

ALBERTSON WATER DISTRICT NEWS

Volume 1, Number 1

SWIFTRREACH EMERGENCY NOTIFICATION SYSTEM. Free to Albertson Water District Customers

Works Like Reverse 911

The Albertson Water District has completed installation of the SwiftReach Emergency Notification System which alerts District consumers in the event of a water emergency. This public service emergency messaging service is free for all customers and works like a 911 system...except in reverse. If there is a water emergency, SwiftReach automatically calls the phone number you supply to us (home or office) within minutes with a pre-recorded message.

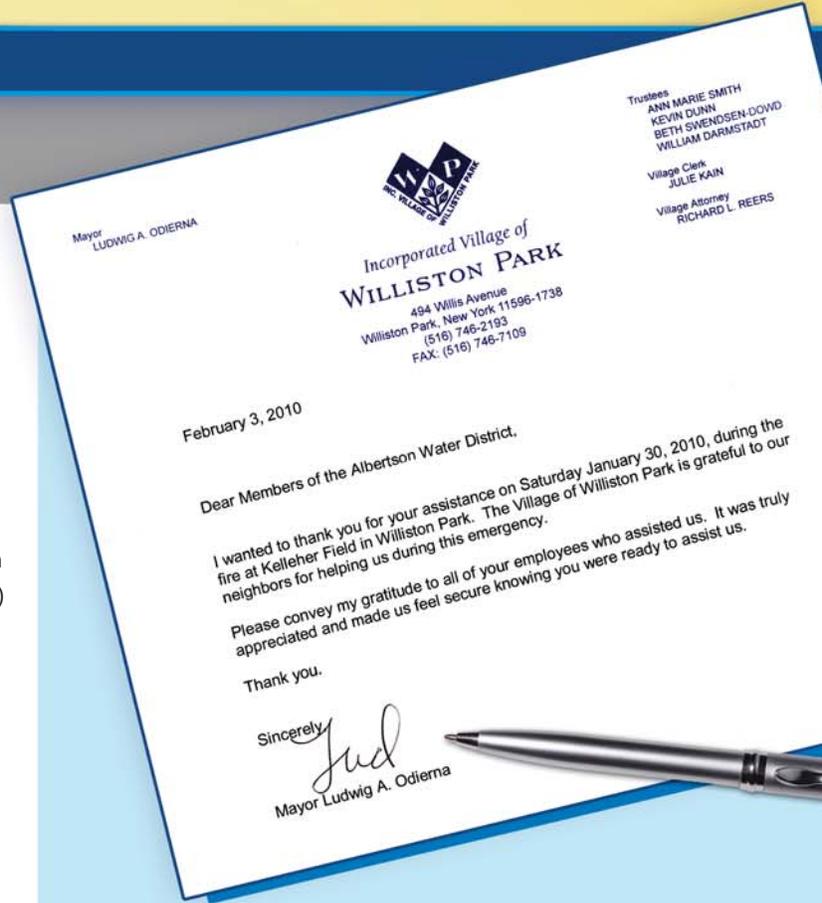
The Commissioners noted, "Of course your telephone number must be in our database so you can be notified. If you have an unlisted number or if your number has been changed recently, you should provide us with that information or else you cannot be notified. Please contact us at **(516) 621-3610**. All information is kept strictly confidential."

Text message and email

You can also elect to be contacted by text message or email. Please contact the AWD during regular hours.

Hearing impaired? Medical conditions?

If you or someone in your household is hearing impaired or has other medical conditions, please contact us directly so we can devise a solution.



Retiring after **30** years on the job

Meg Jaronczyk has decided to retire from her career with the District. An Albertson resident since 1963, Meg started with AWD in 1980 and has worked with a number of commissioners. Her favorite memories are of the District's resident consumers who were, almost without exception, "concerned, courteous and grateful for the District's service." We're grateful for your service Meg. Congratulations on 30 years well done!

