



ALBERTSON

WATER DISTRICT NEWS

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Reassuring News About Lead Contamination

With lead contamination in Flint Michigan dominating headlines, the District wishes to reassure residents that **there is no lead contamination in our water supply.** We regularly test and treat drinking water for lead content and comply with the US Environmental Protection Agency's (USEPA) Lead and Copper Rule. Your water is treated by raising the pH to help prevent the leaching of lead from old household pipes and plumbing fixtures. FYI, the District has been providing such corrosion control for over 30 years. Albertson Water District is fully transparent with all test results and does not withhold any information pertaining to the wellbeing of our residents.

"Flint's public health difficulties are extremely unfortunate and need to

be rectified," Commissioner Ken Vey stated. "Flint's supply comes from surface water, rivers and lakes, whereas Albertson's supply is from our subterranean aquifer. Since ours is a sole source system, innumerable safeguards, testing and rigorous New York State regulations have been in place for many years. The results of lead testing are presented in this issue in our Annual Drinking Water Quality Report. Our AWD tap water is of the highest quality possible. It is lead free and completely safe to drink."



Commissioner Ken Vey

4	19 K	20 Ca	21 Sc	22 Ti	23 V	24 Cr	25 Mn	26 Fe
5	37 Rb	38 Sr	39 Y	40 Zr	41 Nb	42 Mo	43 Tc	44 Ru
6	55 Cs	56 Ba *	71 Lu	72 Hf	73 Ta	74 W	75 Re	76 Os
7	87 Fr	88 Ra *	103 Lr	104 Rf	105 Db	106 Sg	107 Bh	108 Hs

USEPA: And Our Annual Water Report



Commissioner Richard Ockovic

Instituted 25 years ago, USEPA's (www.epa.gov) Lead and Copper regulation requires monitoring drinking water by sampling tap water from multiple households throughout the District. "Our raw water contains no lead," Commissioner Ockovic observed. "The only lead source may come from old plumbing fixtures or household pipes. In the unlikely case that concentrations exceed predetermined levels in more than 10 percent of customer samples, we take action. In addition to corrosion control, the District informs the public on how to replace lead service lines and safeguard their water. Our Annual Water Statement contains all the facts and findings."

For more information see our **Annual Water Statement** in this issue or at www.albertsonwater.org.

6	55 Cs	56 Ba *	71 Lu	72 Hf	73 Ta	74 W	75 Re	76 Os
7	87 Fr	88 Ra *	103 Lr	104 Rf	105 Db	106 Sg	107 Bh	108 Hs
	*	57 La	58 Ce	59 Pr	60 Nd	61 Pm	62 Sm	
	*	89 Ac	90 Th	91 Pa	92 U	93 Np	94 Pu	





99 AND COUNTING

Next year the Albertson Water District will mark a century of service to the community. Named after Townsend Albertson, the area was first settled in 1644. The LIRR came to town in 1864, and Albertson remained a farming area well into the 20th century. The AWD was established in 1917 on the eve of the US entry into WWI. The farms have gone, but the District continues to supply high quality water to thousands of connections through 50 miles of water mains while maintaining some 450 fire hydrants.

Photos courtesy of the Albertson Fire Company



JUST WHERE DOES OUR WATER COME FROM?

Why do Albertson residents enjoy superior quality water as well as a plentiful supply?

Highly regulated and meticulously managed, our drinking water comes from Long Island's sole source aquifer, an underground geologic formation made of rock and/or gravel, sand, pebbles or silt. Aquifers contain, transmit and yield water in usable quantities. The aquifer formations beneath Long Island were deposited at different times in the geologic history of the island.



Water Usage 2015 Close Up

PEAK DAY:

September 7, 2015: 3,700,000

2015 TOTAL PUMPAGE:

793,894,000

PEAK MONTH:

August: 103,753,000

LOWEST MONTH:

December: 39,005,000

DAYS OUT OF SERVICE:

Zero!

2015

ELECTION RESULTS



On December 8, 2015, voters re-elected Howard Abbondandolo as Albertson Water Commissioner for the three-year term effective January 1, 2016. Commissioner Abbondandolo is a lifelong Albertson resident and past President of the Nassau Suffolk Water Commissioners' Association. His current term will expire on December 31, 2018.

