



# CONSUMER CONFIDENCE REPORT

*We are very pleased to provide you with this year's Water Quality Report. We want to keep you informed about the excellent water and services we have delivered to you over the past year. Our goal is and always has been, to provide to you a safe and dependable supply of drinking water. I am pleased to report that our drinking water IS SAFE and meets or exceeds EPA and MDEQ requirements.*

### WHY DO YOU GET THIS REPORT?

The EPA (Environmental Protection Agency) requires every community throughout the United States to report specific details regarding water quality, along with any contaminants that may be found in the water supply. In order to ensure that this information reaches all customers, the EPA requires this report be mailed or hand delivered to each household and business we supply. If you have any questions about this report or concerning your water quality, please contact Timothy J. Simmons at 616-642-6324, or attend any of our regularly scheduled meetings which are held at 7:00 p.m., the second Monday of each month at the Saranac Village Office, 27 N Bridge Street.

### THE SOURCE OF YOUR WATER

Our water source is from two (2) wells owned by the Village. Our wells draw water from the glacial material of the Grand River Valley. The depth of the wells varies from 115 to 120 feet below the surface. The State performed an assessment of our source water in 2015 to determine the susceptibility or the relative potential of contamination. The acceptability rating is on a seven-tiered scale from "very low" to "very high" based on geological sensitivity, water chemistry and contamination sources. The susceptibility of our source is "moderately high." You may obtain a copy of the Source Water Assessment Report, at the Saranac Village Office. We have made efforts to protect our sources from contamination, by developing a Wellhead Protection Program for the Village's public water system. This protection is provided by determining the groundwater areas which contribute to the Village's existing wells. This area is called the wellhead protection area and represents that part of the aquifer that will supply water to the Village's wells in the future. Our wellhead protection area is approximately 1 mile wide and runs south to the I-96 expressway. The perimeters of the wellhead protection area have been marked with signs along roadways stating "Now Entering Saranac Drinking Water Wellhead Protection Area."

The Village of Saranac routinely monitors for over eighty contaminants in your drinking water, according to Federal and State laws. The table on page 3 shows the results of our monitoring for the period of January 1st to December 31st, 2015. The State of Michigan allows us to monitor 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. As water travels over the land or underground, it can pick up substances or contaminants such as microbes, inorganic and organic chemicals, and radioactive substances. All drinking water, including bottled drinking water, may be reasonably expected to contain at least small amounts of some contaminants. It is important to remember that the presence of these contaminants does not necessarily pose a health risk.



## ABOUT CONTAMINANTS

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 activity. Contaminants that may be present in source water include: Microbial contaminants, such as viruses and bacteria, which may come from sewage treatment plants, septic systems, agricultural livestock operations and wildlife; Inorganic contaminants, such as salts and metals, which can be naturally occurring or result from urban storm water runoff, industrial or domestic wastewater discharges, oil and gas production, mining or farming; Pesticides and herbicides, which may come from a variety of sources such as agriculture, urban storm water runoff and residential uses; Organic chemical contaminants, including synthetic and volatile organic chemicals, which are byproducts of industrial processes and petroleum production and can also come from gas stations, urban storm water runoff and septic systems; and Radioactive contaminants, which can be naturally occurring or be the result of oil and gas production and mining activities.

## DO YOU NEED TO TAKE SPECIAL PRECAUTIONS?

In order to ensure that tap water is safe to drink, EPA prescribes regulations, which limit the amount of certain contaminants in water provided by public water systems. Food and Drug Administration regulations establish limits for contaminants in bottled water, which must provide the same protection for public health. The presence of contaminants does not necessarily indicate that the water poses a health risk. Some people may be more vulnerable to contaminants 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 for infections. These people should seek advice about drinking water from their health care providers. More information on potential health effects of specific contaminants can be obtained by contacting the EPA's Safe Drinking Water Hotline at 1-800-426-4791 or their website at [www.epa.gov/safewater/dwhealth](http://www.epa.gov/safewater/dwhealth).

## LEAD & DRINKING WATER

If present, elevated levels of lead can cause serious health problems, especially for pregnant women and young children. Lead in drinking water is primarily from materials and components associated with service lines and home plumbing. The Village of Saranac 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 EPA's Safe Drinking Water Hotline at 1-800-426-4791 or their website at <http://www.epa.gov/safewater/lead>.

## WATER QUALITY DATA OF 2015

| Substance                     | Violation<br>Y/N | Level<br>Detected                       | Units | MCLG                | MCL                 | Likely Sources of Contamination                                                                                               |
|-------------------------------|------------------|-----------------------------------------|-------|---------------------|---------------------|-------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------|
| Fluoride                      | No               | 0.12                                    | ppm   | 4                   | 4                   | Erosion of natural deposits;<br>Additive which promotes<br>strong teeth; Discharge<br>from fertilizer & aluminum<br>factories |
| Copper<br>(tested<br>in 2013) | No               | 130<br>(90 <sup>th</sup><br>percentile) | ppb   | 1300                | AL=1300             | Corrosion of household<br>plumbing systems;<br>Erosion of natural deposits;<br>Leaching from wood<br>preservatives            |
| Lead<br>(tested<br>in 2013)   | No               | 3<br>(90 <sup>th</sup><br>Percentile)   | ppb   | 0                   | AL=15               | Corrosion of household<br>plumbing systems;<br>Erosion of natural deposits                                                    |
| Nitrate                       | No               | 1.8                                     | ppm   | 10                  | 10                  | Runoff from fertilizer use;<br>Leaching from septic tanks,<br>sewage;                                                         |
| Sodium                        | No               | 7                                       | ppm   | Un<br>reg<br>ulated | Un<br>reg<br>ulated | Inorganic compound found<br>in streams,<br>bodies of water & ground<br>water                                                  |

(see definitions below)

### WATER QUALITY DATA TABLE KEY & DEFINITIONS

**MCLG** – **Maximum Contaminant Level Goal**: The level of a substance in drinking water below which there is no known or expected health risk. MCLGs allow for a margin of safety.

**MCL** – **Maximum Contaminant Level**: This is the highest level of a substance that is allowed in drinking water. MCLs are set as close to the MCLGs as feasible using the best available treatment technology.

**ppm** – **Parts per Million**: You win a one million-dollar lottery. You give a friend one dollar. That's 1 ppm.

**ppb** – **Parts per Billion**: Your rich uncle passes away and leaves you \$10 million. However, in counting your inheritance, you discover that 1 cent is missing. That's 1 ppb.

**AL** – **Action Level**: The amount of a substance when exceeded requires a treatment change or other response by a water system.



Unregulated contaminant monitoring helps the Environmental Protection Agency to determine where certain contaminants occur and whether it needs to regulate those contaminants.

As you can see by the table, our system had no violations. We are proud that your drinking water meets or exceeds all Federal and State requirements. We have learned through our monitoring and testing that some contaminants have been detected. The EPA has determined that your water **IS SAFE** at these levels.

Thank you for allowing us to continue providing your family with clean, quality water this year. In order to maintain a safe and dependable water supply we continue to make improvements that will benefit all of our customers. These improvements are sometimes reflected as rate structure adjustments. Thank you for understanding. Our employees work around the clock to provide top quality water to every tap. We ask that all our customers help us protect our water sources, which are the heart of our community, our way of life and our children's future.

Again, please contact me for any questions you may have in regard to the village water system or the testing of village water. You may reach me through the Saranac Village Office at 616-642-6324.

Timothy J. Simmons,  
Director of Public Works