

**Annual Water Quality Report Certification Form**

Water System Name: Village of Whitehall

Public Water Supply ID #: 5700124

The community water system named above hereby confirms that its Annual Water Quality Report (AWQR) has been distributed to customers and appropriate notices of availability have been given. Further, the system certifies that the information contained in the report is correct and consistent with the compliance monitoring data previously submitted to the health department.

Certified by: Name: Charles Austin  
Title: Chief Water/Wastewater Operator  
Phone #: 518 499-2681  
Date: 05/19/2024

Please indicate how your report was distributed to your customers:

- AWQR was distributed to bill-paying customers by mail.
- AWQR was distributed by other direct delivery method(s) (check all that apply)
  - Hand delivered.
  - Published in local paper (i.e., Penny Saver) that was directly delivered or mailed to all bill-paying customers.
  - Published in local municipal newsletter that was directly delivered or mailed.
  - Mailed a notification that AWQR is available on a public website via a direct URL
  - Emailed with a message containing a direct URL link to the AWQR
  - Emailed with AWQR sent as an attachment to the email
  - Emailed with AWQR sent as an embedded image in the email
  - Additional electronic delivery that meets "otherwise directly deliver" requirement
  - Other (please specify) Online newspaper publication
- System does not have bill-paying customers.
- For systems serving at least 100,000 persons: in addition to direct delivery to bill-paying customer the AWQR was posted on a publicly accessible website at www. \_\_\_\_\_

Please indicate what "Good Faith" efforts were used to reach non-bill paying consumers (check all that apply).

- Posting the Annual Water Quality Report on the Internet at www. whitehallny.org
- Mailing the Annual Water Quality Report to postal patrons within the service area
- Advertising the availability of the Annual Water Quality Report in the news media
- Publication of the Annual Water Quality Report in a local newspaper
- Posting the Annual Water Quality Report in public places (attach a list of locations)
- Delivery of multiple copies to single-bill addresses serving several persons such as: apartments, businesses, and large private employers
- Delivery to community organizations
- Other (please specify): Online newspaper publication, Post in Village Hall.

# **Annual Water Quality Report for 2025**

## **Village of Whitehall**

57 Skenesborough Drive, Whitehall, NY  
(Public Water Supply ID# NY5700124)

### **INTRODUCTION**

To comply with State regulations, the Village of Whitehall, 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. 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 contact Charles Austin, Chief Water Plant Operator at telephone number (518) 499-2681 or 499-1587. We want you to be informed about your drinking water. If you want to learn more, please attend any of our regularly scheduled village board meetings. The meetings are held at the Village Offices, 57 Skenesborough Drive, beginning at 6:00 PM on the third Tuesday of the month.

### **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 Departments and the FDA's regulations establish limits for contaminants in bottled water which must provide the same protection for public health.

The Village water source is a surface water supply located in the Town of Dresden, Washington County. Water is drawn through a screened water intake structure and then flows by gravity through three miles of cast iron water main to the Village's Drinking Water Treatment Plant (DWTP). Water entering the filtration plant is filtered through a membrane microfiltration system. Sodium hypochlorite is added to the water as a disinfectant. Chemicals used for corrosion control are 25% caustic soda and 5.5% phosphoric acid solutions that are added into the chlorinated water supply in proportion to the daily amount of water supplied to the village. All chemicals added to the water are certified for potable drinking water use by the testing standards required by the National Sanitation Foundation (NSF) and the American Water Works Association (AWWA). A 750,000-gallon concrete water storage tank was constructed in 2007. The tank serves as the one day required storage capacity for the Village and as the chlorine contact chamber.

The NYS DOH has compiled a source water assessment for this system, based on available information. Possible and actual threats to the village 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 overland by runoff and by subsurface movement through soils to the source water supply. 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. The source water assessments provide resource managers with additional information for protecting source waters into the future.

