

***Annual Drinking Water Quality Report for 2020***  
***For Water Customers in the Village and Town Water Districts of:***  
***Mt. Morris, Leicester, Cuylerville, and the American Rock Salt/Groveland Water System***

*Public Water System Identification Numbers*

*Village of Mt. Morris 2501023*

*Town of Mt. Morris 2500703*

*ARS/Groveland 2530018*

*Town of Leicester 2501014*

Issued: 4/2021

*Village of Leicester 2501020*

*Prepared by Chris M Young: Village of Mt. Morris Water Dept.*

## **INTRODUCTION**

To comply with State regulations, The Village of Mount Morris 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. We are proud to report that the Village of Mt. Morris water system did not violate a maximum contaminant level or any other water quality standard, however, the Town of Mt. Morris and the Town of Leicester detected a contaminant at a level higher than the State allows. 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 feel free to contact Chris Young, Superintendent of Public Works/ Operator in Responsible Charge for the Village of Mt. Morris at (585) 658-2331. Mr. Young can also supply contact numbers for the purchasing systems. You may also contact the Livingston County Health Department at (585) 243-7280. We encourage our valued customers to become informed and to feel secure concerning the state of their drinking water. If you want to learn more, please attend any of our regularly scheduled village board meetings. Meetings are typically held once a month at 117 Main Street, on the third Monday of the month at 6:00 pm.

## **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.

Our water source is Silver Lake in Wyoming County. During 2020, our system did not experience any restriction of our water source. A pump station near the Silver Lake outlet intermittently delivers raw water to the 5 million- gallon reservoir at the Water Treatment Plant. Although late summer algae blooms create some taste and odor removal problems, the quality of raw water is very good. Turbidities of around 1.0 NTU and pH ranges of around 8.00 are optimal for our treatment processes. Copper sulfate is added at the Lake to discourage algae growth. Sodium hypochlorite is also added to the raw water at the Lake periodically to discourage zebra mussels. Water from the reservoir then

enters the treatment plant. Our treatment processes include coagulation using a solution of aluminum chloride hydroxide sulfate (a coagulant), clarification, mixed media filtration (anthracite, sand, garnet), corrosion control using blended phosphates, and disinfection using sodium hypochlorite. Finished water turbidities ranged between .02-.15 NTU's (nephelometric turbidity units). 100% of our turbidity readings for the year 2020 were at or below the 0.3 NTU. Acceptable free available chlorine residuals (chlorine available to kill bacteria) are maintained in the clear well (storage tank) and throughout the entire distribution systems to ensure inactivation of giardia lamblia cysts and bacteria. The treatment process is completed as water exits the 1 million gallon clear well and enters the distribution system.

The NYS Department of Health has evaluated this Public Water System's susceptibility to contamination under the Source Water Assessment Program (SWAP), their findings are summarized in the paragraph 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 the public water system. The Village of Mt. Morris provides treatment and regular monitoring to ensure water delivered to customers meets all applicable standards.

SWAP Executive Summary for Silver Lake:

This assessment found an elevated susceptibility to contamination for this source of drinking water. The amount of agricultural lands in the assessment area results in elevated potential for pesticide, DPB precursors, microbial and phosphorous contamination. In addition, the elevated density of CAFOs (Concentrated Animal Feeding Operations) in the assessment area very likely adds to the potential for contamination. No permitted discharges are found in the assessment area. There are no noteworthy contamination threats associated with other discrete contaminant sources. Additional sources of potential contamination include: An active railroad system and a golf course.

## **FACTS AND FIGURES**

Our water systems serve approximately 5000 people through 1732 service connections. The total water produced in 2020 was 173 million gallons. The daily average of water treated and pumped into the distribution system was 473,000 gallons per day. Our highest single day was 710,000 gallons. The amount of water delivered to customers was 153 million gallons. 6 million gallons were used for filter backwashes. This leaves an unaccounted for total of 14 million gallons. This water was used to flush mains, fight fires and leakage, accounts for the remaining 7 million gallons (8% of the total amount produced).

