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Riverhead Water District

2005 Drinking Water Quality Report

Public Water Supply Identification No. 5103705

ANNUAL WATER SUPPLY REPORT

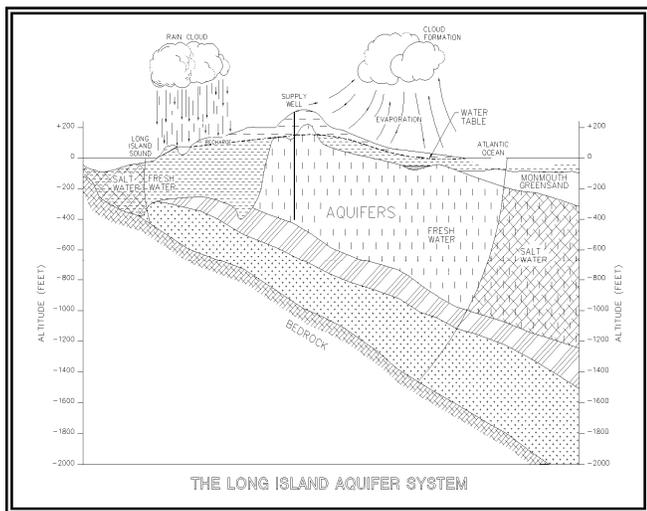
May 2006

This report is required to be delivered to all residents of our District in compliance with Federal and State regulations. This report is designed to inform you about the quality water and services we deliver to you every day. Our constant goal is to provide you with a safe and dependable supply of drinking water. The Riverhead Town Board and the District employees are committed to ensuring that you and your family receive the highest quality water.

SOURCE OF OUR WATER

The source of water for the District is groundwater pumped from thirteen (13) wells located throughout the community that are drilled into the Glacial and Magothy aquifers beneath Long Island, as shown on the adjacent figure. Generally, the water quality of the aquifer is good to excellent, although there are localized areas of contamination.

The population served by the Riverhead Water District during 2005 was 40,000. The total amount of water withdrawn from the aquifer in 2005 was 2.74 billion gallons, of which approximately 93.3 percent was billed directly to the residents of the District.



COST OF WATER

The District utilizes a unit price billing schedule with the consumer being billed at a rate of \$10.90 for the first 7,000 gallons per quarter plus \$1.00 for each additional 1,000 gallons for the District's 3/4 inch service. All rates for larger services are based on this rate.

CONTACTS FOR ADDITIONAL INFORMATION

We are pleased to report that our drinking water is safe and meets all Federal and State requirements. If you have any questions about this report or concerning your water utility, please contact Water District Supt. Gary Pendzick at (631) 727-3205 or the Suffolk County Department of Health Services at (631) 852-5778. Water District issues are normally discussed at Town Board meetings that are usually held on the first and third Tuesday of each month at 7:00 p.m. at the Town Hall. For a schedule of the Town Board meetings, contact Town Hall at (631) 727-3200 or visit the Town of Riverhead website at riverheadli.com.

The Riverhead Water District monitors for different parameters and contaminants in your drinking water as required by Federal and State laws. All drinking water, including bottled drinking water, may be reasonably expected to contain at least small amounts of some constituents. It's important to remember that the presence of these constituents does not necessarily pose a health risk. For more information on contamination and potential health risks, please contact the USEPA Safe Drinking Water Hotline at 1-800-426-4791.

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

continued on page 2

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 microbial pathogens are available from the Safe Drinking Water Hotline (1-800-426-4791).

The USEPA established a Lead and Copper Rule that required all public water suppliers to sample and test for lead and copper at the tap. The first testing was required in 1992. All results were excellent indicating that the District's corrosion control treatment program was effective in preventing the leaching of lead and copper from your home's plumbing into your drinking water. The same testing was last conducted in 2004 with the same excellent results. Retesting is scheduled to occur in 2007.

WATER CONSERVATION MEASURES

The underground water system of Long Island has more than enough water for present water demands. However, saving water will ensure that our future generations will always have a safe and abundant water supply.

