

TO: ALL WELLSVILLE WATER DEPARTMENT CONSUMERS,

TO COMPLY WITH THE NEW YORK STATE PUBLIC HEALTH LAW, THE WELLSVILLE WATER DEPARTMENT IS SUPPLYING YOU WITH THE FOLLOWING ANNUAL WATER SUPPLY STATEMENT FOR THE CALENDAR YEAR 1997.

Wellsville's water supply source is the Genesee River. The Genesee River has a pH range of 6.00 to 8.50 and an alkalinity range of 6 to 58 mg/l. The river is a more than adequate water supply for the Wellsville Water Department. The population served by the water department is 5700. During 1997, 320,894,500 gallons of water were withdrawn from the river and treated and 297,378,000 gallons were delivered.

The required tests for 1997 were: VOC's (principle organic chemicals & vinyl chloride) - *the results were none detected.* Inorganic Chemicals - *the results were none detected.* Heavy Metals - *the results were none detected.* Thms's - *the results were none detected.* Lead & Copper - *12 tests were conducted and all were below the limit of 0.015 for lead and 1.3 for copper.* Nitrate - *the result was 2.59 mg/l, the maximum allowable limit is 10.0 mg/l.*

The Wellsville Water Department is required to take 6 Coliform bacteria samples per month and all of these tests for 1997 have been negative. All tests results are available at the water treatment plant.

The following is a *brief* description of the treatment that the water receives before entering the distribution system.

Upon entering the treatment plant a coagulant is added to help in filtering the water and chlorine is also added before filtering. The water passes up through a clarifier and then down through the multimedia filter after which chlorine, fluoride are added. The water enters the clearwell (underground storage tank of 500,000 gallons) and a corrosion inhibitor is added and then it is pumped to the reservoir and homes.

To conserve water, the Wellsville Water Department suggests the following conservation methods:

- 1) Turn off the tap in the bathroom while you brush your teeth or shave and in the kitchen when cleaning fruits and vegetables.
- 2) Fill a pitcher with tap water and put it in the fridge, rather than running the tap every time you want a drink.
- 3) Check faucets, toilets and pipes for leaks.
- 4) Use a broom to clean sidewalks and driveways.
- 5) Water your lawn in the early morning and never on a windy day to avoid evaporation.
- 6) Adjust sprinklers so only the lawn is watered and not the house, sidewalk or street.
- 7) Install water-efficient plumbing fixtures, such as shower heads, toilets, and faucet aerators.

New York State law requires water suppliers to notify their customers about the risks of cryptosporidiosis and giardiasis. Cryptosporidiosis and giardiasis are intestinal illnesses caused by microscopic parasites. Cryptosporidiosis can be very serious for people with weak immune systems, such as chemotherapy, dialysis or transplant patients, and people with Crohn's disease or HIV infection. People with weakened immune systems should discuss with their health care providers the need to take extra precautions such as boiling water, using certified bottled water or a specially approved home filter. Individuals who think they may have Cryptosporidiosis or

giardiasis should contact their health care provider immediately.

There have been no waterborne outbreaks of cryptosporidium in New York State. There is no reason to believe people with healthy immune systems should be concerned about drinking water from public water systems.

For further information on Cryptosporidiosis or giardiasis, please contact the Allegany County Health Department at 268-9250.

The Wellsville Water Department had the Genesee River and the treated drinking water tested for Cryptosporidium and Giardia to help alleviate any questions our consumers may have. The results from these test are: Genesee River - ***none detected***, Treated Water - ***none detected***.

Dana L. Harris
Chief Operator