***In 2020, water customers were charged:***

Village of Mt. Morris.

0-3,000 gal per quarter = 42.50 (Base Charge)

4,000-10,000 gal, \$2.75 per 1,000 gal.

11,000 gal and up \$3.00 per 1,000 gal.

Wholesale rate Town of Mt. Morris/ARS Groveland:

\$5.00 per 1,000 gal.

Town of Mt. Morris Water District #1

0-3,000 per quarter = \$47.50 (Base Charge)

\$4.75 for each additional 1,000 gal.

Wholesale rate to the Village of Leicester

\$3.45 per 1,000 gal

## ARE THERE CONTAMINANTS IN OUR DRINKING WATER?

As the State regulations require, we routinely test your drinking water 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 table presented below depicts 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. 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 Livingston County Health Department at (585-2437280).

Detected Contaminant	Violation Yes/No	Date Of Sample	Level Detected (Avg/Max) (range)	Unit measurement	MCLG	Regulatory Limit (MCL,TT, MRDL or AL)	Typical source of Contaminant
<b>Chlorine Residuals Measured in Distribution:</b>							
Chlorine Residual	No	Daily	Range (.70-1.5)	mg/l	N/A	MRDL=4.0	Water additive used to control microbes
<b>Radioactive:</b>							
Radium 226	no	12/6/16	ND	pCi/l	0pCi/l	MCL=5pCi/l	Erosion of natural deposits
Radium 228	no	12/6/16	0.70	pCi/l	0pCi/l	MCL=5pCi/l	Erosion of natural deposits
<b>Inorganics:</b>							
Detected Contaminant	Violation Yes/No	Date Of Sample	Level Detected (Avg/Max) (range)	Unit measurement	MCLG	Regulatory Limit (MCL,TT or AL)	Typical source of Contaminant
Asbestos	no	7/18/17	0.197	MFL	7mfl	MCL=7mfl	Decay of asbestos cement water mains; erosion of natural deposits
Sodium*	no	6/9/20	28.0	mg/l	N/A	No designated limits	Naturally occurring; road salt; water softeners; animal waste
Chloride	no	6/9/20	42.0	mg/l	N/A	MCL=250 mg/l	Naturally occurring or indicative of road salt contamination.
Barium	no	10/13/20	0.023	mg/l	2 mg/l	MCL=2 mg/l	Discharge of drilling wastes; discharge from metal refineries; erosion of natural deposits
Chromium	no	10/13/20	0.0044	ug/l	100 ug/l	MCL=300 ug/l	Discharge from steel and pulp mills; erosion of natural deposits
Nickel	no	10/13/20	0.0012	ug/l	N/A	N/A	N/A
Nitrate	no	6/9/20	0.61	mg/l	10/mg/l	MCL=10mg/l	Runoff from fertilizer use, leaching from septic tanks, sewage, erosion of natural deposits
*Water containing more than 20 mg/l of sodium should not be used for drinking by people on very restricted sodium diets. Water containing more than 270 mg/l of sodium should not be used for drinking by people on moderately restricted sodium diets							

Synthetic Organics:							
Contaminant	Violation Yes/No	Date of Sample	Level Detected	Unit measurement	MCL G	Regulatory Limit (MCL,TT, or AL)	Likely source of contamination
*PFOA Perfluorooctanoic acid	no	11/10/20	1.4	ng/l		10	Released into environment from widespread use in commercial and industrial applications.
*PFOS Perfluorooctane sulfonic acid	no	11/10/20	0.96	ng/l		10	Released into environment from widespread use in commercial and industrial applications.