IN THIS Newsletter

- SwiftReach Emergency Notification System
- Maintaining our Infrastructure
- Meg Jaronczyk Retiring
- Local Control
- Hydrant Usage

MAINTAINING OUR *Infrastructure*



Despite a cold winter and a very wet spring, the District's facilities are in good shape. The AWD is vigilant with a strict preventive maintenance schedule for all the parts of our water delivery infrastructure. This is particularly important as they age.

"By adhering to a proactive maintenance schedule, we're able to reduce the cost and downtime of our facilities," Commissioner Howard Abbondandolo noted. *"Some parts are obvious, like the 180-foot tall tank at Shepherd Lane, which stores 500,000 gallons. But much of our infrastructure is less noticeable because it is underground."*

Commissioner Jeffrey Losquadro agreed, *"Our maintenance is intensive. It includes hydrant flushing, generator inspections, meter inspections, refurbishing wells, as well as ensuring that motors and pumps are working efficiently. Ultimately, it ensures that our Albertson water quality is excellent."*

"We go beyond the norm," Commissioner Abbondandolo added. *"All three of our tanks are inspected semi-annually both inside and out. That's the law. But we also do a walk-around inspection of our Shepherd Lane and Hollow Court tanks for safety's sake every day, regardless of the weather."*

Extensive Regular **MAINTENANCE**



Being proactive is the smart way to control costs and deliver the best possible quality water. Here's an idea of how the AWD performs regularly scheduled maintenance.

- **Water meters:** Read at the beginning of each month for the quarterly read of the respective zone being billed. All items in need of repair are duly noted.
- **Hydrants:** Flushed and checked for optimal operating efficiency annually, usually in early June. Any defects are noted and repaired on a follow up at the conclusion of flushing.
- **Filters:** Every six months filters are changed out of the air intakes of our five air stripping facilities. This procedure includes inspection of ductwork and the seals on the filter banks as well as replacement of both the primary and secondary filters. Also the interior of the air stripping towers are inspected for wear, sanitary conditions, and structural integrity on an annual basis.
- **Emergency generators:** Checked daily for fluid levels and run time. Exercised weekly, and monthly on a load condition.
- **Cross connection inspections:** Performed annually for all commercial properties and some 900 residential properties. These inspections are conducted to determine what degree of hazard a property might pose to our distribution system. Also incorporated in these inspections is an aggressive, proactive leak detection program to find and repair leaks before they blossom into larger problems.
- **Well maintenance:** Performed daily. Preventive maintenance is performed annually by an outside contractor who conducts a detailed survey on the wellhead equipment all well as fluid change out and lubrication. AWD maintains a seven-year refurbishment program of its well pumps which avoids lengthy downtime of pumping equipment needed during the peak pumping season.



Ken Podlaski performing annual maintenance on one of the District's five air stripping facilities.

Who is Allowed to Use DISTRICT HYDRANTS?

Ensuring a plentiful and inexpensive water supply is our mission, and only the Albertson Water District and the Albertson Fire Department are allowed to use our hydrants.

"We are vigilant in protecting our District's supply," Commissioner Richard Ockovic stated. "Improper hydrant use by unauthorized parties can cause low system pressure, rusty water and possible backflow contamination into the public water supply."

The following are authorized for full use of Albertson Water District hydrants:

- **Albertson Fire Department:** Any hydrant at any time for community protection.
- **Albertson Water District:** Any hydrant for repairs and maintenance.

The following are allowed limited use of the District's fire hydrants:

- **Town and County workers:** While working for the Town or County may use specially designated hydrants.
- **Road construction crews:** On certain occasions they are permitted to use certain fire hydrants within the District.

If you observe others using any of our hydrants, please contact the AWD right away at **(516) 621-3610**.



LOCAL CONTROL Makes Sense

The debate about local control of water districts isn't new, but it continues all over the county.

So why do proponents want to change from local control to the Nassau County bureaucracy?

