

Village of Buchanan  
Municipal Building  
236 Tate Avenue  
Buchanan, New York 10511

POSTAL PATRON  
BUCHANAN, NEW YORK 10511

# Village of Buchanan Annual Drinking Water Quality Report for 2016

Important Information About Your Drinking Water \* Consumer Confidence Report 40 CFR and 142

# **Annual Drinking Water Quality Report for 2016**

## **Village of Buchanan**

### **236 Tate Avenue, Buchanan, New York 10511**

### **(Public Water Supply ID#5903422)**

#### **INTRODUCTION**

To comply with State regulations, the Village of Buchanan, 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. The Village of Buchanan purchases water from the Montrose Improvement District (MID) and the City of Peekskill. 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. The Village of Buchanan was, however issued a violation for failure to collect the quarterly Disinfection Byproducts sampling within the specified schedule as per the approved Comprehensive Monitoring Plan. The details of this violation and the testing results are explained in the "Is Our Water System Meeting Other Rules That Govern Operations" section of this report. 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 Kevin F. Hay, Village Administrator, at (914) 737-1033. We want you to be informed about your drinking water. If you want to learn more, please attend any of our regularly scheduled Village Board meetings. The meetings are generally held on the first Monday of each month at 7:30 p.m. in the Municipal Building located at 236 Tate Avenue.

The MID AWQR for 2016 and additional information is available by contacting the Northern Westchester Joint Water Works Office located at 2065 East Main Street, Cortlandt Manor, New York 10567, Phone: (914) 737-5380. The City of Peekskill AWQR for 2016 and additional information is available by contacting the Water & Sewer Superintendent, David Rambo, at City Hall, 840 Main Street, Peekskill, New York 10566, Phone: (914) 734-4152.

#### **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 public health.

#### **BUCHANAN'S DRINKING WATER SOURCES**

The Village of Buchanan purchases all of its water from the Montrose Improvement District (MID) and the City of Peekskill. The total volume of water purchased by the Village of Buchanan in 2016 was 249.4 million gallons. Of this amount, 232.4 million gallons, or 93.2%, was purchased from the Montrose Improvement District, with the remainder, 17.0 million gallons, or 6.8%, purchased from the City of Peekskill. The average amount of water that is purchased daily is 0.68 million gallons.

##### **Montrose Improvement District**

The MID source of water is the Catskill Aqueduct, which is located in the Town of Cortlandt. The MID's source of supply is New York City's Catskill Aqueduct which is fed from the Ashokan Reservoir located in the Catskill Mountains. New York City has also produced an Annual Supply and Quality Statement, which is available at the New York City Department of Environmental Protection web site at [http://www.nyc.gov/html/dep/html/drinking\\_water/wsstate.shtml](http://www.nyc.gov/html/dep/html/drinking_water/wsstate.shtml). The Northern Westchester Joint Water Works' Catskill Water Treatment Plant produces potable water from this source. During 2016, MID did not experience any restriction of the water source. Water is treated with the following processes prior to distribution: pH adjustment, coagulation, dissolved air flotation, filtration, chlorine disinfection, and corrosion control. A connection with the City of Peekskill water system is maintained as a supplementary water supply. In addition, treated water from the Amawalk Water Treatment Plant on Route 35, in Somers, can be used as an emergency water supply via the Yorktown 24" transmission main. The Village of Buchanan purchases water from the MID through a metered connection.

##### **City of Peekskill**

Peekskill has two (2) sources of water, both of which are surface waters. Peekskill's year round major source originates in the Town of Putnam Valley. The second is an emergency source from a neighboring community, via the Catskill Aqueduct, which can be used should the primary source be unavailable. During 2016, our system did not experience any restriction of our water source. The water is pumped to the Campfield Reservoir in Peekskill, where it is then treated with coagulants, flocculated, dissolved air flotation, filtered, and disinfected. The pH is then adjusted for corrosion control prior to distribution. The Village of Buchanan purchases water from the City of Peekskill through a metered connection.

## **SOURCE WATER ASSESSMENT**

### **Montrose Improvement District**

The New York State Department of Health (NYSDOH) has evaluated the susceptibility of water supplies statewide for potential contamination under the Source Water Assessment Program (SWAP), and their findings are summarized in the paragraphs below. It is important to stress that these assessments were created using available information and only estimate the potential for source water contamination. Elevated susceptibility ratings do not mean that source water contamination has or will occur for our Public Water Supply(s) (PWS). This PWS provides treatment and regular monitoring to ensure the water delivered to consumers meets all applicable standards.

