

**Annual Drinking Water Quality Report for 2018**  
**Prospect Street Water District (Town of Vernon) – PWS ID# NY3230026**  
**Skenandoah-Highbridge Water District (Town of Vernon) – PWS ID# NY3233159**  
**PO BOX 643 Vernon, NY 13476**

**TOWN OF VERNON WATER DISTRICTS CONTACT INFORMATION**

If you have any questions about this report or concerning your drinking water, please contact Randy Watson, Town Supervisor, at 315-829-2985 or Arthur Smolinski, of the City of Oneida Water Department at 315-363-1490. We want you to be informed about your drinking water. If you want to learn more, please attend any of our regularly scheduled Town Board meetings, held at the Town Offices (4305 Peterboro Road) generally on the second Monday of each month at 7PM - contact us for dates and times or visit <http://www.townofvernon.com/calendar.php> for our scheduled meetings.

**WHERE DOES OUR WATER COME FROM?**

The Town of Vernon purchases 100% of its water from the City of Oneida for the Prospect Street (PSWD) and Skenandoah-Highbridge (SHWD) water districts. (See the City of Oneida Report for additional information on where our water comes from). Our water systems serve approximately 460 people through 162 service connections (PSWD) and 53 people through 20 service connections (SHWD).

**ARE THERE CONTAMINANTS IN OUR DRINKING WATER?**

In addition to the City of Oneida sample results (see attached City of Oneida report), the Town of Vernon (PSWD / SHWD) routinely tests your drinking water for coliform bacteria and disinfection residuals. The table presented below depicts which compounds were detected in your drinking water.

<b>Table of Detected Contaminants (Town of Vernon WDs)</b>							
Contaminant	Violation	Date of Sample	Level Detected Average or Maximum (Range)	Unit Measurement	MCLG / MRDLG	Regulatory Limit (MCL, MRDL, TT or AL)	Likely Source of Contamination
<b>Disinfection / Disinfection By-Products (See Table 17 of Part 5) (See also City of Oneida AWQR)</b>							
Chlorine Residual (Prospect Street)	No	Monthly	0.4 <sup>(1)</sup> (range = 0.1 - 0.7)	mg/l	N/A	MRDL = 4 <sup>(2)</sup>	Water additive used to control microbes.
<b>Disinfection By products – Stage 2</b>							
Total Trihalomethanes (TTHMs) <sup>3</sup> (Prospect)	No	3,6,9,12/2018	32 <sup>(5)</sup> 6.8-54.9	ug/l	N/A	MCL = 80	By-product of drinking water disinfection needed to kill harmful organisms.
Total Trihalomethanes (TTHMs) <sup>3</sup> (Skenandoah-Highbridge)	No	3,6,9,12/2018	35 <sup>(5)</sup> 7.6-64.3	ug/l	N/A	MCL = 80	
Haloacetic Acids (HAA5) <sup>5</sup> (Prospect)	No	3,6,9,12/2018	45 <sup>(5)</sup> 10.6-43.6	ug/l	N/A	MCL = 60	
Haloacetic Acids (HAA5) <sup>5</sup> (Skenandoah-Highbridge)	No	3,6,9,12/2018	40 <sup>(5)</sup> 11.6-35.5	ug/l	N/A	MCL = 60	
<b>See City of Oneida AWQR for additional sample information - Physical Parameters, Radioactive Contaminants, Inorganic Contaminants, Synthetic Organic Contaminants, Principal Organic Contaminants, Lead and Copper</b>							

**Notes:**

- 1 - The levels presented represent the average and range of the levels reported on the monthly microbiological sampling reports.
- 2 - Value presented represents the Maximum Residual Disinfectant Level (MRDL) which is a level of disinfectant added for water treatment that may not be exceeded at the consumer's tap without an unacceptable possibility of adverse health effects. MRDLs are currently not regulated but in the future they will be enforceable in the same manner as MCLs.
- 3- TTHMs – chloroform, bromodichloromethane, dibromochloromethane and bromoform
- 4- HAA5- mono-, di-, and trichloroacetic acid, and mono- and dibromoacetic acid
- 5 – This level represents the highest Locational Running Annual Average (LRAA) and range of all sample results. Compliance with the MCL for Disinfection Byproducts is based upon the Locational Running Annual Average of all samples collected during four consecutive quarters. Individual samples may have exceeded the MCL but our system's LRAA never exceeded the MCL.