Lead and Copper:							
Detected Contaminant	Violation Yes/No	Date of Sample	Level Detected (Avg/Max) (range)	Unit measurement	MCLG	Regulatory Limit (MCL,TT or AL)	Typical source of Contaminant
Lead	no	6/16-6/30 2020	*0.0010 Range: <0.0010-0.0020	ug/l	0 ug/l	AL= 15 ug/l	Corrosion of household plumbing system; erosion of natural deposits
Copper	no	6/16-6/30 2020	*0.14 Range: 0.010- 0.46	mg/l	1.3 mg/l	AL= 1.3 mg/l	Corrosion of household plumbing system; erosion of natural deposits

\*The level presented represents the 90<sup>th</sup> percentile of the 20 sites tested for lead and copper. 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 and copper values detected at your water system(s). In this case, 20 samples were collected at your water system(s) and the 90<sup>th</sup> percentile value was the eighteenth highest value. The action level for lead and copper were not exceeded in any of the samples collected.

Contaminant	Violation Yes/No	Date of Sample	Level Detected	Unit measurement	MCLG	Regulatory Limit (MCL,TT, or AL)	Likely source of contamination
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Microbiological Contaminants/Turbidity:							
*Turbidity	no	6/24	Max. – 0.15	NTU	N/A	<1.0 NTU (TT) <sup>1</sup>	Soil runoff
*Turbidity	no	2020 (6 daily)	100% compliance 2020	NTU	N/A	95% of monthly samples <0.3 NTU (TT) <sup>1</sup>	Soil runoff
*Distribution Turbidity <sup>2</sup>	no	2020 (daily) 7/2020	Range 0.05-1.10 Highest monthly Avg. 0.35	NTU	N/A	MCL= 5 NTU <sup>2</sup>	Soil runoff

\*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 for the year occurred on 6/24/20 (0.15 NTU). State regulations require that turbidity must not exceed 1 NTU and that 95% of the monthly turbidity samples collected must measure less than or equal to 0.3 NTU.

<sup>1</sup> A treatment technique violation occurs if more than 5% of the composite filter effluent measurements taken each month exceed the performance standard values. A treatment technique violation occurs if the turbidity level of representative samples of the filtered water exceeds 1.0 NTU

<sup>2</sup> Five distribution turbidity samples are required at five different locations each week. Turbidity values in the distribution system may not exceed 5 NTU.

Stage 2 Disinfection Byproducts: Village of Mt. Morris							
Detected Contaminant	Violation Yes/No	Date of Samples	Level Detected (Avg/Max) (range)	Unit measurement	MCLG	Regulatory Limit (MCL,TT or AL)	Typical source of Contaminant

Trihalomethane (TTHM) Site 1 Village Building	no	5/14/19 8/13/19 11/12/19 2/11/20 5/12/20	<b>Site 1:</b> *Highest Avg. 62.5 Range 50-87	ug/l	0 ug/l	MCL= 80 ug/l	By-product of drinking water chlorination needed to kill harmful organisms. TTHMs are formed when water contains large amounts of organic matter.
Site 2 Wastewater Treatment Plant		8/11/20 11/10/20	<b>Site 2:</b> *Highest Avg. 65.25 Range: 52-83				
Haloacetic acids- (HAA) Site 1 Village Building	no	5/14/19 8/13/19 11/12/19 2/11/20 5/12/20	<b>Site 1:</b> *Highest Avg. 42.25 Range: 33-52	ug/l	0 ug/l	MCL= 60 ug/l	By-product of drinking water disinfection needed to kill harmful organisms.
Site 2 Wastewater Treatment Plant		8/11/20 11/10/20	<b>Site 2:</b> *Highest Avg. 42.00 Range: 33-51				

\*Compliance is based on annual running average. The level presented is the highest running annual average of the data collected.

**Town of Leicester**

Detected Contaminant	Violation Yes/No	Date of Samples	Level Detected (Avg/Max) (range)	Unit measurement	MCL G	Regulatory Limit (MCL,TT or AL)	Typical source of Contaminant
<b>Stage 2 Disinfection Byproducts</b>							
Total trihalomethanes-TTHM	Yes	5/14/19 8/12/19 11/12/19 2/11/20 5/12/20 *8/4/20 *11/10/20	*Highest Avg. 85.00 Range: 68-130	ug/l	0 ug/l	MCL= 80 ug/l	By-product of drinking water chlorination needed to kill harmful organisms. TTHMs are formed when water contains large amounts of organic matter.
Haloacetic acids-HAA	no	5/14/19 8/12/19 11/12/19 2/11/20 5/12/20 8/4/20 11/10/20	*Highest Avg. 54.75 Range: 25-87	ug/l	0 ug/l	MCL= 60 ug/l	By-product of drinking water chlorination disinfection needed to kill harmful organisms.