- **For more efficient delivery?** Well, there haven't been any delivery problems in Albertson.
- **For lower costs?** There is no credible evidence that consolidation will lower costs.
- **To reduce tax bills?** Albertson Water represents just 2% of the average consumers' tax bill.
- **To give control to another group?** What benefit will that provide?
- **To deny people the right to vote locally?** Isn't the right to vote a principle on which our country was founded?

Albertson residents vote for Albertson Commissioners. Local control guarantees that the Commissioners are district residents with family and community ties and a personal interest in what happens in the District, today and in the future...not outsiders who need a GPS to find their way to Woodhollow Road or Shadetree Lane. Keeping control in the hands of local residents ensures that decisions regarding Albertson water are made by Albertson District voters.



The "red flag" issue is money... your money...the taxpayer who supports public works. Please look at these verifiable facts:

1. With Albertson Water District management, customer water rates are **below** the national average (source: American Waterworks Association).
2. The Commissioners' job is to protect your water supply and deliver it at a low cost. Your water supply is always protected, and water from the Albertson Water District is among the lowest line items of your utility bills; in fact, it's **only 2%** of your total tax bill.
3. The Commissioners are local people. They live here and pay the same water rates as every consumer.
4. Albertson Water District personnel are on call 24 hours a day, 365 days a year to answer any questions and to attend to all customer water needs.
5. Water is continually delivered without interruption, without lowering quality, and with stabilized low costs.

Very few governments can claim success in delivering the quality of service and quality of water at such a low cost to residents.

Commissioner Ockovic observed, *"We provide an essential service delivering Earth's greatest resource to every household in our community. Since 1917 we have ensured that the Albertson community receives the highest quality water at the lowest possible cost. And we will continue to explore ways to guarantee quality and to minimize the cost of delivering water to the community we live in."*

COMMISSIONERS



Chairman
Jeffrey Losquadro



Treasurer
Richard W. Ockovic



Secretary
Howard Abbondandolo

ALBERTSON WATER DISTRICT

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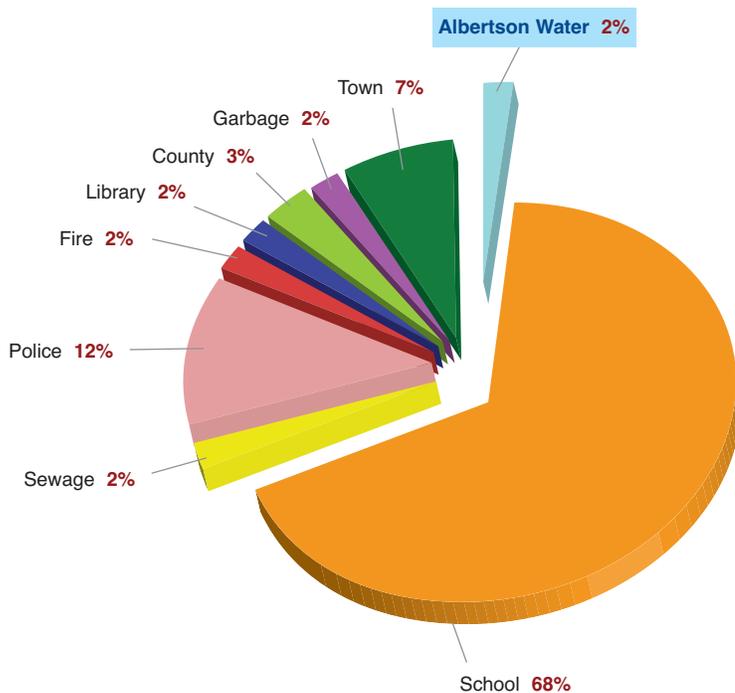
Commissioners:
Jeffrey Losquadro, *Chairman*
Richard W. Ockovic, *Treasurer*
Howard Abbondandolo, *Secretary*