**WHAT DOES THIS INFORMATION MEAN?**

As you can see by the table, our system had no violations. We have learned through our testing that some contaminants have been detected; however, these contaminants were detected below the level allowed by the State.

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

Last year, our system was in compliance with applicable State drinking water operating, monitoring and reporting requirements.

**CLOSING**

Please call our office if you have questions at 315-829-2422 or the Oneida County Health Department at 315-798-5064.

**See Attached City of Oneida Report for additional required reporting, sampling, treatment and water source information.**



# Oneida Area 2018 Annual Water Quality Report

Oneida Water Department

109 N. Main Street, Oneida NY 13421

Visit us on the web at [oneidacity.com/water-department/](http://oneidacity.com/water-department/)

## Introduction

To comply with State regulations, the City of Oneida Water Department has issued this Annual Water Quality Report. The purpose of this report is to raise your understanding of drinking water and awareness of the need to protect our drinking water sources. Last year, your tap water met all State drinking water health standards. We are proud to report that our system did not violate a maximum contaminant level or any other water quality standard. 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.

## City of Oneida Water Department Profile

Oneida's Florence Creek Water System was constructed in 1926. In early 1980, the City's current water treatment plant was completed to provide filtration to the City's upland supply, for the first time correcting problems of taste, odor and color.

Today the City of Oneida Water Department serves more than 21,000 people and provides an average daily water supply of 2.4 million gallons (2.4 MGD). The Water Department employs 16 individuals who treat, monitor, maintain, construct, and distribute water through more than 86.8 miles of mains in two counties, three cities, five towns, and four villages. This water supply has become a valuable regional asset through the cooperation of the municipal leaders and dedicated employees.

Communities Served by Oneida Water			
Public Water Supply	Identification Number	POPULATION (2010 census)	Water Consumption (gallons-2018)
City of Oneida	NY2602381	10,654	369,433,000
Village of Oneida Castle		648	11,516,000
Village of Wampsville		543	17,270,000
Transmission Main *		924	32,496,000
Sherrill Kenwood Water	NY3202419	3,250	91,229,000
Village of Vernon	NY3202412	1,272	124,404,000
Town of Stockbridge	NY2602379	1,093	22,724,000
Taberg Water District	NY3202409	449	12,150,000
Durhamville Water District	NY3230025	499	9,753,000
Prospect Street Water District	NY3230026	460	7,171,000
Sconodoo Highbridge WD	NY3233159	54	971,000
Town of Verona WD	NY3230037	1,281	160,946,000
Marble Hill WD	NY3230058	20	352,000
<b>Total Population   Total Metered Sales</b>		<b>21,147</b>	<b>860,415,000</b>
		<b>Clear Water Flow</b>	<b>935,386,000</b>
<b>Nonrevenue Water</b>		<b>Percent = 8%</b>	<b>74,971,000</b>

\* Includes portions of the Town of Annsville, City of Rome, and Town of Verona

## Water Supply

The City of Oneida starts with a high quality surface water source from Glenmore Reservoir on Florence Creek, which is located twenty miles north of the City in the Town of Annsville, Oneida County. The dam impounds water from a 13.8 square mile watershed on the edge of the Tug Hill Plateau. The watershed is mainly forestlands with approximately half being State Reforestation. The 378-foot long and 45-foot high dam, constructed in 1926 in this rural location, provides water storage to buffer seasonal water demands as well as dry weather supply. The reservoir holds 299 million gallons of water. The City owns the 500-acre site on which the reservoir and dam are located. Last year, our system did not experience any restriction of our water source.

## Water Treatment

The City of Oneida reservoir and watershed receive regular inspections. While no contamination has been observed, treatment is required to ensure safe water is entering the distribution system.

Situated one-half mile down stream from the dam is the City's Water Treatment Plant. This conventional flocculation/sedimentation facility with a production capacity of 4 million gallons per day (4 MGD) was completed in 1980. The plant includes a rapid mix basin, flocculation facilities, (2) contact basins, (4) dual media filters, and a clear-well tank.