The source water assessment completed by NYS DOH found that our drinking water source does not have an elevated susceptibility to contamination. There are no regulated facilities within this watershed and the corresponding land cover does not pose any substantial risks to the source water supply. A list of the contaminants detected in the Village drinking water supply is provided in the next section of this annual water drinking water quality report.

The NYSDOH will use this information to direct future source water protection activities. These may include water quality monitoring, resource management, planning and education programs. A copy of this assessment can be obtained from the Village Water Department.

### **FACTS AND FIGURES**

The Village of Whitehall supplies water to 912 active village customers, 7 customers in the Town of Dresden and 86 customers in the Town of Whitehall. In 2025, the total water produced was approximately 192,644,000 gallons or an average of 602,000 gallons per day. Ongoing water system upgrades are in progress. The average delivered water rate for the year 2025, was \$6.62 per 1,000 gallons.

The total amount of water delivered to customers was 77,279,424 gallons. This leaves an unaccounted for 115,364,576 gallons. This water was used to flush mains, fight fires and system leakage (approximately 59% of total amount produced).

#### **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, volatile organic compounds, trihalomethanes and haloacetic acids, principal organic contaminants, synthetic organic compounds, nitrate, nitrite, lead, copper and radiological parameters (gross alpha emitters and radium). The NYSDOH allows us to test for some contaminants less than once per year because the concentrations of these contaminants do not change frequently. A summary of the contaminants detected last year is provided in the table on the following page. Contaminants not listed on the table were not detected in the test samples or measured values were below the state and federal established maximum contaminant level (MCL) for a specific contaminant.

It should be noted that all drinking water, including bottled water, may reasonably be 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 on contaminants and potential health effects can be obtained by calling the US EPA's Safe Drinking Water Hotline (1-800-426-4791) or the NYSDOH, Office of Public Health (518-793-3893). Information is also available through the US EPA's drinking water website ([www.epa.gov/safe-water/hfacts.html](http://www.epa.gov/safe-water/hfacts.html)) and the NYS DOH website ([www.health.state.ny.us](http://www.health.state.ny.us)).

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

Information about the health effects of THMS is provided below, for reference. Working with the Department of Health to make operational adjustments we were able to reduce the THM levels to below the MCL in 2025.

#### **INFORMATION ABOUT TRIHALOMETHANES**

Some studies suggest that people who drink chlorinated water (which contains trihalomethanes) or water containing elevated levels of trihalomethanes for long periods of time may have an increased risk for certain health effects. For example, some studies of people who drank chlorinated drinking water for 20 to 30 years show that long term exposure to disinfection by-products (including trihalomethanes) is associated with an increased risk for certain types of cancer. A few studies of women who drank water containing trihalomethanes during pregnancy show an association between exposure to elevated levels of trihalomethanes and small increased risks for low birth weights, miscarriages and birth defects. However, in each of the studies, how long and how frequently people actually drank the water, as well as how much trihalomethanes the water contained is not known for certain. Therefore, we do not know for sure if the observed increases in risk for cancer and other health effects are due to trihalomethanes or some other factor. The individual trihalomethanes chloroform, bromodichloromethane and dibromochloromethane cause cancer in laboratory animals exposed to high levels over their lifetimes. Chloroform, bromodichloromethane and dibromochloromethane are also known to cause effects in laboratory animals after high levels of exposure, primarily on the liver, kidney, nervous system and on their ability to bear healthy offspring. Chemicals that cause adverse health effects in laboratory animals after high levels of exposure may pose a risk for adverse health effects in humans exposed to lower levels over long periods of time.

#### **IS OUR WATER SYSTEM MEETING OTHER RULES THAT GOVERN OPERATIONS?**

As a result of the water shortage in December 2024, we have received a violation of 10 NYCRR Subpart 5-1.27. This is a violation for inability to supply water to customers. The public water system shall be maintained and operated by the supplier of water to assure a minimum working pressure of 20 pounds per square inch at ground level at all points in the distribution system. Our engineers have completed a Corrective Action Plan to address the deficiencies of our water system.