Superintendent:
Rudy Henriksen

Counsel:
Anthony J. LaMarca

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TYPICAL ALBERTSON *Tax Allocation*



Look for the
ALBERTSON
WATER DISTRICT **WEBSITE...**



COMING SOON!
www.albertsonwater.org

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ALBERTSON, NY 11507

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330 Crossways Park Drive
Woodbury, NY 11797

ALBERTSON WATER DISTRICT

2009 Drinking Water Quality Report

PUBLIC WATER SUPPLY ID # 2902815

ANNUAL WATER SUPPLY REPORT

To comply with State regulations, the Albertson Water District will be annually issuing 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. Last year, your tap water met all State drinking water health standards. We are proud to report that our system did not violate a maximum contaminant level or any other water quality standard. 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 EPA Safe Drinking Water Hotline (800) 426-4791, the Nassau County Department of Health at (516) 227-9692, or the Albertson Water District at (516) 621-3610. 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 first Tuesday of the month at 7:30 p.m. and the third Tuesday of the month at 6 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's 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 that obtain water from aquifers that underlie northwest Nassau County. The water levels in the aquifers furnishing water to the District dropped in the drought period of the mid-1960s and have risen in response to generally favorable precipitation that has occurred between 1970 and 2009. Available well supply from the aquifers 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 2009, our system did not experience any restriction of our water source.

All water pumped to the distribution system in 2009 was treated to remove volatile organic chemicals using packed tower aeration (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. As required by the Nassau County Department of Health, the District disinfects its water supply by feeding small amounts of liquid chlorine into the distribution system at each pumping station.

The Nassau County Department of Health 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 Nassau County Department of Health.

FACTS AND FIGURES

Our water system serves 13,500 residents through 4,053 service connections. The total amount of water pumped from the ground in 2009 was 618,116,000 gallons. Through metered sales, 562,474,000 gallons were delivered to the consumers of the Albertson Water District. This leaves an unaccounted-for total of 55,642,000 gallons (9.0% of the total amount produced). This water was used in fire fighting, sewer cleaning, hydrant flushing to alleviate turbid water conditions, water main breaks, service leaks, and theft of service. In 2009, the annual water charge for the average customer was \$256.30.

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, volatile organic compounds, total trihalomethanes, haloacetic acids, and radiological compounds. Table 1 depicts which compounds were detected in your drinking water.

A supplement to this report showing laboratory results of analysis of all samples (treated and untreated) taken from each water supply well in service and from the distribution system is available upon request. Contact Mr. Rudolph Henriksen, Water District 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 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 (800) 426-4791 or the Nassau County Department of Health at (516) 227-9692.

Table 1 shows the detected results of our monitoring for the period of January 1st to December 31st, 2009.

Not included in the table are the more than 80 other contaminants which were tested for and not detected in the distribution system. These undetected contaminants are listed herein:

Organics (Volatile and Other Principal) - dichlorodifluoromethane, chloromethane, vinyl chloride, bromomethane, chloroethane, trichlorofluoromethane, 1,1-dichloroethene, methylene chloride, trans-1,2-dichloroethene, 1,1-dichloroethane, 2,2-dichloropropane, cis-1,2-dichloroethene, bromochloromethane, 1,1,1-trichloroethane, carbon tetrachloride, 1,1-dichloropropene, 1,2-dichloroethane, benzene, 1,2-dichloropropane, dibromomethane, cis-1,3-dichloropropene, toluene, trans-1,3 dichloropropene, 1,1,2-trichloroethane, tetrachloroethene, 1,3-dichloropropane, chlorobenzene, 1,1,1,2-tetrachloroethane, ethylbenzene, m/p-xylene, o-xylene, styrene, isopropylbenzene, bromobenzene, 1,1,2,2-tetrachloroethane, 1,2,3-trichloropropane, n-propylbenzene, 2/4-chlorotoluene, 1,3,5-trimethylbenzene, t-butylbenzene, 1,2,4-trimethylbenzene, s-butylbenzene, n-butylbenzene, 1,3-dichlorobenzene, 1,4-dichlorobenzene, 4-isopropyltoluene, 1,2-dichlorobenzene, 1,2,4-trichlorobenzene, hexachlorobutadiene, 1,2,3-trichlorobenzene and methyl-tert-butyl ether.