Annual Drinking Water Quality Report For 2015

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. 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 (1-800-426-4791), 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 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'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 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 2015. 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 2015, our system did not experience any restriction of our water source.

All water pumped to the distribution system in 2015 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 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.

Contaminant	Violation Yes/No	Date of Sample	Level Detected (Avg/Max) (Range) ⁽¹⁾	Unit Measurement	MCLG OR MRDLG	Regulatory Limit (MCL or MRDL)	Likely Source of Contamination
Inorganic Contaminants							
Barium	No	2/11/15	0.0025	mg/L	2	MCL - 2	Discharge of drilling wastes; Discharge from metal refineries; Erosion of natural deposits
Calcium	No	2/11/15	10	mg/L	n/a	n/a	Naturally occurring
Chloride	No	2/11/15	29.5	mg/L	n/a	MCL - 250	Naturally occurring or indicative of road salt contamination
Iron	No	2/11/15	49	µg/L	n/a	MCL - 300	Naturally occurring
Magnesium	No	2/11/15	4.9	mg/L	n/a	n/a	Naturally occurring
Sodium	No	2/11/15	14	mg/L	n/a	20 / 270 ⁽²⁾	Naturally occurring; Road salt; Water softeners; Animal waste
Sulfate	No	2/11/15	20.9	mg/L	n/a	MCL - 250	Naturally occurring
Inorganic Contaminant (Nitrate)							
Nitrate	No	2/11/15	3.27 (2.61 - 3.27)	mg/L	10	MCL - 10	Runoff from fertilizer use; Leaching from septic tanks, sewage; Erosion of natural deposits
Physical Characteristics							
Calcium Hardness	No	2/11/15	25.7	mg/L	n/a	n/a	Naturally occurring
Langelier Saturation Index	No	2/11/15	-1.53	units	n/a	n/a	Naturally occurring
pH	No	2/11/15	7.64 (7.2 - 8.2)	units	n/a	n/a	Naturally occurring
Total Alkalinity	No	3/2/15	19.4 (18.4 - 19.4)	mg/L	n/a	n/a	Naturally occurring
Total Dissolved Solids	No	2/11/15	151	mg/L	n/a	n/a	Naturally occurring
Total Hardness	No	2/11/15	45.7	mg/L	n/a	n/a	Naturally occurring
Disinfectant							
Chlorine Residual	No	11/30/15	0.93 (0.3 - 1.3)	mg/L	n/a	MRDL-4 ⁽³⁾	Water additive used to control microbes
Principal Organic Contaminant							
Dieldrin	No	3/3/15	0.04 (ND - 0.053)	µg/L	n/a	MCL - 5	Pesticide used in agriculture for soil and seed treatment; byproduct of the pesticide aldrin.
Additional Contaminant							
Perchlorate	No	2/10/15	1.0	µg/L	n/a	MCL-18 ⁽¹¹⁾	Oxygen additive in solid fuel propellant for rockets, missiles, and fireworks
Radioactive Contaminants							
Wells 1, 2, 4 and 5							
Gross Alpha Activity	No	2/11/14	< 1.0 ⁽⁴⁾	pCi/L	0	MCL - 15	Erosion of natural deposits
Beta Activity	No	2/11/14	1.085 ⁽⁴⁾	pCi/L	0	MCL-50 ⁽⁵⁾	Decay of natural deposits and man-made emissions
Combined Radium (Ra226+Ra228)	No	2/11/14	< 1.0 ⁽⁶⁾	pCi/L	0	MCL - 5	Erosion of natural deposits
Well 3A							
Gross Alpha Activity	No	6/19/15	2.075 ⁽⁴⁾	pCi/L	0	MCL - 15	Erosion of natural deposits
Beta Activity	No	9/1/15	2.598 ⁽⁴⁾	pCi/L	0	MCL-50 ⁽⁵⁾	Decay of natural deposits and man-made emissions