After the process of chemical addition, contact and filtration- microorganisms, including some that can cause disease (pathogens) may still be found in filtered water. Chlorination equipment is utilized to provide sufficient chlorine to kill any pathogens that may be present and to provide a chlorine residual in the water entering the distribution system. In order to inhibit corrosion of our distribution pipes we introduce zinc orthophosphate into the distribution system. This compound provides a thin protective coating to our pipes.

Grade 1A and IIA operators operate the plant, 365 days a year. During daily operation of the plant, chemical testing is done by the operators at our onsite laboratory.

### **Distribution**

A 20"-24" transmission main transports the water from the water treatment plant's clearwell tank into the City. A pump station at Lake Street increases the capacity of the 20-mile pipeline from 2.8 MGD to 3.5 MGD with one pump operating. The water is distributed through a network of 86.8 miles of cast iron, asbestos cement and ductile iron water main throughout the City.

Baker and Clark Tanks provide distribution storage. These two domed concrete storage tanks have a combined capacity of 15 million gallons and are used to balance pressure in the distribution system and to ensure an adequate water supply for fire protection. A chlorination facility is located at the site to further treat all water leaving the tanks.

### **Who should 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 (1-800-426-4791).

### **Source Water Assessment**

The New York State Department of Health (NYSDOH) has evaluated Glenmore Reservoir's susceptibility to contamination under the Source Water Assessment Program (SWAP), and 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 this public water system (PWS). This PWS provides treatment and regular monitoring to ensure the water delivered to consumers meets all applicable drinking water standards.

The assessment area for this drinking water source contains no discrete potential contaminant sources, and only the protozoa land covers contaminate prevalence ratings is greater than low. This rating is attributed to the percentage of pasture land cover used in the analysis, without regard for the actual percentage of such pasture land actively being used for agricultural livestock. This results in this reservoir being assigned a high susceptibility to protozoa, despite the relative absence of such land actually being used for livestock purposes within the watershed. However, the high mobility of microbial contaminants in all such reservoirs results in this drinking water intake being assigned medium – high susceptibility ratings for enteric bacteria and viruses. Furthermore, all open reservoirs are deemed highly susceptible to water quality problems caused by phosphorus additions.

### **Lead**

Federal Law requires water suppliers to notify their customers about the risks of Lead. 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 City of Oneida 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 or at <http://www.epa.gov/safewater/lead>.

### **Water Quality through Testing - How do you know it's safe?**

The City of Oneida routinely monitors for contaminants in your drinking water according to Federal and State laws. These contaminants include: total Coliform, turbidity, inorganic compounds, nitrate, nitrite, lead and copper, volatile organic compounds, total trihalomethanes, synthetic organic compounds, *Cryptosporidium*, and *Giardia*. In all, the City is required to test for over 125 contaminants. The table presented below depicts the compounds that were detected in your drinking water for the period of January 1st to December 31st, 2018. 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.