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

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

Microbiological – total Coliform, Escherichia Coliform, and turbidity.

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.

The most recent radiological sampling took place in 2007. Raw samples were collected from the District wells and analyzed for gross alpha activity and radium – 228, measured in picoCuries per Liter (pCi/L). The maximum contaminant level for gross alpha radioactivity in water is 15 pCi/L for an average of four quarterly samples. The average of the gross alpha samples collected in 2007 was 1.168 pCi/L. The maximum contaminant level for radium - 228 in water is 5 pCi/L for an average of four quarterly samples. The average of radium - 228 samples collected in 2007 was 0.0728 pCi/L. In accordance with State regulations, the Albertson Water District will continue to monitor for radiological contaminants.

The most recent lead and copper sampling took place in 2007. Samples were collected from the distribution system at residential points and analyzed for lead and copper. Lead is measured in micrograms per Liter ($\mu\text{g/L}$). The Action Level (AL) for lead is 15 $\mu\text{g/L}$. The level of lead presented in Table 1, 3.82 $\mu\text{g/L}$, represents the 90th percentile of the 30 sites tested. 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 level of copper presented in Table 1, 0.05 mg/L, represents the 90th percentile of the 30 sites tested. The AL for copper was not exceeded at any of the sites tested.

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).

ALBERTSON WATER DISTRICT

2009 Drinking Water Quality Report

TABLE 1

Contaminant	Violation (Yes/No)	Date of Sample	Level Detected Avg/Max (Range) ⁽¹⁾	Unit Measurement	MCLG Or MRDLG	Regulatory Limit (MCL, MRDL, or AL)	Likely Source of Contaminant
Inorganics							
Calcium	No	4/7/2009	9.78	mg/L	n/a	n/a	Naturally occurring
Chloride	No	4/7/2009	25.6	mg/L	n/a	MCL - 250	Naturally occurring or indicative of road salt contamination
Copper	No	9/19/2007	0.05 (ND - 0.07) ⁽²⁾	mg/L	1.3	AL - 1.3	Corrosion of household plumbing systems; Erosion of natural deposits
Lead	No	8/2/2007	3.82 (ND - 8.54) ⁽³⁾	µg/L	0	AL - 15	Corrosion of household plumbing systems; Erosion of natural deposits
Magnesium	No	4/7/2009	5.06	mg/L	n/a	n/a	Naturally occurring
Sodium	No	4/7/2009	12.5	mg/L	n/a	20 / 270 ⁽⁴⁾	Naturally occurring; Road salt; Water softeners; Animal waste
Sulfate	No	4/7/2009	18.3	mg/L	n/a	MCL - 250	Naturally occurring
Inorganics - Nitrate							
Nitrate	No	4/7/2009	3.45 (3.00 - 3.45)	mg/L	10	MCL - 10	Runoff from fertilizer use; Leaching from septic tanks, sewage; Erosion of natural deposits
Physical Characteristics							
Calcium Hardness	No	4/7/2009	24.4	mg/L	n/a	n/a	Naturally occurring
Langlier Saturation Index	No	4/7/2009	-1.96	units	n/a	n/a	Naturally occurring
pH	No	12/14/2009	7.68 (7.2 - 8.3)	units	n/a	n/a	Naturally occurring
Total Alkalinity	No	4/7/2009	17.1	mg/L	n/a	n/a	Naturally occurring
Total Dissolved Solids	No	4/7/2009	106	mg/L	n/a	n/a	Naturally occurring
Total Hardness	No	4/7/2009	45.2	mg/L	n/a	n/a	Naturally occurring
Disinfectant							
Chlorine Residual	No	7/6/2009	0.84 (0 - 1.43)	mg/L	n/a	MRDL - 4 ⁽⁵⁾	Water additive used to control microbes
Disinfection By-Products							
Bromodichloromethane	No	2/17/2009	1.0 (ND - 1.0)	µg/L	n/a	MCL = 80	By-product of drinking water chlorination needed to kill harmful organisms
Bromoform	No	2/17/2009	2.1 (ND - 2.1)	µg/L	n/a	MCL = 80	By-product of drinking water chlorination needed to kill harmful organisms
Dibromochloromethane	No	2/17/2009	2.4 (ND - 2.4)	µg/L	n/a	MCL = 80	By-product of drinking water chlorination needed to kill harmful organisms
Total Trihalomethanes	No	2/17/2009	5.5 (2.2 - 5.5)	µg/L	n/a	MCL = 80	By-product of drinking water chlorination needed to kill harmful organisms
Organic Contaminants							
Trichloroethene	No	5/4/2009	0.65 (ND - 0.8)	µg/L	0	MCL - 5	Discharge from industrial chemical factories
Radioactive Contaminants							
Gross Alpha Activity ⁽⁶⁾	No	4/26/2007	1.168 (0.785 - 1.55)	pCi/L	0	MCL - 15	Erosion of natural deposits
Radium - 228 ⁽⁶⁾	No	1/9/2007	0.728 (0.675 - 0.78)	pCi/L	0	MCL - 5	Erosion of natural deposits