\*Compliance is based on annual running average. The level presented is the highest running annual average of the data collected. The Town of Leicester system exceeded the TTHM maximum contaminant level in two calendar quarters of 2020. Health Effects: Some people who drink water containing trihalomethanes in excess of the MCL over many years may experience problems with their liver, kidneys, or central nervous system and may have an increased risk of getting cancer.

**Stage 2 Disinfection Byproducts: American Rock Salt (ARS), LCWSA**

Detected Contaminant	Violation Yes/No	Date of Samples	Level Detected (Avg/Max) (range)	Unit measurement	MCL G	Regulatory Limit (MCL,TT or AL)	Typical source of Contaminant
Total trihalomethanes-TTHM	no	5/15/19 8/15/19 11/15/19 2/14/20 5/15/20 8/17/20 11/19/20	*Highest Avg. 78.00 Range: 50-89	ug/l	0 ug/l	MCL= 80 ug/l	By-product of drinking water chlorination needed to kill harmful organisms. TTHMs are formed when water contains large amounts of organic matter.
Haloacetic acids-HAA	no	5/15/19 8/15/19 11/15/19 2/14/20 5/15/20 8/18/20 11/19/20	*Highest Avg. 41.00 Range: 3-54	ug/l	0 ug/l	MCL=60 ug/l	By-product of drinking water chlorination disinfection needed to kill harmful organisms.

\*Compliance is based on annual running average. The level presented is the highest running annual average of the data collected.

**Stage 2 Disinfection Byproducts: Town of Mt. Morris**

Total trihalomethanes-TTHM	no	5/14/19 8/20/19 11/19/19 2/11/20	*Highest Avg. 75.75 Range: 57-99	ug/l	0 ug/l	MCL = 80 ug/l	By-product of drinking water chlorination needed to kill harmful organisms. TTHMs are formed when water contains large amounts of
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		5/12/20 8/4/20 11/10/20					organic matter.
Haloacetic acids- HAA	Yes	5/14/19 8/20/19 11/19/19 2/11/20 *5/12/20 *8/4/20 *11/10/20	*Highest Avg. 68.75 Range: 32-89	ug/l	0 ug/l	MCL = 60 ug/l	By-product of drinking water chlorination disinfection needed to kill harmful organisms.
*Compliance is based on annual running average. The level presented is the highest running annual average of the data collected. The Town of Mt. Morris system exceeded the HAA maximum contaminant level in three calendar quarters of 2020. Health Effects: Some people who drink water containing haloacetic acids in excess of the MCL over many years may experience an increased risk of getting cancer							
<b>Stage 2 Disinfection Byproducts: Village of Leicester</b>							
Detected Contaminant	Violation Yes/No	Date of Samples	Level Detected (Avg/Max) (range)	Unit measurement	MCL G	Regulatory Limit (MCL, TT or AL)	Typical source of Contaminant
Total trihalomethanes- TTHM	no	5/14/20 8/13/20 11/11/20 2/11/20 5/12/20 8/4/20 11/17/20	*Highest Avg. 66.75 Range: 52-96	ug/l	0 ug/l	MCL = 80 ug/l	By-product of drinking water chlorination needed to kill harmful organisms. TTHMs are formed when water contains large amounts of organic matter.
Haloacetic acids- HAA	no	5/14/20 8/13/20 11/11/20 2/11/20 5/12/20 8/4/20 11/17/20	*Highest Avg. 51.50 Range: 33-67	ug/l	0 ug/l	MCL = 60 ug/l	By-product of drinking water chlorination disinfection needed to kill harmful organisms.
*Compliance is based on the annual running average. The level presented is the highest running annual average of the data collected.							

