in water is 30 ug/L. The 2019 highest result for uranium is 0.129 ug/L.

Sampling for lead and copper contaminants is done every 3 years in accordance with NCDH standards. The sampling results presented in this report are from the most recent lead and copper sampling that was done in 2019, and updated samples are to be obtained in 2022. Samples were collected from the distribution system at 29 sites and analyzed for lead and copper. Lead is measured in micrograms per Liter (ug/L). The Action Level (AL) for lead is 15 ug/L. The AL for lead was not exceeded at any of the sites tested. Copper is measured in milligrams per Liter (mg/L). The AL for copper is 1.3 mg/L and the MCLG for copper is 1.3 mg/L. The AL for copper was not exceeded at any of the sites tested.

The levels of lead and copper presented in Table 1 indicate the 90th percentile of those contaminants at the 29 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 lead and copper values detected at your water system. Twenty-nine (29) samples were collected from your water system and the 90th percentile values for lead and copper were the 26th highest values for those contaminants. The 90th percentile for lead as shown in Table 1 is 1.2 ug/L value and the 90th percentile for copper as shown in Table 1 is 0.028 mg/L.

The District is required to take samples for trihalomethanes and haloacetic acids from specific locations in the distribution system under the Stage II Disinfection By-Products Rule. This sampling program was initiated during the quarter beginning October 1, 2013 and continued throughout 2021. Contaminants detected under this sampling program are listed in Table 1 and the associated laboratory results are included in the Supplement.

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

The highest level of a disinfectant allowed in drinking water is known as the Maximum Residual Disinfectant Level (MRDL). There is convincing evidence that addition of a disinfectant is necessary for control of microbial contaminants. The level of a drinking water disinfectant below which there is no known or expected risk to health is known as the Maximum Residual Disinfectant Level Goal (MRDLG). MRDLGs do not reflect the benefits of the use of disinfectants to control microbial contamination.

The concentration of a contaminant that, if exceeded, triggers treatment or other requirements that a water system must follow is known as the Action Level (AL).

WHAT DOES THIS INFORMATION MEAN?

As you can see by Table 1, our system had no Action Level violations. We learned through our testing that some contaminants have been detected; however, these contaminants were detected below New York State requirements.

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 and young children. Lead in drinking water is primarily from materials and components associated with service lines and home plumbing. The Albertson Water District 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 www.epa.gov/safewater/lead.

IS OUR WATER SYSTEM MEETING OTHER RULES THAT GOVERN OPERATIONS?

We are required to monitor your drinking water for specific contaminants on a regular basis. Results of regular monitoring are an indicator of whether or not your drinking water meets health standards. We failed to collect three repeat microbiological samples from an approved site in the distribution system on July 13, 2021, after the site had one routine positive total coliform sample on July 12, 2021, as required by the Nassau County Department of Health. Details of this monitoring violation and the steps taken to address the issue are presented in the Monitoring Violation Notice below.

IMPORTANT INFORMATION ABOUT YOUR DRINKING WATER

Monitoring Requirements Not Met for Albertson Water District

Our water system violated drinking water requirements over the past year. Even though this was not an emergency, as our customers, you have a right to know what happened and what we did to correct the situation.

We are required to monitor your drinking water for specific contaminants on a regular basis. Results of regular monitoring are an indicator of whether or not our drinking water meets health standards. In July 2021, we did not collect all repeat total coliform (TC) samples on the same day in response to a routine positive TC sample and, therefore, cannot be sure of the quality of your drinking water during that time.

WHAT SHOULD I DO?

There is nothing you need to do at this time.

The table below lists the contaminant we did not properly test for during July 2021 at one site in the distribution system, how often we are supposed to sample for this contaminant, how many samples we are supposed to take, how many samples we took, when samples should have been taken, and the dates on which follow-up samples were taken.

Contaminant	Required Sampling Frequency	Number of Samples Taken	Level Detected Avg/Max (Range)	When Sample Was Taken
Total Coliform[1]	3 repeat samples collected on the same day within 24 hours of notification of a TC positive sample	3	July 13, 2021 or July 14, 2021	1 resample on July 13, 2021 and 2 resamples on July 14, 2021

WHAT IS BEING DONE?