This PWS obtains water from the New York City water supply system. Water either comes from the Catskill/Delaware watersheds east of the Hudson River and/or from the Croton watershed in Putnam and Westchester counties. The New York City Department of Environmental Protection (DEP) implements a series of programs to evaluate and protect source water quality within these watersheds. Their efforts focus on three important program areas: the enforcement of strengthened Watershed Rules and Regulations; the acquisition and protection of watershed lands; and implementation of partnership programs that target specific sources of pollution in the watersheds.

Due to these intensive efforts, the SWAP methodologies applied to the rest of the state were not applied for this PWS. Additional information on the water quality and protection efforts in these New York City watersheds can be found at DEP's web site [www.nyc.gov/dep/watershed](http://www.nyc.gov/dep/watershed).

Specifically, this PWS obtains its water from the Catskill/Delaware watersheds east of the Hudson. The reservoirs in this mountainous rural area are relatively deep with little development along their shorelines. The main water quality concerns associated with land cover is agriculture, which can contribute microbial contaminants, pesticides, and algae producing nutrients. There are also a number of other discrete facilities, such as landfills, chemical bulk storages, etc. that have the potential to impact local water quality, but large significant water quality problems associated with these facilities are unlikely due to the size of the watershed and surveillance and management practices.

### **City of Peekskill**

The NYSDOH recently completed a Source Water Assessment Program (SWAP). This assessment found an elevated susceptibility to contamination for this source of drinking water. The amount of pasture in the assessment area results in a medium potential for protozoa contamination. There is also a moderate density of sanitary wastewater discharges which results in elevated susceptibility for nearly all contaminate categories. Non-sanitary wastewater discharges may also contribute to contamination. In addition, it appears that the total amount of sanitary wastewater discharged to surface water in this assessment area is high enough to further raise the potential for contamination (particularly protozoa). There is also noteworthy contamination susceptibility associated with other discrete contaminant sources, and these facility types include: landfills. Finally, it should be noted that relatively high flow velocities make brook or stream drinking water supplies highly sensitive to existing and new sources of microbial contamination. These reports do not address the safety or quality of treated finished potable tap water.

## **FACTS AND FIGURES ABOUT BUCHANAN'S WATER DISTRIBUTION SYSTEM**

The Village water distribution system currently consists of approximately 9.5 miles of water main, 110 fire hydrants and 300 gate valves, which can be used to control, isolate and regulate the water system. The Village provides water to approximately 2,200 residents and four major water consumers: Entergy Nuclear Indian Point 2 LLC, Entergy Nuclear Indian Point 3 LLC, Continental Buchanan LLC, and Westchester Industrial Complex. In 2016 these four consumers used approximately 234.8 million gallons, or approximately 94.1% of the total amount purchased by the Village in 2016. The remaining amount, or approximately 5.9%, is sold to Village residents and smaller commercial users for general domestic use and unaccounted for water, which is typically lost to hydrant flushing, fire fighting, street cleaning and leakage. The Village provides water to approximately 2,200 residents through 736 service connections. In 2016, the average annual water bill for a residential user was approximately \$430.

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

As the State regulations require, our drinking water is routinely tested for numerous contaminants. These contaminants include: total coliform, turbidity, inorganic compounds, nitrate, nitrite, lead and copper, volatile organic compounds, total trihalomethanes, haloacetic acids, radiological and synthetic organic compounds. The Tables presented on pages 4 through 8 depict which compounds were detected in your drinking water. The State allows us to test for some contaminants less than once per year because the concentrations of these contaminants do not change frequently. Some of our data, though representative, are more than one year old.

Since the Village of Buchanan does not produce the drinking water supplied to its residents, the majority of the quality testing is performed by the MID and the City of Peekskill. The Village however, monitors certain contaminants in the water that is delivered to its residents. Quality tests are periodically taken at locations throughout the Village and tested in accordance with State and Federal regulations. All test results indicate that the water meets or exceeds both the State and Federal requirements. Complete water quality testing results are available for review at the Village Hall, 236 Tate Avenue, Buchanan, New York.

It should be noted that all drinking water, including bottled drinking water, may be reasonably expected to contain at least small amounts of some contaminants. The presence of contaminants does not necessarily indicate that water poses a health risk. More information about contaminants and potential health effects can be obtained by calling the EPA's Safe Drinking Water Hotline (800-426-4791), [www.epa.gov/safewater](http://www.epa.gov/safewater) or the Westchester County Health Department at (914) 813-5000, [www.westchester.gov/health](http://www.westchester.gov/health). Listed below please find Tables of Detected Contaminants. Table 1 is for the Village of Buchanan, Table 2 is for the Montrose Improvement District (MID), and Table 3 is for the City of Peekskill Water Department.