**Table of Detected Contaminants**

Contaminant	Violation Yes/No	Date of Sample	Level Detected (Average/Maximum) (Range)	Unit of Measurement	MCLG/MRDLG	Regulatory Limit (MCL, MRDL, MRDLG, TT or AL)	Likely Source of Contamination
<b>Source Water from Glenmore Reservoir</b>							
Total Organic Carbon	No	Monthly	4.3 <sup>2</sup> 2.5-8.4	mg/l	N/A	TT	Naturally present in the environment
<b>Finished Water</b>							
Turbidity (EP) <sup>1</sup>	No	Daily	0.06 <sup>2</sup> .03-.12	NTU	N/A	TT < 1.0 NTU	Soil Runoff
Turbidity (EP) <sup>1</sup>	No	Daily	100 %	NTU	N/A	TT = 95% of samples < 0.3 NTU	Soil Runoff
Total Organic Carbon	No	Monthly	1.5 <sup>2</sup> <1.0-2.3	mg/l	N/A	TT	Naturally present in the environment
<b>Inorganics</b>							
pH	No	Continuous	6.9- 7.3	Std. Units	N/A	N/A	Naturally occurring
Calcium	No	-	-	mg/l	N/A	N/A	Naturally occurring
Copper (EP)	No	3/14/2018	22.5	ug/l	1,300	AL = 1,300	Corrosion of household plumbing systems; Erosion of natural deposits; leaching from wood preservatives
Sodium	No	3/14/2018	4.99	mg/l	N/A	(see health effects) <sup>f</sup>	Naturally occurring; Road salt
Copper	No	6-8/2018	186 <sup>3</sup> 7-234	ug/l	1,300	AL = 1,300	Corrosion of household plumbing systems; Erosion of natural deposits; leaching from wood preservatives
Lead	No	6-8/2018	3.0 <sup>4</sup> ND- 6.4	ug/l	0	AL = 15	Corrosion of household plumbing systems; Erosion of natural deposits
Chloride	No	3/14/2018	5.4	mg/l	N/A	MCL = 250	Naturally occurring or indicative of road salt contamination.
Zinc	No	3/14/2018	0.38	mg/l	N/A	MCL = 5	Naturally occurring; Mining waste
Sulfate	No	3/14/2018	10.2	mg/l	N/A	MCL = 250	Naturally occurring
Barium	No	3/14/2018	4.7	ug/l	2,000	MCL = 2,000	Erosion of natural deposits
Alkalinity as CaCO3	No	3/14/2018	16.8	mg/l	N/A	N/A	Naturally occurring
Hardness, Calcium as CaCO3	No	3/14/2018	21.5	mg/l	N/A	N/A	Naturally occurring
Total Dissolved Solids	No	3/14/2018	43	mg/l	N/A	N/A	Naturally occurring
<b>Disinfection By products</b>							
Chlorine Residual	No	Continuous	1.0 <sup>5</sup> 0.7-2.1	mg/l	N/A	MRDL = 4	Water additive used to control microbes.

In the table on the preceding page, you will find many terms and abbreviations you might not be familiar with. To help you better understand these terms we've provided the following definitions:

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

**Entry Point (EP)** - A representative sampling location after the last point of treatment but before the first consumer connection

**Haloacetic Acids (HAA5)**: mono-, di-, and trichloroacetic acid, and mono- and dibromoacetic acid

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 Contaminant Level (MCL): The highest level of a contaminant that is allowed in drinking water. MCLs are set as close to the MCLG as possible.

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.

Milligrams per liter (mg/l) – corresponds to one part of liquid in one million parts of liquid (parts per million - ppm).

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.

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

Parts per billion (ppb) or Micrograms per liter (ug/l) - one part per billion corresponds to one part of liquid in one billion parts of liquid.

Total Trihalomethanes (TTHMs) – chloroform, bromodichloromethane, dibromochloromethane and bromoform

Treatment Technique (TT) – A required process intended to reduce the level of a contaminant in drinking water.

Notes:

- 1 – Turbidity is a measure of the cloudiness of the water. We monitor it because it is a good indicator of the effectiveness of our filtration system. Our highest single turbidity measurements for the year occurred on 8/16/2018, 8/29/2018, 9/11/2018 and 9/12/2018 (0.12 NTU). State regulations require that turbidity must always be below 5 NTU which were met during the year. The regulations require that 95% of the turbidity samples collected have measurements below 0.5 NTU. Although August 2018 was the month with the lowest quality water leaving the plant (0.09 NTU monthly average), all samples were within the acceptable range allowed and did not constitute a treatment technique violation.
- 2 – This level represents the annual average and range of values calculated from sample results.
- 3 – The level presented represents the 90th percentile of the 30 sites tested. 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 copper values detected at your water system. In this case, thirty samples were collected at your water system and the 90th percentile value was the twenty seventh highest value (186 ug/l). The action level for copper was not exceeded at any of the sites tested.
- 4 – The level presented represents the 90th percentile of the 30 sites tested. The action level for lead was not exceeded at any of the sites tested.
- 5 – This level represents the annual average calculated from the clearwell outlet.
- 6- Water containing more than 20mg/l of sodium should not be used for drinking by people on severely restricted sodium diets. Water containing more than 270mg/l of sodium should not be used for drinking by people with moderately restricted sodium diets.

