

Village of Chester

47 Main Street

Chester, New York

845-469-2388

845-469-5999

Website: www.villageofchesterny.org

Mayor: John T. Bell

Village Clerk: Rebecca Rivera

Trustees: Christopher Battiato

Alan Battiato

Elizabeth A. Reilly

Brian J Boone

IMPORTANT INFORMATION ABOUT YOUR DRINKING WATER

THE VILLAGE OF CHESTER

Has levels of TOTAL TRIHALOMETHANES(TTHM)Above Drinking Water Standards

Our water system recently violated a drinking water standard. Although this is not an emergency, as our customers you have a right to know what happened, what you should do and what we are doing to correct this situation.

We routinely monitor for presence of drinking water contaminants. Testing results received show that our system exceeds the maximum contaminant level (MCL) for TOTAL TRIHALOMETHANES(TTHM). The standard for TOTAL TRIHALOMETHANES(TTHM) is 80 ug/l. The average level of TTHMs over the last year was 85.3 ug/l (Violation ID#2019 589) (Quarterly period ending 3/31/2019).

What should I do?

You do not need to use an alternative (e.g., bottled) water supply. However, if you have specific health concerns, consult your doctor.

What does this mean?

This is not an emergency. If it had been you would have been notified immediately. However, 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 systems, and may have an increased risk of getting cancer.

What happened? What is being done?

Currently, the Orange County Department of Health is working with the Village on ways to reduce these TTHM's. However, if the problem persists, we may have to explore other treatment options. We anticipate resolving the problem in the near future.

For more information, please contact Mr. Gary A. Green Jr., Water Commissioner at 845-469-2388 or the Orange County Health Department at 845-291-2331.

Please share this information with all the other people who drink this water, especially those who may not have received this notice directly.

**THIS NOTICE IS BEING PROVIDED TO YOU BY
THE VILLAGE OF CHESTER.**

Date Delivered 4/12/19



Memorandum from the Village of Chester Water Department

With this memorandum is an important notice concerning water quality in the Village of Chester. Like all public water supplies in New York State, the Village’s water is periodically tested for contaminants, and the results of those tests are provided to users and to the Orange County Department of Health and the New York State Department of Health.

It is quite unusual for the Village’s test results to include a reading outside of acceptable limits, but recent testing in one location did exceed one of those limits, with respect to a measurement called Total Trihalomethanes. Trihalomethanes are produced as the natural by-product of the destruction of organic matter via chlorination. The Village of Chester uses chlorination as a disinfectant method because one of our water sources is surface water from Walton Lake in Monroe, which, like the waters of any natural lake, includes organic matter.

We routinely test for Trihalomethanes in two locations, chosen in consultation with Orange County Department of Health, because they are at the ends of water mains, farthest removed from the treatment plant and therefore most susceptible to showing a problem. One of these locations is at Whispering Hills, and the other is at Chester Elementary School.

There has been no problem detected at Whispering Hills, but the average of a year’s readings at Chester Elementary School exceeded the limit of 80 ug/l (or parts per billion) of Total Trihalomethanes. The likely reason for this excursion is that the school is at the end of a long water main that holds more water than is used in a day by the school, and these contaminants can settle out and concentrate in stagnant water. Another contributing factor may be that the filtering system used by the School is ineffective in removing or reducing such contaminants.

Since we learned of this situation, we commissioned another more extensive round of sampling on March 28, 2019, in a number of places around Chester Academy and Chester Elementary School and had the following results:

	ug/l
Nexans Hydrant	40
Princeton Street Water Tank	38
Hambletonian Avenue hydrant	48
Maple Avenue hydrant near BOCES	49
Chester Academy Hydrant	54
Chester Academy kitchen sink	56
Chester Elementary School Hydrant	49
Chester Elementary School sink	51

All of these readings came in well below the limits, with the highest being at the Chester Academy Kitchen Sink at 56 ppb vs. the 80-ppb limit. Also of interest was that the readings inside Chester Academy and the Chester Elementary School were both higher than those at the respective hydrants outside the schools.