**TABLE OF DETECTED CONTAMINANTS (TABLE 1 – VILLAGE OF BUCHANAN)**

CONTAMINANT	VIOLATION YES/NO	DATE OF SAMPLE	LEVEL DETECTED (AVERAGE) (RANGE)	UNIT MEASUREMENT	MCLG	REGULATORY LIMIT (MCL, TT OR AL)	LIKELY SOURCE OF CONTAMINATION
Turbidity <sup>1</sup>	No	5 days/week	0.20 (0.08 – 0.20)	NTU	N/A	5.0 NTU	Soil runoff
Copper <sup>2</sup>	No	6/1/14-9/30/14	135.0 (36.2-144.0)	µg/l	1300	AL 1300	Corrosion Of household plumbing systems, erosion of natural deposits, leaching from wood preservatives.
Lead <sup>3</sup>	No	6/1/14-9/30/14	1.2 (ND – 2.3)	µg/l	0	AL 15	Corrosion of household plumbing systems, erosion of natural deposits.
Total Trihalomethanes (TTHMs – chloroform, bromodichloromethane, dibromochloromethane, and bromoform) <sup>4</sup>	Yes See Note 4	03/02/2016 06/27/2016 09/02/2016 12/09/2016	31.0 (7.76-73.29)	µg/l	N/A	MCL 80	By-product of drinking water chlorination needed to kill harmful organisms; TTHM's are formed when source water contains large amounts of organic matter.
Haloacetic Acids (HAA5's - mono-, di- & trichloroacetic acid, and mono- and dibromoacetic acid)	Yes See Note 4	03/02/2016 06/27/2016 09/02/2016 12/09/2016	17.84 (8.23-21.35)	µg/l	N/A	MCL 60	By-product of drinking water chlorination needed to kill harmful organisms.

**NOTES:**

1. Turbidity is a measure of the cloudiness of the water. Our highest single turbidity measurement of 0.20 NTU for the year occurred on 12/14/16. State regulations require that turbidity must always be below 5 NTU.
2. The level presented represents the 90<sup>th</sup> percentile of the ten (10) sites tested for copper in 2014. 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 90<sup>th</sup> percentile is equal to or greater than 90% of the copper values detected at your water system. In this case, 10 samples were collected at your water system and the 90<sup>th</sup> percentile value was 135.0 µg/l. The action level for copper was not exceeded at any of the sites tested. The Village of Buchanan is currently in a three year monitoring period.
3. The level presented represents the 90<sup>th</sup> percentile of the ten (10) sites tested for lead in 2014. 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 90<sup>th</sup> percentile is equal to or greater than 90% of the lead values detected at your water system. In this case, 10 samples were collected at your water system and the 90<sup>th</sup> percentile value was 1.2 µg/l. The action level for lead was not exceeded at any of the 10 sites tested. 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 Village of Buchanan 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 <http://www.epa.gov/safewater/lead>. The Village of Buchanan is currently in a three year monitoring period.
4. TTHM's and HAA5's can be formed when source water contains large amounts of organic matter. See "Is Our Water System Meeting Other Rules That Govern Operations" on page 8 for a description of violation.