To ensure any necessary future follow-up monitoring samples are taken within 24 hours of notification of a positive microbiological sample, a system of checks and balances has been instituted which will enable the Albertson Water District to properly comply with State monitoring requirements.

For more information, please contact the Albertson Water District at (516) 621-3610 or P.O. Box 335, Albertson, NY 11507, or the Nassau County Department of Health at (516) 227-9697.

Please share this information with all the other people who drink this water, especially those who may not have received this notice directly (for example, people in apartments, nursing homes, schools, and businesses). You can do this by posting this notice in a public place or distributing copies by hand or mail.

This notice is being sent to you by:
Albertson Water District
State Water System ID#: 2902815
Date Distributed: March, 2021

[1]Microbiological contaminants, such as Total Coliform and Escherichia Coliform (E. Coli), are tested by collecting and analyzing samples from approved sites throughout the distribution system. Coliforms are bacteria that are naturally present in the environment and are used as an indicator that other potentially harmful waterborne pathogens may be present or that a potential pathway exists through which contamination may enter the drinking water distribution system. E. Coli are bacteria whose presence indicates that the water may be contaminated with human or animal wastes. Microbes in these wastes can cause short-term effects, such as diarrhea, cramps, nausea, headaches, or other symptoms. They may pose a special risk for infants, young children, and people with severely-compromised immune systems.

The NYSDOH issued a deferral on January 7, 2021 to the Albertson Water District for MCL compliance for PFOA and PFOS. This deferral acts as an exemption or State permission not to meet an MCL under certain conditions. Under this deferral, the District agrees to a schedule for corrective action and compliance with the MCLs.

WHAT ARE THE HEALTH EFFECTS OF PFOA AND PFOS?

The available information on the health effects associated with PFOA and PFOS, like many chemicals, comes from studies of high-level exposure in animals or humans. Less is known about the chances of health effects occurring from lower levels of exposure, such as those that might occur in drinking water. As a result, finding lower levels of chemicals in drinking water prompts water suppliers and regulators to take precautions that include notifying consumers and steps to reduce exposure.

PFOA and PFOS has caused a wide range of health effects

when studied in animals that were exposed to high levels. Additional studies of high-level exposures of PFOA and PFOS in people provide evidence that some of the health effects seen in animals may also occur in humans. The most consistent findings in animals were effects on the liver and immune system and impaired fetal growth and development. The United States Environmental Protection Agency considers PFOA and PFOS as having suggestive evidence for causing cancer based on studies of animals exposed to high levels of this chemical over their entire lifetimes.

The PFOA and PFOS contaminants were found in the District drinking water above their New York State MCLs of 10 nanograms per Liter (ng/L) during 2019. The PFOA and PFOS MCLs are set well below levels known to cause health effects in animal studies. Therefore, consuming water with PFOA and PFOS at the levels detected does not pose a significant health risk and the water continues to be acceptable for all uses.

The deferral period is effective until April 25, 2022. During this period, the District will try to operate the affected wells in a "last-on/first-off" fashion to minimize the concentration of PFOA and PFOS in the distribution system at any given time. The District was in the process of constructing a treatment facility for the removal of PFOA and PFOS at its Well 4 facility. This treatment facility was expected to be on-line in April 2022. However, in June 2021, work at the Well 4 facility was stopped by the Town of North Hempstead (TONH) Building Department through the unprecedented issuance of a Notice of Violation and Stop Work Order. In July 2021, the District filed an order against the TONH with the Nassau County Supreme Court and final papers in support of the action were submitted to the Court in August 2021. The District is awaiting a decision from the Court and is optimistic that the Stop Work Order will be vacated, allowing for construction to re-commence. Anticipating continued project delays due to the Stop Work Order, the District filed a Deferral Extension Request with the NYSDOH in December 2021. It was requested that the current MCL deferral be extended the full term of two years to August 25, 2022. In addition to the work at Well 4, although it has not yet exhibited exceedances of PFOA or PFOS at its Well 3A facility, the District is in the process of designing treatment for these contaminants and 1,4-Dioxane at this facility, as well.

The District is also required to submit a quarterly update to the NYSDOH and the NCDH on the status of the projects. The pending quarterly update for the deferral approval details that the GAC construction work at the Well 4 facility is still delayed and the litigation related to the TONH Stop Work Order for the GAC system at Well 4 is ongoing. The District expects the deferral extension request will be granted.