Combined Radium (Ra226+Ra228)	No	10/27/15	< 1.0 ⁽⁶⁾	pCi/L	0	MCL - 5	Erosion of natural deposits
Unregulated Contaminant Monitoring Rule 3 Contaminants⁽⁷⁾							
Chlorate	No	2/25/15	200 (32 - 200)	µg/L	n/a	n/a	By-product of drinking water disinfection needed to kill harmful organisms
Chromium	No	6/19/15	0.87 (0.26 - 0.87)	µg/L	100	MCL - 100	Naturally occurring; Industrial discharge from plating industry
Chromium, Hexavalent	No	2/24/15	0.55 (0.19 - 0.55)	µg/L	100	MCL - 100	Naturally occurring; Industrial discharge from plating industry
1,4-Dioxane	No	12/3/15	0.94 (0.078 - 0.94)	µg/L	n/a	MCL - 50	Released into the environment through its use as a solvent and in textile processing, printing processes, and detergent preparations
Strontium	No	6/19/15	91.2 (29.1 - 91.2)	µg/L	n/a	n/a	Naturally occurring
1,1-Dichloroethane	No	6/19/15	1.1 (ND - 1.1)	µg/L	n/a	MCL - 5	Released into the environment as fugitive emissions and in wastewater during production and use as a chemical intermediate solvent; degreasing agent.
Chlorodifluoromethane	No	6/19/15	0.092 (ND - 0.092)	µg/L	n/a	n/a	Used as a refrigerant
Contaminant	Violation Yes/No	Date of Sample	90 th Percentile and Range	Unit Measurement	MCLG	Regulatory Limit (AL)	Likely Source of Contamination
Lead and Copper Contaminants							
Copper	No	8/8/13	0.04 (ND - 0.06) ⁽⁸⁾	mg/L	1.3	AL - 1.3	Corrosion of household plumbing systems; Erosion of natural deposits
Lead	No	9/18/13	2.26 (ND - 10.1) ⁽⁹⁾	µg/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							
Total Trihalomethanes	No	10/13/15	2.56 (ND - 7.25)	µg/L	n/a	MCL - 80	By-product of drinking water chlorination needed to kill harmful organisms
Total Haloacetic Acids	No	10/13/15	< 2	µg/L	n/a	MCL - 60	By-product of drinking water disinfection 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.
- (2) 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.
- (3) 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.
- (4) The contaminant levels represent the average of gross alpha and beta activities in raw water samples taken from multiple wells.
- (5) The State considers 50 pCi/L to be the level of concern for beta particles.
- (6) The contaminant level represents the combined average of radium 226 and 228 in raw water samples taken from multiple wells.
- (7) 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.
- (8) The level represents the 90th percentile of the 30 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, thirty samples were collected at your water system and the 90th percentile value was the twenty-seventh highest value (0.04 mg/L). The action level for copper was not exceeded at any of the sites tested.
- (9) The level represents the 90th percentile of the 30 sites tested and the range of values. The action level for lead was not exceeded at any of the sites tested.
- (10) The levels presented represent the highest locational running annual average (LRAA) and the range of values at the four sites tested under the Disinfection Byproduct Rule Stage II sampling.
- (11) An MCL has not been established for this contaminant. The value presented represents a State Guidance level.