### **Sources of drinking water**

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.

### **Drinking Water**

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 about contaminants and potential health effects can be obtained by calling the EPA's Safe Drinking Water Hotline (1-800-426-4791).

### **Unregulated Contaminant Monitoring**

The 1996 Safe Drinking Water Act (SDWA) amendments require that once every five years EPA issue a new list of no more than 30 unregulated contaminants to be monitored by public water systems (PWSs). Unregulated contaminants are those that don't yet have a drinking water standard set by US Environmental Protection Agency. The purpose of monitoring for these contaminants is to help US EPA decide whether the contaminants should have a standard. The fourth Unregulated Contaminant Monitoring Rule (UCMR 4) was published in the Federal Register on December 20, 2016. UCMR 4 requires monitoring for 30 chemical contaminants between 2018 and

2020 using analytical methods developed by EPA and consensus organizations. This monitoring provides a basis for future regulatory actions to protect public health. In 2018 testing, none of the unregulated contaminants we targeted were detected in the Oneida Area Water System.

<b>Table of Detected Contaminants - The Fourth Unregulated Contaminant Monitoring Rule (UCMR4)</b>						
Contaminant	Date of Sample	Level Detected (Average)/ (Range)	Unit of Measurement	MRL	Use or Environmental Source	Health Effects
None Detected	N/A	N/A	N/A	N/A	N/A	N/A

In the table above, you will find many terms and abbreviations you might not be familiar with. To help you better understand these terms we've provided the following definitions:

Entry Point (EP001) - A representative sampling location after the last point of treatment but before the first consumer connection

DBP<sub>MAX</sub> - Maximum residence time in the distribution system

MRL - Minimum Reporting Level

### **Water Conservation & Money Saving Ideas**

Although our area is very fortunate to have access to a water supply which more than meets our demands, conservation efforts by both the city and the consumer are prudent in deterring increasing costs. As a consumer you can participate in this water conservation effort. The following are some ideas, which can be directly applied to your individual homes:

1. Use water-saving, flow-restricting shower heads and low flow faucets (aerators);
2. Repair dripping faucets and toilets that seem to flush by themselves;
3. Replace your toilet with a low flush model or place a brick in your tank to reduce the volume used on each flush;
4. Water your garden and lawn only when necessary. Remember that a layer of mulch in the flower beds and garden is not only aesthetically pleasing but will help retain moisture;
5. When washing your car don't let the hose run continuously;
6. When brushing your teeth, shaving or shampooing avoid running the water unnecessarily; and
7. 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.

## **Cryptosporidiosis and Giardiasis**

New York State law requires water suppliers to notify their customers about the risks of cryptosporidiosis and giardiasis. Cryptosporidiosis and giardiasis are intestinal illnesses caused by microscopic parasites. Cryptosporidiosis can be very serious for people with weak immune systems, such as chemotherapy, dialysis or transplant patients, and people with Crohn's disease or HIV infection. People with weakened immune systems should discuss with their health care providers the need to take extra precautions such as boiling water, using certified bottle water or a specially approved home filter. Individuals who think they may have cryptosporidiosis or giardiasis should contact their health care provider immediately.

For additional information on cryptosporidiosis and giardiasis, please contact Madison County Health Department @ 366-2526.

### **Cryptosporidiosis**

Cryptosporidium is a microbial pathogen found in surface water and groundwater under the influence of surface water. Although filtration removes Cryptosporidium, the most commonly-used filtration methods cannot guarantee 100 percent removal. During 2018, as part of our routine sampling plan, 9 samples of Glenmore Reservoir source water were collected and analyzed for Cryptosporidium oocysts. Of these samples, one was confirmed positive. Therefore, our monitoring indicates the presence of Cryptosporidium in our source water. Current test methods do not allow us to determine if the organisms are dead or if they are capable of causing disease. Ingestion of Cryptosporidium may cause cryptosporidiosis, a gastrointestinal infection. Symptoms of infection include nausea, diarrhea, and abdominal cramps. Most healthy individuals can overcome disease within a few weeks. However, immuno-compromised people are at greater risk of developing life-threatening illness. We encourage immuno-compromised individuals to consult their health care provider regarding appropriate precautions to take to avoid infection. Cryptosporidium must be ingested to cause disease, and it may be spread through means other than drinking water.