In 2005, the Riverhead Water District continued to implement a water conservation program in order to minimize any unnecessary water use. Residents of the District can also implement their own water conservation measures such as retrofitting plumbing fixtures with flow restrictors, modifying automatic lawn sprinklers to include rain sensors, repairing leaks in the home, installing water conservation fixtures/appliances and maintaining a daily awareness of water conservation in their personal habits. Besides protecting our precious underground water supply, water conservation will produce a cost savings to the consumer in terms of both water and energy bills (hot water).

WATER TREATMENT

The Riverhead Water District provides treatment at all wells to improve the quality of the water pumped prior to distribution to the consumer. The pH of the pumped water is adjusted upward to reduce corrosive action between the water and water mains and in-house plumbing by the addition of lime. The water is also chlorinated with calcium hypochlorite to protect against the growth of bacteria in the distribution system. The District also adds iron sequestering agents at all wells as part of the District's overall water treatment program to supplement corrosion control and to maintain iron in the soluble state to minimize water stains on laundry and plumbing fixtures.

A granular activated carbon filter is installed at Plant No. 12 to treat the water from Well Nos. 12-1 and 12-2 to remove any volatile organic contaminants.

WATER QUALITY

In accordance with State regulations, the

Riverhead Water District routinely monitors your drinking water for numerous parameters. We test your drinking water for coliform bacteria, turbidity, inorganic contaminants, lead and copper, nitrate, volatile organic contaminants, total trihalomethanes and synthetic organic contaminants. Over 135 separate parameters are tested in each of our wells numerous times per year. The table presented on page 3 depicts the quality of your drinking water. It should be noted that many of these parameters are naturally found in all Long Island drinking water and do not pose any adverse health effects.

SOURCE WATER ASSESSMENT

The NYSDOH has completed a source water assessment for this system, based on available information. Known and possible contamination sources to this drinking water source were evaluated. The state source water assessment includes a susceptibility rating based on the risk posed by each potential source of contamination and how easily contaminants can move through the subsurface to the wells. The susceptibility of a water supply well to contamination is dependent upon both the presence of potential sources of contamination within the well's contributing area and the likelihood that the contaminant can travel through the environment to reach the well. The susceptibility rating is an estimate of the potential for contamination of the source water, it does not mean that the water delivered to consumers is, or will become, contaminated. (See section "Water Quality" for a list of contaminants that have been detected.) The source water assessments provide resource managers with additional information for protecting source waters into the future.

As mentioned before, our water is derived from 13 wells. The source water assessment has rated most of the wells as having a high susceptibility to industrial solvents, pesticides and nitrates and microbial contamination. The elevated susceptibility ratings are due primarily to the various land uses and their related point sources of contamination in the assessment area. The land uses include unsewered commercial, industrial and residential, as well as agricultural land use. While the source water assessment rates our well as being susceptible to microbials, please note that our water is disinfected to ensure that the finished water delivered into your home meets New York State's drinking water standards for microbial contamination.

A copy of the assessment, including a map of the assessment area, can be obtained by contacting the Water District.

WATER SYSTEM IMPROVEMENT

The Riverhead Water District has recently completed the preparation of a Master Plan Report that evaluated the Water District operations and projected its needs over the next 10 years. The plan recommended the construction of several new supply