## 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.

**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.

**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).

**Nanograms per liter (ng/l):** Corresponds to one part of liquid to one trillion parts of liquid (parts per trillion - ppt).

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

**Million Fibers per Liter (MFL)**: A measure of the presence of asbestos fibers that are longer than 10 micrometers.

### **WHAT DOES THIS INFORMATION MEAN?**

As you can see by the table, the Village of Mt. Morris had no violations

The Town of Leicester Water System exceeded the maximum contaminant level for trihalomethanes in the last two calendar quarters of 2020. Health Effects: Some people who drink water containing trihalomethanes in excess of the MCL over many years may experience problems with their liver, kidneys, or central nervous system and may have an increased risk of getting cancer.

The Town of Mt. Morris Water system exceeded the maximum contaminant level for haloacetic acids in the last three calendar quarters of 2020. Health Effects: Some people who drink water containing haloacetic acids in excess of the MCL over many years may have an increased risk of getting cancer.

All purchase water systems are working diligently with the Village of Mount Morris on a flushing program to maintain fresh water in the system.

Water is tested for coliform bacteria four times per month in the Village of Mt. Morris, and once per month in each of the purchase water systems. We have learned through our testing that other contaminants have been detected; however, these contaminants were detected below the level allowed by the State. The contaminants listed in the tables are only the constituents that were above *detectable* levels of the over 100 contaminants that were monitored and tested for.

If present, elevated levels of lead can cause serious health problems, especially for pregnant women, infants, and young children. It is possible that lead levels at your home may be higher than at other homes in the community as a result of materials used in your home's plumbing. Village of Mount Morris 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 (1-800-426-4791) or at <http://www.epa.gov/safewater/lead>.

### **DO I NEED TO TAKE SPECIAL PRECAUTIONS?**

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).

### **INFORMATION FOR NON-ENGLISH SPEAKING RESIDENTS**

**Spanish**

Este informe contiene información muy importante sobre su agua beber. Tradúzcalo ó hable con alguien que lo entienda bien.

### **French**

Ce rapport contient des informations importantes sur votre eau potable. Traduisez-le ou parlez en avec quelqu'un qui le comprend bien.

## **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 firefighting needs are met.

You can play a role in conserving water by becoming conscious of the amount of water your household is using, and by looking for ways to use less whenever you can. It is not hard to conserve water. 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.
- ◆ 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.
- ◆ Use your water meter to detect hidden leaks. Simply turn off all taps and water using appliances, then check the meter after 15 minutes. If it moved, you have a leak.

## **SYSTEM IMPROVEMENTS**

- The Silver Lake intake structure was inspected and cleaned twice.
- A new residential water metering system is in use and meter replacements are completed.
- The Village of Mt. Morris and their purchase water systems coordinated flushing twice per year.
- The Village of Mt Morris installed an auto flusher unit in 2020 at a hydrant on North Main Street. This unit is flushed 3 times per week throughout the summer months to keep water fresh and chlorine residual levels maintained.
- An aeration fountain was installed at the reservoir.
- The reservoir was inspected and the intake bubbler at the reservoir and at the lake was repaired.
- Pre chlorination continued during summer months at the reservoir to discourage zebra mussel growth.
- The clear well was inspected and repairs were made.
- A new flow meter was installed at the lake.

## **CLOSING**



Thank you for supporting your water department(s). We have been very successful in complying with ever increasingly stringent water quality standards. Our history of compliance and even a few taste contest victories are certainly indicative of the aesthetic quality of the water. The Mt. Morris Water Department has an open-door policy and encourages community input.

Feel free to call:

Mt. Morris Water Treatment Plant: (585) 658-2331

Village of Mt. Morris: (585) 658-4160

Town of Leicester: (585) 382-3231

Livingston Co. Dept. of Health: (585) 243-7280

Village of Leicester: (585) 382-3699

Town of Mt. Morris: (585) 658-3375

*Liv. Co. Water/Sewer Authority: (585) 346-3523*