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, the highest level of a contaminant that is allowed in drinking water. MCLs are set as close to the MCLG as possible.

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).

µg/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.

FACTS AND FIGURES: Our water system serves approximately 13,500 residents through 4,054 service connections. The total amount of water pumped from the ground in 2015 was 793,894,000 gallons. Through metered sales, 642,909,000 gallons were delivered to the consumers of the Albertson Water District. This leaves an unaccounted-for total of 150,985,000 gallons (19% 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, drilling of a new well casing, and theft of service. In 2015, the annual water charge for the average consumer was \$342.43.

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. 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) and samples taken by the Nassau County Department of Health 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 (1-800-426-4791) 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 1 to December 31, 2015.

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

Organics (including Other Principal Organics): 1,1,1,2-tetrachloroethane, 1,1,1-trichloroethane, 1,1,2,2-tetrachloroethane, 1,1,2-trichloroethane, 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, 4-isopropyltoluene, benzene, bromobenzene, bromochloromethane, bromomethane, carbon tetrachloride, chlorobenzene, chlorodibromomethane, chloroethane, chloromethane, cis-1,2-dichloroethene, cis-1,3-dichloropropene, dibromomethane, dichlorodifluoromethane, ethylbenzene, hexachlorobutadiene, isopropylbenzene, m,p-xylene, methyl tert-butyl ether, methylene chloride, n-butylbenzene, ethylbenzene, tert-butylbenzene, dibromomethane, n-propylbenzene, o-xylene, sec-butylbenzene, styrene, toluene, trans-1,2-dichloroethene, trans-1,3-dichloropropene, trichloroethene, trichlorofluoromethane, vinyl chloride, 1,2-dibromo-3-chloropropane, 1,2-dibromoethane, alachlor, aldrin, chlordane, endrin, heptachlor, heptachlor epoxide, hexachlorobenzene, hexachlorocyclopentadiene, lindane, methoxychlor, PCB screen, toxaphene, 2,4,5-TP (Silvex), 2,4-D, dalapon, dicamba,

dinoseb, pentachlorophenol, picloram, atrazine, benzo(a)pyrene, bis(2-ethylhexyl)adipate, aldicarb, aldicarb sulfoxide, aldicarb sulfone, 3-hydroxycarbofuran, carbaryl, carbofuran, oxamyl, methomyl, methiocarb, and methiocarb sulfone.

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

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

Microbiological – total Coliform, Escherichia Coliform, and turbidity.

Unregulated Contaminant Monitoring Rule 3 – cobalt, molybdenum, vanadium, 1,3-butadiene, perfluorobutanesulfonic acid, perfluoroheptanoic acid, perfluorohexanesulfonic acid, perfluorononanoic acid, perfluorooctanesulfonic acid, and perfluorooctanoic 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 in accordance with Nassau County Department of Health standards. The sampling results presented in this report are from the most recent radiological sampling that was done in 2014 for Wells 1, 2, 4, and 5 and in 2015 for Well 3A. Raw water samples were collected and analyzed for gross alpha and beta activities and radium 226 and 228.

The maximum contaminant level for gross alpha activity in water is 15 pCi/L. The 2014 average of the gross alpha samples for Wells 1, 2, 4, and 5 was 0.859 pCi/L. The 2015 average of the gross alpha samples for Well 3A was 2.075 pCi/L. The level of concern for beta activity in water is 50 pCi/L. The 2014 average of the gross beta samples for Wells 1, 2, 4, and 5 was 1.085 pCi/L. The 2015 average of the gross beta samples for Well 3A was 2.598 pCi/L. The maximum contaminant level for combined radium 226 and 228 in water is 5 pCi/L. The 2014 average of combined radium 226 and 228 samples for Wells 1, 2, 4, and 5 was 0.891 pCi/L. The 2015 average of combined radium 226 and 228 samples for Well 3A was 0.838 pCi/L.

Sampling for lead and copper contaminants is done every 3 years in accordance with Nassau County Department of Health standards. The sampling results presented in this report are from the most recent lead and copper sampling that was done in 2013. Samples were collected from the distribution system at thirty sites and analyzed for lead and copper. Lead is measured in micrograms per Liter (µg/L). The Action Level (AL) for lead is 15 µg/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 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 lead and copper values detected at your water system. Thirty samples were collected from your water system and the 90th percentile values for lead and copper were the twenty-seventh highest values for those contaminants. The 90th percentile for lead as shown in Table 1 is 2.26 ug/L and the 90th percentile for copper as shown in Table 1 is 0.04 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-Product Rule. This sampling program was initiated during the quarter beginning October 1, 2013 and continued throughout 2015. 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 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 or at www.epa.gov/safewater/lead.

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 (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 is monitoring for additional contaminants under the EPA's Unregulated Contaminant Monitoring Rule 3 (UCMR3). The information collected under the UCMR3 will help the EPA determine future drinking water regulations. The results of the 2015 monitoring program are listed in Table 1 and are available within the Supplement.

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.

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 2015 was \$1,388,230.01. As referenced earlier, the annual water charge for the average consumer was \$342.43. Reducing water use by 20% will result in a savings of approximately \$68.49 per year for the average consumer.

