

**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 1996.**

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.

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 During 1996, 315,786,000 gallons of water were withdrawn from the river and treated and 291,676,500 gallons were delivered.

The required point of use (consumer's home) tests for 1996 were: Radiological (the result was less than 0.5 pCi/L, the maximum allowable level is 5.0 pCi/L) and Synthetic Organic Chemicals / Pesticides (these results were - None detected). The Wellsville Water Department is required to take 6 Coliform bacteria samples per month and on 06/24/96 at the Genesee Village apartments a positive Coliform sample was received, this sample was negative for E-coli. The water department per the state requirements then immediately took four repeat samples which came back negative.

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 and sodium carbonate (pH control) are added. The water enters the clearwell 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.

Major modifications completed by the water department during 1996 include: Replaced five water hydrants, looped dead end lines on Elm and East Fassett streets to improve water quality and fire hydrant flow rates. Purchased materials for the water line replacement on Clark and King Streets which will be done in 1997. Plan to replace ten hydrants in 1997. Replaced in line turbidimeters in the treatment plant which allows us to better monitor the filtered water quality. Installed two chlorine analyzers to allow closer chlorine residual control. Replaced one raw pump at the intake in 1996 therefore reducing maintenance costs.

The average residential charge for one thousand gallons of water delivered is \$5.47 based upon a monthly usage of five thousand gallons.

Dana L. Harris  
Chief Operator

The notification was in the Wellsville Daily Reporter on March 19, 1997 and the 2 page notice was in the Wellsville Daily Reporter on March 20, 1997.