### **Giardia**

Giardia is a microbial pathogen present in varying concentrations in many surface waters and groundwater under the influence of surface water. Giardia is removed/inactivated through a combination of filtration and disinfection or by disinfection. During 2018, as part of our routine sampling, 9 samples of Glenmore Reservoir source water were collected and analyzed for Giardia cysts. Of these samples, five were confirmed positive. Therefore, our testing indicates the presence of Giardia in our source water. Current test methods do not allow us to determine if the organisms are dead or if they are capable of causing disease. Ingestion of Giardia may cause giardiasis, an intestinal illness. People exposed to Giardia may experience mild or severe diarrhea, or in some instances no symptoms at all. Fever is rarely present. Occasionally, some individuals will have chronic diarrhea over several weeks or a month, with significant weight loss. Giardiasis can be treated with anti-parasitic medication. Individuals with weakened immune systems should consult with their health care providers about what steps would best reduce their risks of becoming infected with Giardiasis. Individuals who think that they may have been exposed to Giardiasis should contact their health care providers immediately. The Giardia parasite is passed in the feces of an infected person or animal and may contaminate water or food. Person to person transmission may also occur in day care centers or other settings where hand washing practices are poor.

## **Leaking toilets are the most common cause of high water bills.**

There are a number of signs that a toilet needs some repairs, but many toilets leak without noticeable indications of trouble.

### **Here are some of the obvious signs of a leaking toilet:**

- If you have to jiggle the handle to make a toilet stop running.
- Any sounds coming from a toilet that is not being used are sure signs of leaks.
- If you can see water trickling down the sides of the toilet bowl long after it's been flushed.
- If a toilet turns the water on for 15 seconds or so without you touching the handle (otherwise known as the phantom flusher).

### **Leaky Toilet Test**

Here is a test to see if you have a leaking toilet:

Add food coloring to the toilet tank (not the toilet bowl)

Do not flush for 30 minutes. If the water in the toilet bowl changes color, you have a leaking toilet.

**City of Oneida, Village of Oneida Castle and Wampsville and Marble Hill Section**  
**City of Oneida, Village of Oneida Castle & Village of Wampsville – PWS ID# NY2602381**  
**Marble Hill Water District – PWS ID#3230058**  
**109 N. Main Street Oneida, NY 13421**

**2018 Water Rates**

	Per 1,000 gals.	Per 100 cuft.
Minimum Charge	\$17.50	\$17.50
0 to 150,000 gals. (20,000 cuft)	\$4.467	\$3.35
Over 150,000 gals. (20,000 cuft.)	\$3.133	\$2.35

The median household in Oneida uses on average 14 00 cuft per quarter for \$66.50 or 42,000 gallons per year or \$266.00 a year. Rate Tables are available in the Water Department Office.

**Meter Reading & Billing**

The City of Oneida Water Department issues bills quarterly to over 4,200 customers. The bills are based on meter readings obtained at each home and business. The meters are read electronically outside of the home by a handheld device that retrieves a reading from the water meter located in the basement. These readings are downloaded to the computer to calculate consumption and issue bills. Meters throughout the system are periodically replaced to insure accurate readings.

**Major Modifications**

The water distribution system was improved in 2018 with the construction of 370 feet of new main. Project included the installation of new 8” diameter water main on E. Sixth Street from Sate Street to the end of the existing main, eliminating the dead end and looping the eastern portion of State Street. The Baker Storage Tanks were improved in with the installation of active mixers. These mixers are manufactured by PAX Water Technologies and will help remove disinfection byproducts.

Projects planned for 2019 include the replacement of main on N. Main Street from W. Elm Street to St. Joseph Place, a leak detection survey of the distribution system, new water main on West Elm from district line to tie into Wampsville and replacement of a booster pump at the South Booster Pump Station.