**TABLE OF DETECTED CONTAMINANTS (TABLE 2 – MONTRÖSE IMPROVEMENT DISTRICT)**

CONTAMINANT	VIOLATION YES/NO	DATE OF SAMPLE	LEVEL DETECTED (AVERAGE) (RANGE)	UNIT MEASUREMENT	MCLG	REGULATORY LIMIT (MCL, TT OR AL)	LIKELY SOURCE OF CONTAMINATION
<b>Inorganic</b>							
Alkalinity	no	1/1-12/31/16	18.41 12.6 -59.0	mg/l as CaCO3	N/A	N/A	Naturally occurring.
Hardness	no	1/1 - 12/31/16	16.82 9.8 – 60.9	mg/l as CaCO3	N/A	N/A	Naturally occurring.
Barium	no	5/26/16	0.008	mg/l	2	MCL 2	Erosion of natural deposits.
Chloride	no	5/11/16	11.0	mg/l	N/A	MCL 250	Naturally occurring or road salt.
Nitrate	no	5/11/16	0.05	mg/l	10	MCL 10	Fertilizer run-off, septic tank leaching, natural deposits.
pH	no	1/1 - 12/31/16	7.56 6.7 - 9.61	N/A	N/A	N/A	N/A
Phosphorus, Ortho	no	1/1 - 12/31/16	0.87 0.73 - 1.30	mg/l	N/A	N/A	Additive to prevent corrosion.
Sodium	no	5/17/16	7.74	mg/l	N/A	(20) <sup>1</sup>	Naturally occurring, road salt, water softening, animal waste.
<b>Microbiological</b>							
Filtration Turbidity <sup>2</sup>	no	10/10/16	0.14 100%	NTU	N/A	TT=95% of samples <0.3 NTU	Soil run-off.
<b>Radioactive</b>							
Gross Alpha	no	7/19/12	0.187	pCi/L	0	15 pCi/L	Erosion of natural deposits.
Gross Beta	no	7/19/12	0.688	pCi/L	0	50 pCi/L <sup>3</sup>	Decay of natural deposits and man-made emissions.
Combined Radium 226 and 228	no	7/19/12	0.3525	pCi/L	0	5 pCi/L	Erosion of natural deposits.
Total Uranium	no	7/19/12	0.023	ug/l	0	30 ug/l	Erosion of natural deposits.

- 1 People on severely restricted sodium diets should not consume water containing more than 20 mg/L of sodium. Water containing more than 270 mg/L of sodium should not be used for drinking by people on moderately restricted sodium diets.
- 2 Turbidity is a good indicator of the effectiveness of our filtration system. This value is the highest single combined filter measurement. At least 95% of the samples collected must be less than or equal to 0.30 NTU. These measurements were taken at the water treatment plant.
- 3 The State considers 50 pCi/L to be the level of concern for beta particles.

CONTAMINANT	VIOLATION YES/NO	DATE OF SAMPLE	LEVEL DETECTED (AVERAGE) (RANGE)	UNIT MEASUREMENT	MCLG	REGULATORY LIMIT (MCL, TT OR AL)	LIKELY SOURCE OF CONTAMINATION
<b>Microbiological Contaminants</b>							
Composite Filter Turbidity	No	Continuous	0.023-0.292 100% ≤ 0.30	NTU	N/A	TT = ≤ 0.30 NTU	Soil Runoff <sup>1</sup>
Total organic carbon	No	Monthly	1.4-2.9	mg/l	N/A	TT	Naturally present in the environment.
<b>Inorganics</b>							
Barium	No	3/15/16	0.049	mg/l	2.00	MCL 2.00	Discharge from drilling. Waste discharge from metal refineries. Erosion of Natural Deposits.
Chloride	No	3/15/16	120	mg/l	N/A	MCL 250	Naturally Occurring Or Indicative Of Road Salt Contamination.
Nitrate	No	3/15/16	0.67	mg/l	10	MCL 10	Runoff from fertilizer use; Leaching from septic tanks, sewage; Erosion of natural deposits.
Odor	No	3/15/16	1.0	T.O.N.	N/A	MCL 3	Organic or inorganic pollutants originating from municipal and industrial waste discharges; natural sources.
Sodium	No	3/15/16	65	mg/l	N/A	See footnote <sup>2</sup>	Naturally occurring; Road salt; Water softeners; Animal waste. <sup>2</sup>
Sulfate	No	3/15/16	27	mg/l	N/A	MCL 250	Naturally occurring.
<b>Radiological</b>							
Gross Alpha	No	5/27/14	2.44	pCi/L	0	MCL 15	Erosion of natural deposits.
Gross Beta	No	5/27/14	2.28	pCi/L	0	MCL 50	Erosion of natural deposits.
Radium 226 & 228	No	5/27/14	1.81	pCi/L	0	MCL 5	Erosion of natural deposits.

**NOTES:**

1 – Turbidity is a measure of the cloudiness of the water. We test it because it is a good indicator of the effectiveness of our filtration system. Our highest single turbidity measurement, Turbidity has no health effects.

The regulations also require that 95% of the turbidity samples collected at the composite filter effluent have measurements below 0.3 NTU. A Treatment Technique violation occurs if > 5% of the composite filter effluent measurements taken each month exceeds the performance standard value of 0.30 NTU

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 should not be used for drinking by people on moderately restricted diets.

**DEFINITIONS:**

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

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

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

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

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

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

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

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

**Picocuries per liter (pCi/L):** A measure of the radioactivity in water.

**Maximum Residual Disinfectant (MRDL):** A level of disinfectant measured at a consumer's tap above which the possibility of unacceptable health effects exists.