#### **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 ON LEAD SERVICE LINE INVENTORY**

A Lead Service Line (LSL) is defined as any portion of pipe that is made of lead which connects the water main to the building inlet. An LSL may be owned by the water system, owned by the property owner, or both. The inventory includes both potable and non-potable SLs within a system. In accordance with the federal Lead and Copper Rule Revisions (LCRR) our system has prepared a lead service line inventory and have made it publicly accessible by (include instructions on how to access the inventory (including inventories consisting only of a statement declaring that the distribution system has no lead, galvanized requiring replacement, or lead status unknown service lines)) and/or visiting our website at: <https://www.whitehallny.org/app/download/17270925/LeadServ.Line.001.pdf>

#### **INFORMATION ON LEAD**

Lead can cause serious health effects in people of all ages, especially pregnant people, infants (both formula-fed and breastfed), and young children. Lead in drinking water is primarily from materials and parts used in service lines and in home plumbing. The Village of Whitehall is responsible for providing high quality drinking water and removing lead pipes but cannot control the variety of materials used in the plumbing in your home. Because lead levels may vary over time, lead exposure is possible even when your tap sampling results do not detect lead at one point in time. You can help protect yourself and your family by identifying and removing lead materials within your home plumbing and taking steps to reduce your family's risk. Using a filter, certified by an American National Standards Institute accredited certifier to reduce lead, is effective in reducing lead exposures. Follow the instructions provided with the filter to ensure the filter is used properly. Use only cold water for drinking, cooking, and making baby formula. Boiling water does not remove lead from water. Before using tap water for drinking, cooking, or making baby formula, flush your pipes for several minutes. You can do this by running your tap, taking a shower, doing laundry or a load of dishes. If you have a lead service line or galvanized requiring replacement service line, you may need to flush your pipes for a longer period. If you are concerned about lead in your water and wish to have your water tested, contact the Village of Whitehall. Information on lead in drinking water, testing methods, and steps you can take to minimize exposure is available at <https://www.epa.gov/safewater/lead>.

**VILLAGE OF WHITEHALL TABLE OF DETECTED CONTAMINANTS**  
Public Water Supply ID# NY5700124

Contaminant	Violation Y/N	Date of Sample	Level Detected	Unit Measurement	MCLG	MCL	Likely Source of Contamination
<b>Microbiological Contaminants</b>							
Turbidity <sup>1</sup>	N	10/25/25	0.098	NTU	N/A	1.0	Soil Runoff
Turbidity <sup>1</sup>	N	2025	0% > 0.3	NTU	N/A	5% of samples > 0.3	Soil Runoff
<b>Inorganic Contaminants</b>							
Copper (at customers tap)	N	6/18/24	0.10 <sup>2</sup> ND - 0.16 <sup>3</sup>	mg/l	1.3	AL=1.3	Corrosion of household plumbing systems; and erosion of natural deposits.
Lead (at customers tap)	N	6/18/24	0.004 <sup>2</sup> ND - 0.0069 <sup>3</sup>	µg/l	N/A	AL=15	Corrosion of household plumbing systems; and erosion of natural deposits.
Chloride	N	3/20/25	2.7	mg/l	250	N/A	Naturally occurring or indicative of road salt contamination
Nitrate	N	3/21/24	0.31	mg/l	10	10	Runoff from fertilizer use; leaching from septic tanks; sewage; erosion of natural deposits.
Sodium	N	3/21/24	3.1	mg/l	N/A	N/A <sup>6</sup>	Naturally occurring; road salt; water softeners; animal waste.
Sulfate	N	3/21/24	2	mg/l	250	N/A	Naturally occurring
<b>Stage 2 Disinfection Byproducts (DBP)</b>							
Total Trihalomethanes (TTHM)	N	Quarterly	67.08 <sup>4</sup> (61.4-89.4) <sup>5</sup>	µg/l	N/A	80	By-product of drinking water chlorination needed to kill harmful organisms. TTHMs are formed when source water contains large amounts of organic matter
		March, June, September, December, 2025					
Haloacetic acids (HAA5)	N	Quarterly	45.03 <sup>4</sup> (ND-56.6) <sup>5</sup>	µg/l	N/A	60	By-product of drinking water chlorination.
		March, June, September, December, 2025					

