

*Annual Drinking Water Quality Report for 2025  
Town of Louisville  
14810 SH 37, Massena NY 13662  
(Public Water Supply ID# NY 4430133)*

## **INTRODUCTION**

To comply with State regulations, the Town of Louisville, 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. Last year, we conducted tests for over forty (40) contaminants. We detected eleven (11) of those contaminants, and only found one (1) of those contaminants at a level higher than the State allows. As we told you at that time, our water temporarily exceeded a drinking water standard and we rectified the problem by completing corrective actions required as a result of a Level 1 Assessment. 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 **The Development Authority of the North Country, at (315) 661-3210**. 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. The meetings are held the second Wednesday of each month, 6:00 pm at the Town Office Building on Rt. 37.

## **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 NYS Department of Health (DOH) and Food & Drug Administration (FDA) have established regulatory limits for contaminants in bottled water which must provide the same protection as tap water for public health.

Our water comes from the St. Lawrence River which is a surface water source. The Water Treatment Plant is located on Country Club Lane, next to the golf course. During 2025 The Town completed a capital project which upgraded the water treatment plant from Diatomaceous Earth filtration to Conventional filtration via Ultrafiltration (UF) Membrane Technology. The water is pumped through a single UF skid then chlorinated and a small amount of zinc orthophosphate is added to control corrosion. It is then stored temporarily in a clear well tank at the water plant site. Seasonally, the water may pass through carbon filters to remove taste and odor compounds. High-lift pumps then pump the water into the distribution system and to three (3) water storage tanks. Water is also purchased from the Village of Massena. A copy of the AWQR for the Village of Massena is attached.

## **FACTS AND FIGURES**

Our water system serves approximately 3,235 people through 1,313 service connections. The total amount of water produced in 2025 was 57.9 million gallons an additional 31.5 million gallons was purchased from the Village of Massena. The daily average of water treated and pumped into the distribution system was 225,442 gallons per day. Our highest single day was 545,888 gallons. The amount of water delivered to customers was 53.8 million gallons. This leaves 35.6 million gallons or 39.8 % unaccounted for. This unaccounted-for water can be attributed to flushing mains, leaks, and firefighting. In 2025 the average annual use was 40,974 gallons per connection. Water customers paid \$3.36 per 1,000 gallons of water and had an annual average cost of \$ 138. 696

## ARE THERE CONTAMINANTS IN OUR DRINKING WATER?

In accordance with NYS requirements, the Town of Louisville regularly tests drinking water for numerous contaminants. These contaminants include: Total Coliform, E.coli, Turbidity, Inorganic Compounds, Nitrate, Nitrite, Sodium, Chlorides, Lead and Copper, Volatile Organic Compounds, Total Trihalomethanes (TTHM's), Haloacetic Acids (HAA5's, Radiological and Synthetic Compounds. The presented below depicts the most recent values for the contaminants that were detected in the drinking water supply. None of the compounds analyzed were detected in drinking water above the NYS allowable levels. All drinking water, including bottled drinking water, may be reasonably expected to contain at least small amounts of some contaminants. The presence of contaminants does not necessarily indicate that water poses a health risk. By Calling EPA's Safe Drinking Water Hotline (800-426-4791) or the New York State Department of Health at (315) 386-1040, you can obtain more information about contaminants and potential health effects.

The NYS DOH has evaluated this Public Water Supply (PWS's) susceptibility to contamination under the Source Water Assessment Program (SWAP), and their findings are summarized in the paragraphs below. It is important to stress that these assessments were created using available information and only estimate the potential for untreated drinking water sources to be impacted by contamination. Elevated susceptibility ratings do not mean that source water contamination has or will occur for this PWS. This PWS provides treatment and regular monitoring to ensure the water delivered to consumers meets all applicable standards.

The Great Lakes' watershed is exceptionally large and too big for a detailed evaluation in the SWAP. General drinking water concerns for public water supplies which use these sources include: storm-generated turbidity, wastewater, toxic sediments, shipping related spills, and problems associated with exotic species (e.g., zebra mussels - intake clogging and taste and odor problems). The summary below is based on the analysis of the contaminant inventory compiled for the drainage area deemed most likely to impact drinking water quality at this PWS intake.

This assessment found a moderate susceptibility to contamination for this source of drinking water. The amount of agricultural lands in the assessment area results in elevated potential for protozoa and pesticides contamination. In addition, the moderate density of CAFOs (Concentration Animal Feeding Operations) in the assessment area may add to the potential for contamination. There is also noteworthy contamination susceptibility associated with other discrete contaminate sources, and these facility types include: landfills and mines.