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

**Testing was done for the following contaminants of which none were detected:**

Antimony	Aldrin	1,3-Dichlorobenzene
Beryllium	Benzo(a)pyrene	1,4-Dichlorobenzene
Cadmium	Butachlor	Dichlorodifluoromethane
Chromium	Carbaryl	1,1-Dichloroethane
Cyanide	Dalapon	1,2-Dichloroethane
Mercury	Di(2-ethylhexyl)adipate	1,1-Dichloroethene
Selenium	Di(2-ethylhexyl)phthalate	cis-1,2-Dichloroethene
Silver	Dicamba	trans-1,2-Dichloroethene
Thallium	Dieldrin	1,2-Dichloropropane
Fluoride	Dinoseb	1,3-Dichloropropane
Zinc	Hexachlorobenzene	2,2-Dichloropropane
Color	Hexachlorocyclopentadiene	1,1-Dichloropropene
Nitrite	3-Hydroxycarbofuran	cis-1,3-Dichloropropene
Total coliform	Methomyl	Trans-1,3-Dichloropropene
<i>Escherichia coli (E. coli)</i>	Metolachlor	ethylbenzene
Uranium	Metribuzin	hexachlorobutadiene
Vinyl chloride	Oxamyl vydate	Isopropylbenzene

Methyl-tertiary-butyl-ether(MTBE)	Picloram	p-Isopropyltoluene
Alachlor	Propachlor	Methylene Chloride
Aldicarb	Simazine	n-Propylbenzene
Aldicarb sulfoxide	Benzene	Styrene
Aldicarb sulfone	Bromobenzene	1,1,1,2-Tetrachloroethane
Atrazine	Bromochloromethane	1,1,2,2-Tetrachloroethane
Carbofuran	Bromomethane	Tetrachloroethene
Chlordane	N-Butylbenzene	Toluene
Dibromochloropropane 2,4-D	Sec-Butylbenzene	1,2,3-Trichlorobenzene
Endrin	Tert-Butylbenzene	1,2,4-Trichlorobenzene
Heptachlor	Benzene	1,1,1-Trichloroethane
Heptachlor epoxide	Carbon Tetrachloride	1,1,2-Trichloroethane
Lindane	Chlorobenzene	Trichloroethene
Methoxychlor	Chloroethane	Trichlorofluoromethane
Polychlorinated biphenyls	Chloromethane	1,2,3-Trichloropropane
Pentachlorophenol	2-Chlorotoluene	1,2,4-Trimethylbenzene
Toxaphene	4-Chlorotoluene	1,3,5-Trimethylbenzene
Lindane	Dibromomethane	m-Xylene
2,4,5-TP (Silvex)	1,2-Dichlorobenzene	o-Xylene
Iron	Manganese	p-Xylene
Chlorodifluoromethane	1,3-butadiene	1,2,3-trichloropropene
1,4-dioxane	cobalt	molybdenum
PFBS	PFHpA	PFHxS
PFNA	PFOA	PFOS

### WHAT DOES THIS INFORMATION MEAN?

As you can see from the table, our system had no violations. We have learned through our testing that some contaminants have been detected; however, these contaminants were detected below the level allowed by the State.

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

On July 27, 2016 Westchester County Department of Health (W.C.H.D.) determined that the Village of Buchanan was in violation of Part 5, Subpart 5-1, sections 5-1.51(c) of the New York State Sanitary Code (NYSSC) for failure to collect "...the quarterly Disinfection Byproducts sampling within the specified schedule as per the approved Comprehensive Monitoring Plan for the monitoring period beginning 4/1/2016 and ending 6/30/2016." It must be noted that the required quarterly Disinfection Byproducts sampling were collected later within the quarter on 6/27/2016 and were found to be well below the Maximum Contaminant Level (MCL) of 80.0 µg/l for Total Trihalomethanes and 60.0 µg/l for Haloacetic Acids.

### 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).

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

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

- ◆ Saving water saves energy and some of the costs associated with both of these necessities of life;
- ◆ Saving water reduces the cost of energy required to pump water and the need to construct costly new wells, pumping systems and water towers; 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.

#### 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 or shaving.

- ◆ 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, 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.

## **CLOSING**

Thank you for allowing us to continue to provide your family with quality drinking water this year. In order to maintain a safe and dependable water supply we sometimes need to make improvements that will benefit all of our customers. The costs of these improvements may be reflected in the rate structure. Rate adjustments may be necessary in order to address these improvements. We ask that all our customers help us protect our water sources, which are the heart of our community. Please call our office at (914) 737-1033 if you have questions.