Contaminants	Violation (Yes/No)	Date of Sample	Level Detected (Maximum) (Range)	Unit Measure -ment	MCLG	Regulatory Limit (MCL or AL)	Likely Source of Contaminant
Inorganic Contaminants							
Lead	No	Sept. 2004	2.5 ⁽¹⁾ ND - 4.8	ug/l	0	AL = 15	Leaching from plumbing
Copper	No	Sept. 2004	0.29 ⁽¹⁾ ND - 0.34	ug/l	n/a	AL = 1.3	Leaching from plumbing
Arsenic	No	07/15/05	4.9 ND - 4.9	ug/l	n/a	MCL = 10	Naturally occurring
Sodium	No	02/16/05	13.1 4.4 - 13.1	mg/l	n/a	No MCL ⁽²⁾	Naturally occurring
Chloride	No	02/16/05	22.4 4.7 - 22.4	mg/l	n/a	MCL = 250	Naturally occurring
Iron	Yes ⁽³⁾	05/11/05	1,110 ND - 1,110	ug/l	n/a	MCL = 300 ⁽³⁾	Naturally occurring
Nitrate	No	02/16/05	3.6 ND - 3.6	mg/l	10	MCL = 10	Runoff from fertilizer and leaching from septic tanks and sewage
Sulfate	No	02/16/05	27 ND - 27	mg/l	n/a	MCL = 250	Naturally occurring
Manganese	No	02/16/05	200 ND - 200	ug/l	n/a	MCL = 300	Naturally occurring
Fluoride	No	02/16/05	0.1 ND - 0.1	mg/l	n/a	MCL = 2.2	Naturally occurring
Perchlorate	No	10/12/05	1.8 ND - 1.8	ug/l	n/a	AL = 18 ⁽⁴⁾	Fertilizers
Synthetic Organic Contaminants Including Pesticides and Herbicides							
None Detected	--	--	ND	--	--	--	--
Volatile Organic Contaminants							
MTBE	No	01/28/05	1.0 ND - 1.0	ug/l	0	MCL = 10	Gasoline Additive
Total Trihalomethanes	No	10/17/05	7.3 ND - 7.3	ug/l	0	MCL = 80	Disinfection By-Products
Total Haloacetic Acids	No	10/17/05	2.0 ND - 2.0	ug/l	0	MCL = 60	Disinfection By-Products

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.

Action Level (AL)- The concentration of a contaminant which, if exceeded, triggers treatment or other requirements which a water system must follow.

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).

Non-Detects (ND) - Laboratory analysis indicates that the constituent is not present.

⁽¹⁾ - During 2004, we collected and analyzed 30 samples for lead and copper. The 90% percentile is presented as the maximum result. The Action Levels for both lead and copper were not exceeded at any site tested. Retesting is scheduled for 2007.

⁽²⁾ - No MCL has been established for sodium. However, 20 mg/l is a recommended guideline for people on high restricted sodium diets and 270 mg/l for those on moderate sodium diets.

⁽³⁾ - Iron is only a secondary drinking water standard. Iron has no health affects. Therefore, exceeding the MCL for iron represents a level at which adverse aesthetic effects start to occur.

⁽⁴⁾ - Perchlorate is an unregulated contaminant. However, the NYS Dept. of Health has established an action level of 17 us/l.

wells and a water storage tank to improve the water supply capacity to keep up with the increasing water demands from new developments and increased water use from existing residents. The District will be conducting a Test Well Program to determine the best location for the new wells.

Copies of a Supplemental Data Package, which includes the water quality data for each of our supply wells utilized during 2005, are available at the Riverhead Water District office located at 1035 Pulaski Street, Riverhead, New York, the Town Clerk's office and the local Public Library.

We, at the Riverhead Water District, work around the clock to provide top quality water to every tap throughout the community. We ask that all our customers help us protect our water supply, which will improve our way of life and our children's future.

The Riverhead Town Board Suggest The Following

WATER CONSERVATION TIPS:

- Irrigate your lawn less often and for longer periods. Deep watering promotes deep root growth. You only need to water once or twice per week for about 1½ to 2 inches of water per week.
- Install a rain sensor on your automatic irrigation system so you don't waste water when it is raining.
- Irrigate your lawn in the early morning or late afternoon. Irrigating during the heat of the day allows more water to be lost to evaporation.
- Use a trigger nozzle at the end of your hose. This will automatically shut the water off when not in use.
- Repair leaky faucets as soon as possible. A small leak can waste up to 100 gallons per day!
- Consider installing water conservation shower heads and other plumbing fixtures.

HELP US SAVE WATER – FOR TODAY AND FUTURE GENERATIONS!

Town of Riverhead
Riverhead Water District
1035 Pulaski Street
Riverhead, New York 11901

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