

Annual Drinking Water Quality Report for 2009

Town of Lee Water District

PO Box 201 – Lee Center, NY 13363
(Public Water Supply ID# NY3202394)

INTRODUCTION

To comply with State regulations, Town of Lee Water District, 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 system is a purchase water system of the City of Rome Water System, meaning all water is purchased from the City of Rome and distributed through our water mains to customers.

A copy of the City of Rome’s Annual Water Quality Report (AWQR) can be found in this publication. The report included details about where your water comes from, what it contains, and how it compares to State standards. A complete version of the Rome report will be available on the City of Rome website – <http://www.rome-ny.gov>, at the City Clerk's Office - Rome City Hall. The Town of Lee Water District and the City of Rome Report will be available at the Town of Lee Town Hall.

If you have any questions about this report or concerning your drinking water, please contact the Town of Lee Clerk's Office at 336-3438. We want you to be informed about your drinking water. If you want to learn more, please attend any of our regularly scheduled Town board meetings. The meetings are held at 7:30pm on the second Tuesday of each month, at the Lee Town Hall (5808 Stokes-Lee Center Road).

WHERE DOES OUR WATER COME FROM?

The Town of Lee Water District is a purchase water system of the City of Rome Water System, meaning all water is purchased from the City of Rome and distributed through our water mains to customers. (See the City of Rome Report for additional information on where our water comes from).

FACTS AND FIGURES

Our water system serves a population of approximately 3150 through 1,250 service connections. There are no meters on our system. The total water produced in 2009 was over 162,281,000 gallons. The amount of water delivered back to Rome customers was over 18,989,000. There is unaccounted for water which was treated water used to flush mains, fight fires, street cleaning, and leakage. Since we don’t utilize meters, we don’t know how much water is unaccounted for. Water customers inside the water district are charged a flat rate of \$220/yr or \$234/yr with a swimming pool.

In 2009, we began training an assistant water operator, continued our flushing program, rebuilt part of the pressure reducing valve in Stokes, continued updates on our mapping of

the system and began a study to evaluate our system and the potential use of meters.

ARE THERE CONTAMINANTS IN OUR DRINKING WATER?

In addition to the City of Rome sample results (see Rome AWQR), the Town of Lee Water District routinely tests your drinking water for lead and copper, coliform bacteria, disinfection byproducts and disinfection residuals. The table presented below depicts which compounds were detected in your drinking water.

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) or the Oneida County Health Department at 315-798-5064.

Table of Detected Contaminants							
Contaminant	Violation Yes/No	Date of Sample	Level Detected (Avg/Max) (Range)	Unit Measurement	MCLG / MRDLG	Regulatory Limit (MCL, MRDL, TT or AL)	Likely Source of Contamination
Inorganic Contaminants							
Copper	No	8/09	0.074 ⁽¹⁾ (range = ND – 0.54)	mg/l	1.3	AL = 1.3	Corrosion of household plumbing systems; Erosion of natural deposits.
Lead	No	8/09	5.9 ⁽²⁾ (range = ND – 9.8)	ug/l	0	AL = 15	Corrosion of household plumbing systems; Erosion of natural deposits.
Disinfectants							
Chlorine Residual	No	Daily/ Monthly	0.79 ⁽³⁾ (range = 0.2 – 1.4)	mg/l	N/A	MRDL = 4 ⁽⁴⁾	Water additive used to control microbes.
Disinfection Byproducts							

Table of Detected Contaminants							
Contaminant	Violation Yes/No	Date of Sample	Level Detected (Avg/Max) (Range)	Unit Measurement	MCLG / MRDLG	Regulatory Limit (MCL, MRDL, TT or AL)	Likely Source of Contamination
Haloacetic Acids (mono-, di-, and trichloroacetic acid, and mono- and dibromoacetic acid)	No	8/09	55 (range = 14 – 81) ⁽³⁾	ug/l	N/A	MCL = 60	By-product of drinking water disinfection needed to kill harmful organisms.
Total Trihalomethanes (TTHMs – chloroform, bromodichloromethane, dibromochloromethane and bromoform)	No	8/09	76 (range = 12 – 57) ⁽³⁾	ug/l	N/A	MCL = 80	By-product of drinking water chlorination needed to kill harmful organisms. TTHMs are formed when source water contains large amounts of organic matter.
See City of Rome AWQR for additional sample information - Physical Parameters, Radioactive Contaminants, Inorganic Contaminants, Synthetic Organic Contaminants, Principal Organic Contaminants, Lead and Copper							

- Notes:**
- 1 - The level presented represents the 90th percentile of the ten (10) sites tested in Lee WD. 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, ten (10) samples were collected at your water system and the 90th percentile was the ninth highest value. The action level for copper was not exceeded at any of the sites tested.
 - 2 - The level presented represents the 90th percentile of the ten (10) samples collected. The action level for lead was not exceeded at any of the sites tested.
 - 3 - The levels presented represent the average and range of the levels reported on the microbiological sampling reports.
 - 4 - Value presented represents the Maximum Residual Disinfectant Level (MRDL) which is a level of disinfectant added for water treatment that may not be exceeded at the consumer's tap without an unacceptable possibility of adverse health effects. MRDLs are currently not regulated but in the future they will be enforceable in the same manner as MCLs.
 - 5 - The levels presented represent the range of the levels reported on the Stage 2 DBP Rule sample reports (collected quarterly from 2008-2009). These tests were conducted to help us determine the appropriate locations for sampling in the future.

Definitions:		
ACTION LEVEL	AL	The concentration of a contaminant that, if exceeded, triggers treatment or other requirements that a water system must follow.
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.
MAXIMUM RESIDUAL DISINFECTANT LEVEL	MRDL	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.
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.
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).
NEPHELOMETRIC TURBIDITY UNIT	NTU	A measure of the clarity of water. Turbidity in excess of 5 NTU is just noticeable to the average person.
NON-DETECTED	ND	Laboratory analysis indicates that the constituent is not present.
PICOCURIES PER LITER	pCi/l	A measure of the radioactivity in water.
TREATMENT TECHNIQUE	TT	A required process intended to reduce the level of a contaminant in drinking.

WHAT DOES THIS INFORMATION MEAN?

As you can see by 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.

It should be noted that a single sample collected in August 2009 as part of the Stage 2 Disinfection Byproduct Rule sampling exceeded the MCL for Haloacetic Acids (HAA5) (result = 81 ug/l). This sampling is not used to determine compliance as compliance with the MCL is based upon the Running Annual Average (RAA) of the samples collected at the point of Maximum Retention during the year. The RAA for HAA5 was below the established MCL (60 ug/l). Due to this single elevated level, we are providing the following information:

“Some people who drink water containing haloacetic acids in excess of the MCL over many years may have an increased risk of getting cancer.”

IS OUR WATER SYSTEM MEETING OTHER RULES THAT GOVERN OPERATIONS?

During 2009, our system was in compliance with applicable State drinking water operating, monitoring and reporting requirements.

CLOSING

Thank you for allowing us to continue to provide your family with quality water this year. We ask all our customers help us protect our water system, which is the heart of our community and our way of life. Please contact the Town Clerk's Office at 336-3438 if you have any questions.

See City of Rome Report for additional sampling, treatment and water source information.