

Village of Croton-on-Hudson

2002 WATER  
QUALITY REPORT



**Best Municipal Well Water  
in Westchester County  
2002**

PWS ID#: NY5903425

## Continuing Our Commitment

Once again we proudly present our annual water quality report. This edition covers all testing completed from January through December 2002. We are pleased to tell you that our compliance with all state and federal drinking water laws remains exemplary. As in the past, we are committed to delivering the best quality drinking water. To that end, we remain vigilant in meeting the challenges of source water protection, water conservation, and community education while continuing to serve the needs of all of our water users.



For more information about this report, or for any questions relating to your drinking water, please call Thomas G. Brann, Water Foreman, at (914) 271-3775 or Westchester County Department of Health at (914) 813-5000.

## Community Participation

You are invited to participate in our public forum and voice your concerns about your drinking water. The Village Board of Trustees meets on the first and third Monday of each month beginning at 8:00 p.m. at the Municipal Building, One Van Wyck Street, Croton-on-Hudson, NY 10520.



### How Is My Water Treated?

The Croton well field consists of three well pumps that pump directly into the distribution system that feeds four storage tanks located throughout the village. Chlorine is added at the well field for disinfection purposes. We carefully monitor the amount of chlorine, adding the quantity necessary to protect the safety of your water without compromising taste.



## 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 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. To ensure that tap water is safe to drink, the state and the U.S. EPA prescribe regulations that 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.



The Village of Croton-on-Hudson's main water source is a well system located approximately 4,000 feet downstream from the New Croton Dam and spillway. Water is pumped directly from the well fields into the distribution system, which consists of a network of water mains and four storage tanks (reservoirs). Croton's total storage capacity is 2.3 million gallons. Most residents receive water from the municipal water system; the remainder use private wells.

We are beginning to implement a long-term pipe replacement for the Harmon area of Croton. We are installing radio meter readers for residential homes throughout the village.

## Radon

Radon is a naturally occurring radioactive gas found in soil and outdoor air that may also be found in drinking water and indoor air. Some people exposed over many years to elevated radon levels in drinking water may have an increased risk of getting cancer. However, the main radon risk is lung cancer caused by radon entering indoor air from soil under homes. In 2001 we collected four representative water samples (one per quarter) that were analyzed for radon. The average of the four samples was 0.2 picocuries/liter (pCi/L). For additional information, call the state's radon program at (800) 458-1158 or the U.S. EPA's radon hotline at (800) SOS-RADON.



## Special Health Information

Some people may be more vulnerable to contaminants in drinking water than the general population. Immunocompromised 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 may be particularly at risk from infections. These people should seek advice about drinking water from their health care providers. USEPA and CDC (Centers for Disease Control and Prevention) guidelines on appropriate means to lessen the risk of infection by *Cryptosporidium* and other microbial contaminants are available from the Safe Drinking Water Hotline at (800) 426-4791.

## Non-detected Substances

As the State regulations require, we routinely test your drinking water for numerous contaminants. In 2002, the following substances were tested for and were not detected: Alachlor, Aldicarb, Aldicarb Sulfoxide, Aldicarb Sulfone, Arsenic, Atrazine, Carbofuran, Chlordane, Dibromochloropropane, 2,4-D, Endrin, Ethylene Dibromide, Heptachlor, Heptachlor Epoxide, Lindane, Methoxychlor, PCB's, Pentachlorophenol, Toxaphene, 2,4,5-TP (Silvex), Aldrin, Benzo(a)pyrene, Butachlor, Carbaryl, Dalapon, Di-(2-ethylhexyl)adipate, Di-(2-ethylhexyl)phthalate, Dicamba, Dieldrin, Dinoseb, Diquat, Endothall, Glyphosate, Hexachlorobenzene, Hexachlorocyclopentadiene, 3-Hydroxycarbofuran, Methomyl, Metolachlor, Metribuzin, Oxamyl(vydate), Picloram, Propachlor, Simazine, 2,3,7,8-TCDD (Dioxin), Cyanide, Cadmium, Chromium, Mercury, Selenium, Antimony, Beryllium, Thallium, Organohalide, Toxaphene, Dalapon, Dicamba, Dinoseb, Pichloram, Microextractables, Benzene, Bromobenzene, Bromomethane, n-Butylbenzene, Bromochloromethane, sec-Butylbenzene, tert-Butylbenzene, Carbon Tetrachloride, Chlorobenzene, Chloroethane, Chloromethane, 2-Chlorotoluene, 4-Chlorotoluene, Dibromomethane, 1,2-Dichlorobenzene, 1,3-Dichlorobenzene, 1,4-Dichlorobenzene, Dichlorodifluoromethane, 1,1-Dichloroethane, 1,2-Dichloroethane, cis-1,2-Dichloroethene, 1,2-Dichloropropane, 2,2-Dichloropropane, 1,1-Dichloropropene, cis-1,3-Dichloropropene, trans-1,3-Dichloropropene, ethylbenzene, hexachlorobutadiene, isopropylbenzene, p-isopropyltoluene, methylene chloride, n-propylbenzen, styrene, 1,1,1,2-tetrachloroethane, 1,1,2,2-tetrachloroethane, tetrachloroethene, toluene, 1,2,3-trichlorobenzene, 1,2,4-trichlorobenzene, 1,1,1-trichloroethane, 1,1,2-trichloroethane, trichloroethene, trichlorofluoromethane, 1,2,3-trichloropropane, 1,2,4-trimethylbenzene, 1,3,5-trimethylbenzene, p/m-xylene, o-xylene, vinyl chloride, methyl tert butyl ether, Iron, Silver, Nitrate.