- Notes:**
- (1) When compliance with the MCL is determined more frequently than annually, the data reported is the highest average or maximum of any of the sampling points used to determine compliance and the range of detected values.
 - (2) The level presented represents the 90th percentile of the 30 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, thirty samples were collected at your water system and the 90th percentile value was the twenty-eighth highest value (0.15 mg/L). The action level for copper was not exceeded at any of the sites tested.
 - (3) The level presented represents the 90th percentile of the 30 sites tested. The action level for lead was not exceeded at any of the sites tested.
 - (4) 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.
 - (5) The value presented 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) The contaminant level represents the average of raw water samples taken from multiple wells. The data is reported as the average level and the range of values.

Definitions:

MCL: Maximum Contaminant Level; The level of a contaminant in drinking water. MCLs are set as close to the MCLG as feasible.

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.

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.

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.

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).

µg/L: Micrograms per Liter; Corresponds to one part of liquid in one billion parts of liquid (parts per billion - ppb).

pCi/L: Picouries per Liter; A measure of the radioactivity in water.

n/a: not applicable; i.e., no value is assigned by regulatory authorities.

WHAT DOES THIS INFORMATION MEAN?

As you can see by Table 1, our system had no 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:

Infants and children who drink water containing lead in excess of the action level could experience delays in their physical or mental development. Children could show slight deficits in attention span and learning abilities. Adults who drink this water over many years could develop kidney problems or high blood pressure.

DO I NEED TO TAKE SPECIAL PRECAUTIONS?

Although our drinking water met or exceeded state and federal regulations, 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 (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 is monitoring for additional contaminants under the EPA's Unregulated Contaminant Monitoring Regulation (UCMR). The information collected under the UCMR will help the EPA determine future drinking water regulations. The results of the monitoring program are available upon request.

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.

SYSTEM IMPROVEMENTS

In 2009, the system improvements done involved the painting of the Well 4 Clear Well and the installation of a new casing liner in Well 4. The system improvements planned for 2010 include the installation of new roofs for the Shepherd Lane Booster Station and the Well House 2.

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.

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; and
- 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 fire fighting 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 2009 was \$1,038,724.40. As referenced earlier, the annual water charge for the average consumer was \$256.30. Reducing water use by 20% will result in a savings of approximately \$51.26 per year for the average consumer.

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 at (516) 621-3610 if you have any questions.