**Table of Detected Contaminants**

| Contaminant                 | Violation Yes/No | Date of Sample | Average Level Detected (Range) | Unit of Measure | MCLG | Regulatory Limit (MCL, TT or AL)   | Likely Source of Contamination       |
|-----------------------------|------------------|----------------|--------------------------------|-----------------|------|--|--------------------------------------|
| <b>Microbiological</b>      |                  |                |                                |                 |      |  |                                      |
| Total Coliform <sup>1</sup> | Yes              | 09/25          | 2 positive samples             | N/A             | N/A  | TT= 2 or more positive samples after April 1, 2016. MCL= 2 or more positive samples before April 1, 2016 | Naturally present in the environment |
| <b>Turbidity</b>            |                  |                |                                |                 |      |  |                                      |
| Turbidity <sup>2</sup>      | No               | Daily          | 99.9 ≤ 0.3                     | NTU             | N/A  | TT=95% of all samples ≤ 0.3  | Soil runoff                          |
| Turbidity <sup>2</sup>      | No               | 03/26/25       | 0.33                           | NTU             | N/A  | TT ≤ 0.3   | Soil runoff                          |
| Turbidity <sup>3</sup>      | No               | 03/25/26       | 2.04                           | NTU             | N/A  | MCL = 5  | Soil runoff                          |

| Contaminant  | Violation Yes/No | Date of Sample    | Average Level Detected (Range)         | Unit of Measure | MCLG | Regulatory Limit (MCL, TT or AL) | Likely Source of Contamination   |
|--|------------------|-------------------|--|-----------------|------|----------------------------------|--|
| <b>Inorganics</b>  |                  |                   |  |                 |      |                                  |  |
| Nitrate  | No               | 03/13/25          | 0.35                                   | mg/L            | 10   | MCL=10.0                         | Runoff from fertilizer use; Leaching from septic tanks; Sewage; Erosion of natural deposits  |
| Barium   | No               | 10/22/25          | 0.020                                  | mg/L            | 2    | MCL=2.0                          | Discharge of drilling wastes; Discharge from metal refineries; Erosion of natural deposits   |
| Lead   | No               | 09/20/24-09/26/24 | 1.1 <sup>4</sup><br>(ND-1.4)           | ug/L            | 0    | AL=15                            | Corrosion of household plumbing systems; Erosion of natural deposits   |
| Copper   | No               | 09/20/24-09/26/24 | 0.7256 <sup>5</sup><br>(0.0328-0.7638) | mg/L            | 1.3  | AL=1.3                           | Corrosion of household plumbing systems; Erosion of natural deposits; Leaching from wood preservative  |
| <b>Disinfection Byproducts</b>   |                  |                   |  |                 |      |                                  |  |
| Haloacetic Acids (Haa5'S)  | No               | 09/16/25          | 26.0                                   | ug/L            | N/A  | MCL=60                           | By-product of drinking water chlorination needed to kill harmful organisms   |
| Total Trihalomethanes (TTHM's chloroform, bromodichloromethane, dibromochloromethane, and bromoform) | No               | 09/16/25          | 62.3                                   | ug/L            | N/A  | MCL=80                           | By-product of drinking water chlorination needed to kill harmful organisms. TTHMs are formed when source water contains large amounts of organic matter. |
| <b>Radiological</b>  |                  |                   |  |                 |      |                                  |  |
| Radium-226   | No               | 10/22/25          | 0.240                                  | pCi/L           | 0    | 5 <sup>6</sup>                   | Erosion of natural deposits  |
| Radium-228   | No               | 10/22/25          | 0.536                                  | pCi/L           | 0    | 5 <sup>6</sup>                   | Erosion of natural deposits  |
| Gross beta   | No               | 10/22/25          | 1.17                                   | pCi/L           | 0    | 50 <sup>7</sup>                  | Decay of natural and man-made emissions  |