SYSTEM IMPROVEMENTS

In 2015, the following system improvements were completed: Well 3A, roof repairs at Well 5, painting of the Shepherd Lane 1.5 million gallon storage tank, 3,000 feet of 8-in. ductile iron water main on McKinley Avenue, and the on-going meter replacement program. The projects planned for 2016 include the ongoing meter replacement program, installation of the SCADA water supply control system, and rehabilitation of the Hollow Court 1.5 million gallon storage tank.

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.



XERISCAPING: 21st Century Sustainability

There may be no local shortage of water, but going forward, xeriscaping is a word you will hear more often. Essentially, it is landscaping and gardening for water conservation. Practiced in the west for decades, it is becoming quite popular with gardeners and everyday folks here on Long Island because it conserves water and still beautifies the land. And it conveniently deals with the biggest water culprit of all...lawn grass! Here's how you can turn your yard into a beautiful xeriscaped water-saving area:

- **Install drip irrigation. This can dramatically cut water usage.**
- **Minimize lawn grass area because most grasses are very thirsty.**
- **Plant native species of plants and bushes that require less water.**
- **Mulch planted areas and beds to reduce evaporation and control weeds.**
- **Incorporate stones and rocks that make very attractive natural accents.**
- **Add and till compost into your soil for all plantings to grow better.**



Bottled Water. **Blame it on Columbus?**

Bottled waters. They seem to be everywhere. And regardless of who drinks them, the bottles will likely wind up in a landfill.

There is nothing wrong with bottled water providing you don't mind:

- * *Paying exorbitant prices for it.*
- * *Contributing to an ever-expanding waste stream.*
- * *Not knowing exactly what's in the water.*
- * *Waiting 500 to 1,000 years for a plastic bottle to decompose.*
- * *Overlooking the fact that testing is far less stringent than testing on Albertson Water District tap water.*
- * *That an NRDC* comprehensive four-year scientific study of 1,000 brands of bottled water showed that one third of the bottled waters violated their own industry standards for water quality.*

*Natural Resources Defense Council

Why the reference to Columbus? Well if he had brought water in plastic bottles to the new world in 1492 and they were composted, there's a 50/50 chance they might have biodegraded by now. Or maybe not...because it can take up to 1,000 years for such bottles to biodegrade in our landfills, which means something from William the Conqueror's era has likely disappeared. Consider thyself fortunate, varlet!

In contrast, every drop of your AWD water that comes straight from your tap or hose is subject to what are arguably the most rigorous local compliance and state-mandated testing standards in the world! The safety and quality of AWD water is vastly superior to bottled waters, and we prove it day after day, all year long. Just look at our 2015 Water Statement and compare it to what's in bottled waters. And then smile... because you are getting the best quality water... and as much as you need...for a fraction of the cost...sometimes 1/1,000th of the cost! Columbus would have loved that!

ALBERTSON WATER DISTRICT

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A FEW FACTS REGARDING LOCAL CONTROL

- 1. The Albertson Water District provides service 24/7/365.** Whether it is raining, snowing, freezing – whenever a problem develops – you receive fast service from a trained, veteran staff composed largely of local residents.
- 2. AWD Commissioners are elected exclusively by you, the residents of Albertson.** Commissioners Abbondonelo, Ockovic and Vey are all residents of the District. They don't need Google Maps to find Willow Place, Croyden Court or Parkway Drive, and they are responsive to your interests.
- 3. As Commissioner Vey points out,** "All monies collected by the AWD are used exclusively for the operation, supplies and maintenance required by the AWD for the production of the highest quality water in full compliance with all state and federal standards."
- 4. All taxes and all the fees paid to the AWD stay within the District.** The monies do not go to a larger regional entity for selective redistribution by decision makers who could live 75 miles away in other counties.
- 5. The District regularly reinvests in infrastructure and maintains an aggressive preventive maintenance program** with regular service upgrades, all with a minimum of borrowing.
- 6. The AWD performs dozens of service calls per week for residents and hundreds of quality control tests per year.**
- 7. The AWD delivers this essential resource while keeping water supply the lowest regular cost of all utilities in Albertson.**

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