## Facts and Figures

The water system supplies approximately 7,600 people, primarily in residences but also in businesses and industries, with 2,500 service connections. During 2002, the total amount of water withdrawn from the aquifer was approximately 337 million gallons. The daily average of water treated and pumped into the distribution system was 922,000 gallons per day. Approximately 90% of the total was billed directly to consumers. The balance, or unaccounted for water, went to fire fighting, hydrant use, leaks in the distribution system and unauthorized use.

The 2002 billing rate was \$3.54 per 100 cubic feet (748 gallons). The minimum biannual bill was \$70.80 (from 0 to 2,000 cubic feet).

Westchester County annually holds a water-tasting contest for municipal water suppliers. In 2002, the Village of Croton-on-Hudson placed first among all well-water systems.

## Water Conservation Tips

**W**ater conservation measures are an important first step in protecting our water supply. The following suggestions for conserving water not only save the supply of our source water but also can save you money by reducing your water bill.

### Conserving water inside your home:

- Fix leaking faucets, pipes, toilets, etc.
- Replace old fixtures; install water-saving devices in faucets, toilets and appliances.
- Wash only full loads of laundry.
- Take shorter showers.
- Turn off water while shaving or brushing teeth.
- Soak dishes before washing.
- Run the dishwasher only when full.

### Conserving water outdoors:

- Water the lawn and garden in the early morning or evening.
- Use mulch around plants and shrubs.
- Repair leaks in faucets and hoses.
- Use water-saving nozzles.
- Use water from a bucket to wash your car; save the hose for rinsing.

Information on other ways that you can help conserve water can be found at [www.epa.gov/safewater/publicoutreach/index.html](http://www.epa.gov/safewater/publicoutreach/index.html).



## Table Definitions

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

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

**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.

**NA:** Not applicable

**ND:** Not detected

**pCi/L (picocuries per liter):** A measure of radioactivity.

**ppb (parts per billion):** One part substance per billion parts water (or micrograms per liter).

**ppm (parts per million):** One part substance per million parts water (or milligrams per liter).

## What's in My Water?

We are pleased to report that during the past year, the water delivered to your home or business complied with, or did better than, all state and federal drinking water requirements. For your information, we have compiled the table below to show what substances were detected in our drinking water during 2002. Although all of the substances listed are under the Maximum Contaminant Level (MCL) set by the U.S. EPA, we feel it is important that you know exactly what was detected and how much of the substance was present in the 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.

### REGULATED

Substance (Units)	Date Sampled	MCL	MCLG	Amount Detected	Range (Low-High)	Violation	Typical Source
Barium (ppm)	8/4/01	2	2	0.04	NA	No	Discharge of drilling wastes; Erosion of natural deposits
Chloride (ppm)	4/11/02	250	NA	71	NA	No	Naturally occurring or indicative of road salt contamination
Di(2-ethylhexyl) phthalate (ppb)	8/4/01	6	0	0.97	NA	No	Discharge from rubber and chemical factories
Fluoride (ppm)	8/4/01	2.2	NA	0.9	NA	No	Erosion of natural deposits; Discharge from fertilizer
Gross Alpha (pCi/L)	3/22/01	15	15	0.2	NA	No	Erosion of natural deposits
Gross Beta (pCi/L)	3/22/01	50	50	2.5	NA	No	Erosion of natural deposits
Manganese (ppb)	4/11/02	300	300	18	NA	No	Naturally occurring; Indicative of landfill contamination
Nickel (ppb)	8/4/01	100	100	17	NA	No	Erosion of natural deposits
Nitrate (ppm)	3/12/02	10	10	0.43	NA	No	Runoff from fertilizer use; Leaching from septic tanks, sewage; Erosion of natural deposits
Nitrite (ppm)	4/13/01	1	1	0.01	NA	No	Runoff from fertilizer use; Leaching from septic tanks, sewage; Erosion of natural deposits
Odor (units)	4/11/02	3	NA	1 ton	NA	No	Organic and inorganic pollutants originating from municipal and industrial waste discharges; Natural sources
Radium 226 (pCi/L)	3/22/01	5	0	0.1	NA	No	Erosion of natural deposits
Radium 228 (pCi/L)	3/22/01	5	0	0.2	NA	No	Erosion of natural deposits
Sulfate (ppm)	4/11/02	250	250	26	NA	No	Naturally occurring
Zinc (ppm)	4/11/02	5.0	NA	0.005	NA	No	Naturally occurring; Mining waste

### Tap water samples were collected for lead and copper analyses from 20 homes in the service area

Substance (Units)	Date Sampled	AL	MCLG	Amount Detected (90th %tile) <sup>1</sup>	Range (Low-High)	Homes Above AL	Violation	Typical Source
Copper (ppm)	9/2000	1.3	1.3	0.733	ND-1.0	0	No	Corrosion of household plumbing systems; Erosion of natural deposits; Leaching from wood preservatives
Lead (ppb)	9/2000	15	0	4.0	ND-15	0	No	Corrosion of household plumbing systems; Erosion of natural deposits

<sup>1</sup>The level presented represents the 90th percentile of the 10 sites tested. A percentile is a value on a scale of 100 that indicates the percent of a distribution that is equal to or below it. The 90th percentile is equal to or greater than 90% of the lead and copper values detected.