| Contaminant  | Violation Yes/No | Date of Sample | Average Level Detected (Range) | Unit of Measure | MCLG | Regulatory Limit (MCL, TT or AL) | Likely Source of Contamination  |
|--|------------------|----------------|--------------------------------|-----------------|------|----------------------------------|---|
| <b>Synthetic Organic Contaminants</b>  |                  |                |                                |                 |      |                                  |   |
| 1,4 Dioxane  | No               | 07/23/24       | 0.0039                         | ug/L            | N/A  | MCL=1                            | Released into the environment from commercial and industrial sources and is associated with inactive and hazardous waste sites. |
| Perfluorooctanoic acid (PFOA)  | No               | 10/14/25       | 2.29                           | ng/L            | N/A  | MCL=10                           | Released into the environment from widespread use in commercial and industrial applications                                     |
| Notes  |                  |                |                                |                 |      |                                  |   |
| <p><sup>1</sup> Since we had 2 total coliform-positive routine/repeat samples in the same month, we triggered a Level 1 assessment. This assessment is to assess the coliform contamination and take corrective action against sanitary defects in the water system.</p> <p><sup>2</sup> Turbidity is a measure of the cloudiness of the water. We test it because it is a good indicator of the effectiveness of our filtration system. Our highest single turbidity measurement for the year occurred on 03/26/25 (0.33 NTU). State regulations require that turbidity must always be below 5 NTU. The regulations require that 95% of the turbidity samples collected have measurements below 1.0 NTU.</p> <p><sup>3</sup> Distribution Turbidity is a measure of the cloudiness of the water found in the distribution system. We monitor it as a good indicator of water quality. High turbidity can hinder the effectiveness of disinfectants. Our highest monthly distribution turbidity measurement detected during the year (2.04 NTU) occurred on 03/25/25. This value is below the State's maximum contaminant level (5 NTU).</p> <p><sup>4</sup> The level presented is the 90th percentile of the 10 sites tested. A percentile is a value on a scale of 100 that indicates the percent measurements that is equal to or below it. This means in our system Lead levels in 8 sites are below the 90th percentile value and 1 site is above the 90th percentile. The action level for Lead was not exceeded at any of the sites tested.</p> <p><sup>5</sup> The level presented is the 90th percentile of the 10 sites tested. A percentile is a value on a scale of 100 that indicates the percent measurements that is equal to or below it. This means in our system copper levels in 8 sites are below the 90th percentile value and 1 site is above the 90th percentile. The action level for Copper was not exceeded at any of the sites tested.</p> <p><sup>6</sup> A MCL violation occurs when the annual composite of four quarterly samples or the average of the analysis of four quarterly samples exceeds the MCL.</p> <p><sup>7</sup> The State considers 50 pCi/L to be the level of concern for beta particles</p> |                  |                |                                |                 |      |                                  |   |

## **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.

**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 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 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.

**Non-Detect (N/D):** Concentration of the sample analyzed was below detection levels.

**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).

**Nanogram per liter (ng/L):** Corresponds to one part of liquid in one trillion parts of liquid (parts per trillion-ppt)

**Picocuries per liter (pCi/L):** This refers to the amount of radioactivity in a liter (about a quart) of liquid substance, such as water.

**Non-Applicable (N/A):** Does not apply.

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

The table shows that our system uncovered some problems this year. We found coliforms indicating the need to look for potential problems in water treatment or distribution. When this occurs, we are required to conduct assessment(s) to identify problems and to correct any problems there were found during assessments. During 2025, we were required to conduct one (1) Level 1 Assessment. One (1) Level 1 Assessment was completed. In addition, we were required to take two (2) and we completed two (2) corrective actions. We are required to present the following information on lead in drinking water:

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. *Town of Louisville* 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 Development Authority of the North Country*, at (315) 661-3210. 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>.

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

During 2025, our system was in compliance with applicable State drinking water operating, monitoring and reporting requirements.

## **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 is available on request with the town office or by visiting the following link:

[https://irp.cdn-website.com/608b9c2d/files/uploaded/Lead\\_Service\\_Line\\_Inventory.pdf](https://irp.cdn-website.com/608b9c2d/files/uploaded/Lead_Service_Line_Inventory.pdf)

## **DO I NEED TO TAKE SPECIAL PRECAUTIONS?**

Although our drinking water met or exceeded state and federal regulations, 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 UNREGULATED PERFLUOROALKYL SUBSTANCES**

In 2025 drinking water samples were collected and analyzed with detections of the unregulated perfluoroalkyl substances listed in the table below. Please contact the Development Authority of the North Country at 315-661-3210 with any questions regarding the results.

| Contaminant  | Violation Yes/No | Date of Sample | Average Level Detected (Range) | Unit of Measure | MCLG | Regulatory Limit (MCL, TT or AL) | Likely Source of Contamination  |
|--|------------------|----------------|--------------------------------|-----------------|------|----------------------------------|---|
| <b>Unregulated Perfluoroalkyl Substances<sup>1</sup></b>   |                  |                |                                |                 |      |                                  |   |
| Perfluorobutanoic Acid (PFBA)  | No               | 10/14/25       | 4.24                           | ng/L            | N/A  | MCL= 50,000                      | Released into the environment from widespread use in commercial and industrial applications |
| Notes  |                  |                |                                |                 |      |                                  |   |
| <sup>1</sup> Due to the Emerging Contaminant regulation, sampling of PFOA and PFOS is required. Due to a detection of (PFOA or PFOS), additional sampling required all analytics within the method be reported, in accordance with Footnote 3 of Table 9C, Subpart 5-1. This expanded analysis detected Perfluorobutanoic Acid (PFBA) below the MCL. |                  |                |                                |                 |      |                                  |   |

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

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.
- 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.

**CLOSING**

Thank you for allowing us to continue to provide your family with quality drinking water this year. In order to maintain a safe and dependable water supply we sometimes need to make improvements that will benefit all of our customers. The costs of these improvements may be reflected in the rate structure. Rate adjustments may be necessary in order to address these improvements. 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. Please call our office if you have questions.