In addition, at the Well 3A facility, the AOP treatment system contract design plans and specifications are being drafted and will be submitted to the NCDH and NYSDOH by the end of the second quarter of 2022. Bidding on the AOP treatment facility is scheduled for May 2022, pending the outcome of litigation. More information on the progress of the projects can be found at http://albertsonwater.org.

When a public water system (PWS) is issued a deferral, the water system agrees to a schedule for corrective action and compliance with the new PFOS, PFOA or 1,4-dioxane MCLs. In exchange, the New York State Department of Health (the Department) agrees to defer enforcement actions, such as assessing fines, if the PWS is meeting established deadlines. Deferral recipients are required to update the Department and the Nassau County Department of Health each calendar quarter on the status of established deadlines. The Department can resume enforcement if the agreed upon deadlines are not met. Information about our deferral and established deadline can be found at the following site: http://www.albertsonwater.org/files/AWD_Deferral_Public_Notice_and_Project_Schedules_Combined.pdf. We have interconnections that allow us to take water from a PWS that is currently operating under a deferral. The Albertson Water District currently has interconnections with the Garden City Park Water District, the Manhasset-Lakeville Water District, the Roslyn Water District, the Village of East Williston, and the Village of Williston Park. The Garden City Park Water District has received a deferral from the NYSDOH for the new 1,4-dioxane, PFOA, and PFOS MCLs in order to meet the changes in potable water requirements. The Garden City Park Water District was granted an MCL deferral for 1,4-dioxane in 2020 because it has been proactive in its efforts to establish and implement an action plan for managing the above-referenced compounds.

Information about the Garden City Park Water District's deferral and established deadline can be found at https://gcpwater.org/index.html. The Albertson Water District will update the status of that interconnection at the following web address, http://albertsonwater.org/, to indicate if it is active. The interconnection with the Garden City Park Water District is normally closed throughout the year and only opened in a water emergency to maintain system pressure.

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. Immuno-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 (1-800-426-4791).

INFORMATION ON UNREGULATED CONTAMINANTS

Unregulated contaminants are those for which the EPA has not established drinking water standards. The Albertson Water District has monitored for additional contaminants under the EPA's Unregulated Contaminant Monitoring Rules 3/4 (UCMR3/4). The information collected under the UCMR3/4 will help the EPA determine future drinking water regulations. The results of the monitoring program are listed in Table 1 and are available within the Supplement. If you have further questions regarding this monitoring program, please contact Rudolph Henriksen, Superintendent of the Albertson Water District, at (516) 621-3610.

WHY SAVE WATER AND HOW TO AVOID WASTING IT?

Water is a vital resource. The Albertson Water District encourages water conservation. 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 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 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 and 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 and then check the meter after 15 minutes. If it moved, you have a leak.
- Water your lawn in the early morning to reduce water loss by evaporation.

The total billed consumption for 2020 was $1,258,779.53. As referenced earlier, the annual water charge for the average consumer was $398.40. Reducing water use by 20% will result in a savings of approximately $62.08 per year for the average consumer.

SYSTEM IMPROVEMENTS

System improvements done in 2021 included the start of the construction of the GAC treatment system at Well 4 and power washing of its elevated storage tank. System improvements planned for 2022 include the re-commencement of construction of the GAC treatment system at Well 4 and the start of the construction of the AOP system for the removal of emerging contaminants at the Well 3A facility, replacement of the pumps at Well 1, replacement of the supervisory control and data acquisition (SCADA) system, and repair of the Well 1 clearwell coating system. The District also expects to retain the services of an engineer for the replacement of the roof of the Shephard Lane ground storage tank, relocation of Well 2 and replacement of its elevated storage tank.

In 2021, the EPA issued a revised lead and copper rule. As part of this rule, the District anticipates starting an inventory of all service lines to identify potential lead service lines in advance of the October 2024 deadline.

In our continuing efforts to maintain a safe and dependable water supply, it may be necessary to make improvements in your water system. The costs of these improvements may be reflected in the rate structure. Rate adjustments may be necessary in order to address these improvements.

CLOSING

Thank you for allowing us to continue to provide your family with clean, quality drinking water this year. The Albertson Water District works hard to provide top quality water to every customer. We ask that all our customers help us protect our water resources, which are the heart of our community. Please call our office if you have any questions.