1. Turbidity is a measure of the cloudiness of the water. We measure it because it is a good indicator of the effectiveness of our filtration system. Our highest single entry point turbidity measurement for the year occurred on 10/25/25 (0.098 NTU). State regulations require that entry point turbidity must always be below 1.0 NTU. The regulations also require that 95% of the entry point turbidity samples collected have measurements below 0.3 NTU. All of the turbidity readings before and after that date were well within the acceptable range.
2. The level presented represents the 90th percentile of the sites tested. A percentile is a value on a scale of 1 to 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. During September 2024, 10 samples were collected for lead and copper analysis. There were no sample results above the action level for lead or copper.
3. The levels presented are the range of the samples collected.
4. The average shown represents the highest RAA for the 4 quarters in 2025. The MCL for TTHMs and HAA5 is based on a Locational Running Annual Average (LRAA). For example, the running annual average for the 2025 calendar year was calculated using the sample results for the months of March, June, Sep, Dec of 2025.
5. The levels presented are the range of TTHM and HAAS sample results.
6. Water containing more than 20 mg/l of sodium should not be used for drinking by people on severely 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.

*Non-Detects (ND)* - laboratory analysis indicates that the constituent is not present.  
*Parts per million (ppm) or Milligrams per liter (mg/l)* - one part per million corresponds to one minute in two years or a single penny in \$10,000.  
*Parts per billion (ppb) or Micrograms per liter* - one part per billion corresponds to one minute in 2,000 years, or a single penny in \$10,000,000.  
*90th Percentile Value* - The values reported for lead and copper represent the 90th percentile. 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 lead and copper values detected at your water system.  
*Nephelometric Turbidity Unit (NTU)* - nephelometric turbidity unit is a measure of the clarity of water. Turbidity in excess of 5 NTU is just noticeable to the average person.  
*Action Level (AL)* - the concentration of a contaminant which, if exceeded, triggers treatment or other requirements which a water system must follow.  
*Maximum Contaminant Level* - The "Maximum Allowed" (MCL) is the highest level of a contaminant that is allowed in drinking water. MCLs are set as close to the MCLGs as feasible using the best available treatment technology.  
*Maximum Contaminant Level Goal* - The "Goal" (MCLG) is 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.  
*Treatment Technique (TT)* - A treatment technique is a required process intended to reduce the level of a contaminant in drinking water.  
*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  
*Locational Running Annual Average (LRAA)*: The LRAA is calculated by taking the average of the four most recent samples collected at each individual site  
*N/A-not applicable*

### **WHY SAVE WATER AND HOW TO AVOID WASTING IT**

The Village of Whitehall encourages all customers to conserve water. You can play a role in conserving water by being conscious of the amount of water your household is using and by looking for ways to use less whenever you can.

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, or shave.
- ◆ When washing dishes by hand, fill wash and rinse basins with water, do not let water run continuously.
- ◆ 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 faucet aerators and low flow showerheads.
- ◆ 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 moves, you have a leak.
- ◆ Do not allow faucets to run continuously as a way to prevent pipes from freezing; find and fix the problem that is causing the heat loss.

### **SYSTEM IMPROVEMENTS**

We are currently working with engineers to help improve our water system from upgrades to fixing already existing issues.

### **CLOSING**

Thank you for allowing us to provide you and your family with quality drinking water this year. We ask that all our customers help us protect our water sources, which are the heart of our community and our way of life. Please call our office if you have questions.