**Are there contaminants in our drinking water?**

As the State regulations require, and in addition to overall Oneida sample results (see results in City of Oneida Report) the City of Oneida also routinely tests your drinking water at local districts for total coliform, free chlorine, and asbestos as required. The table presented below depicts which compounds were detected in your drinking water.

**Table of Detected Contaminants**

Contaminant	Violation Yes/No	Date of Sample	Level Detected (Avg/Max) (Range)	Unit of Measurement	MCLG / MRDLG	Regulatory Limit (MCL, MRDL, TT or AL)	Likely Source of Contamination
<b>Microbiological Contaminants</b>							
Total Coliform (Oneida)	No	8/7/18, 9/4/18	1 positive sample <sup>(1)</sup>	n/a	0	MCL= 2 or more positive samples	Naturally present in the environment
Chlorine Residual (Oneida)	No	Daily / Monthly	1.1 <sup>(2)</sup> (range = 0.2 – 2.2)	mg/l	N/A	MRDL = 4 <sup>(3)</sup>	Water additive used to control microbes.
Chlorine Residual (Wampsville)			0.2 <sup>(2)</sup> (range = 0.1 – 0.9)				
Chlorine Residual (Marble Hill)			0.1 <sup>(2)</sup> (range = 0.1 – 0.8)				
Turbidity (Distribution) <sup>(4)</sup>	No	Daily	100 %	NTU	N/A	TT =< 5 NTU	Soil Runoff
<b>Disinfection By products – Stage 2</b>							
Total Trihalomethanes (TTHMs) <sup>5</sup> (Oneida)	No	3,6,9,12/ 2018	50 <sup>(7)</sup> 14.8-73.2	ug/l	N/A	MCL = 80	By-product of drinking water disinfection needed to kill harmful organisms.
Total Trihalomethanes (TTHMs) <sup>5</sup> (Wampsville)	No		71 <sup>(7)</sup> 21.5-117.0				
Haloacetic Acids (HAA5) <sup>6</sup> (Oneida)	No	3,6,9,12/ 2018	26 <sup>(7)</sup> 16.0-34.7	ug/l	N/A	MCL = 60	
Haloacetic Acids (HAA5) <sup>6</sup> (Wampsville)	No		38 <sup>(7)</sup> 16.7-42.5				
See City of Oneida AWQR for additional sample information - Physical Parameters, Radioactive Contaminants, Inorganic Contaminants, Synthetic Organic Contaminants, Principal Organic Contaminants, Lead and Copper							



**Notes:**

- 1 – One positive sample was detected on each date listed. Repeat follow-up sampling was conducted and these samples did not detect Total Coliform, therefore MCL or TTT were not triggered
- 2 – The levels presented represent the average and range of the levels reported on the microbiological sampling reports.
- 3 – Value presented represents the Maximum Residual Disinfectant Level (MRDL) which is a level of disinfectant added for water treatment that may not be exceeded at the consumer's tap without an unacceptable possibility of adverse health effects. MRDLs are currently not regulated but in the future they will be enforceable in the same manner as MCLs.
- 4 – Turbidity is measured on a daily basis in the distribution system. All levels recorded during 2018 were within the acceptable range allowed.
- 5 – TTHMs – chloroform, bromodichloromethane, dibromochloromethane and bromoform
- 6 – HAA5 – mono-, di-, and trichloroacetic acid, and mono- and dibromoacetic acid
- 7 – This level represents the highest Locational Running Annual Average (LRAA) and range of all sample results. Compliance with the MCL for Disinfection Byproducts is based upon the Locational Running Annual Average of all samples collected during four consecutive quarters. Individual samples may have exceeded the MCL but our system's LRAA never exceeded the MCL.

**Additional Information**

If you have any questions about this report or concerning your water utility, please contact George B. Kalkowsky, P.E., Water Superintendent at 315-363-1490 (Email [gkalkowsky@oneidacity.com](mailto:gkalkowsky@oneidacity.com)) or the Madison County Department of Health at 315-366-2526. We want our valued customers to be informed about their water utility. If you want to learn more, please attend any of our regularly scheduled Water Board meetings. They are held on the second Tuesday of each month in the Water Department Office in City Hall, 109 North Main Street, Oneida, at 4:00 PM.