

**Annual Drinking Water Quality Report for 2020**  
**Town of Erwin – Morningside Heights Water District**  
**310 Town Center Road, Painted Post, NY 14870**  
**(Public Water Supply ID# NY5001212)**  
**Campbell WD # 2 and #3**  
**(Public Water Supply ID# NY5030109 and NY 5030125)**

## **INTRODUCTION**

To comply with State regulations, Town of Erwin Morningside Heights Water District, 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, 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.

If you have any questions about this report or concerning your drinking water, please contact **our Water Billing Department at (607) 962-7021**. We want you to be informed about your drinking water. If you want to learn more or have questions concerning this report, you may email us at [covidshutdown@erwinny.org](mailto:covidshutdown@erwinny.org), call, or make an appointment to stop by our billing office in the Erwin Town Hall, located at 310 Town Center Road, Painted Post, NY 14870. The office is open Monday through Friday between 9:00 am and 4:00 pm. The Town Board meets the second Tuesday of every month at 7:00 PM. To participate in the Town Board meeting, contact us during business hours via email or telephone.

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

Our water source is a groundwater source consisting of five wells at three different locations. Wells #2 & #3 are located just off of Manning Drive in Gang Mills, Well #4 is located on Canada Road, and two wells, Wells # 5R & #6, are located on along State Route 417 in the Industrial Park. The water is disinfected with a chlorine solution and fluoride is added for the prevention of dental caries. Finally, a polyphosphate is added for sequestering iron and manganese prior to distribution. The Town of Erwin Morningside Heights Water District also supplies the water to the Campbell Water Districts #2 and #3.

## **FACTS AND FIGURES**

Our water system serves approximately 4570 people through 1710 permanent metered connections. The total water produced in 2020 was 273,618,379 gallons. The daily average amount of water pumped and treated was 750,000 gallons, while the maximum amount of water produced in a single day was 1,305,653 gallons. The amount of water delivered to customers was 268,984,970 gallons. Water that did not go to customers was used to flush mains, fight fires and attributed to minor leaks, totaled 4,633,409 gallons (2% of the total amount produced). In 2020, water customers were charged \$1.60 per 100 /cubic feet of water, or \$1.60 for 750 gallons. On average the annual cost per residential household was \$200.

## **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, inorganic compounds, nitrate, nitrite, lead and copper, volatile organic compounds, and synthetic organic compounds.

The table presented below depicts which compounds were detected in your drinking water. 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. It should be noted that 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. **More information about contaminants and potential health effects can be obtained by calling the EPA's Safe Drinking Water Hotline (800-426-4791) or the NYSDOH – Hornell District Office at (607) 324-8371.**

Table of Detected Contaminants							
Contaminant	Violation Yes/No	Date of Sample	Level Detected (Avg/Max) (Range)	Unit Measurement	MCLG	Regulatory Limit (MCL, TT or AL)	Likely Source of Contamination
<b>Inorganic Contaminants</b>							
<b>Barium</b>							
Well#2	No	05/18/18	0.159	mg/l	2	2	Discharge of drilling wastes; Discharge from metal refineries; Erosion of natural deposits.
Well#3	No	08/20/19	0.184				
Well#4	No	05/18/18	0.219				
Well#5R	No	08/20/19	0.241				
Well#6	No	08/11/20	0.118				
<b>Nitrate</b>							
Well #2	No	08/11/20	1.51	mg/l	10	10	Runoff from fertilizer use; Leaching from septic tanks, sewage; Erosion of natural deposits.
Well #3	No	08/11/20	1.50				
Well #4	No	08/11/20	2.24				
Well #5R	No	08/11/20	1.30				
Well #6	No	08/11/20	2.52				
<b>Calcium</b>							
Well #2	No	01/30/18	90.8	mg/l	N/A	N/A	Naturally occurring
Well #3	No	01/30/18	103				
Well #4	No	01/30/18	85.4				
Well #5R	No	01/30/18	60.2				
Well #6	No	01/30/18	60.8				
<b>Nickel</b>							
Well #2	No	4/10/18	< 5.0	Ug/l	N/A	N/A	Dissolution of rocks and soil, atmospheric fallout, biological decays, and from waste disposal.
Well #3	No	8/20/19	0.001	Mg/l			
Well #4	No	4/10/18	< 5.0	Ug/l			
Well #5r	No	8/20/19	0.0017	Mg/l			
Well #6	No	8/11/20	0.0008	Mg/l			
<b>Magnesium</b>							
Well #2	No	01/30/18	16.6	mg/l	N/A	N/A	Naturally occurring
Well #3	No	01/30/18	18.3				
Well #4	No	01/30/18	18.6				
Well #5R	No	01/30/18	11.2				
Well #6	No	01/30/18	12.3				
<b>Total Hardness</b>							
Well #2	No	01/30/18	295	mg CaCO3/L	N/A	N/A	Naturally occurring
Well #3	No	01/30/18	333				
Well #4	No	01/30/18	290				
Well #5R	No	01/30/18	196				
Well #6	No	01/30/18	202				

<b>Sodium</b> Well #4	No	08/11/20	161	mg/l	N/A	N/A	Naturally occurring
<b>Copper (2)</b> -Distribution System	No	06/20/19 – 07/07/19	90 <sup>th</sup> % = 1.12 Range: 0.186 -1.44	mg/l	1.3	AL = 1.3	Corrosion of household plumbing systems; erosion of natural deposits; leaching from wood preservatives.
<b>Lead (1)</b> -Distribution System	No	06/20/19 - 07/07/19	90%=0.0092 Range: < 0.001 – 0.015	mg/l	0.015	AL = 0.015	Corrosion of household plumbing; erosion of natural deposits.
<b>Fluoride</b> Well #2 Well #3 Well #4 Well #5R Well #6	No No No No No	Daily Daily Daily Daily Daily	High Range 1.5 0.4 - 1.5 1.0 0.3 - 1.0 1.3 0.6 - 1.3 1.1 0.5 - 1.1 1.5 0.4 – 1.5	mg/l mg/l mg/l mg/l mg/l	N/A N/A N/A N/A N/A	2.2 2.2 2.2 2.2 2.2	Water additive to promote strong teeth
<b>Chlorine</b> Well #2 Well #3 Well #4 Well #5R Well #6	No No No No No	Daily Daily Daily Daily Daily	Avg. Range 0.81 0.5-1.3 0.58 0.3-1.2 0.91 0.4-1.0 0.48 0.3-1.1 0.77 0.2-1.3	mg/l mg/l mg/l mg/l mg/l	4 4 4 4 4	4 4 4 4 4	Water additive for control of microbes.

**Table of Detected Contaminants**

Contaminant	Violation Yes/No	Date of Sample	Level Detected (Avg/Max) (Range)	Unit Measurement	MCLG	Regulatory Limit (MCL, TT or AL)	Likely Source of Contamination
<b>Inorganic Contaminants</b>							
<b>Total Trihalomethanes</b> Entry Point Samples Well #2 Well #4 Well #6	No No No	02/17/15 02/17/15 08/15/17	1.3 2.3 0.5	ug/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.
<b>Total Trihalomethanes</b> Max Res Time Overbrook & Knollbrook  Woodsview & Fieldview  Town of Campbell Victory Highway (WD#2) Meads Creek (WD#3)	No  No  No No	08/11/20  08/11/20  07/22/19 08/19/19	68.7  31.2  49 67	  ug/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.   

<b>Haloacetic Acids</b>							
Erwin Max Res Time Overbrook & Knollbrook	No	08/11/20	10.0				
Woodsview & Fieldview	No	8/11/20	3.0	ug/l	N/A	60	By-product of drinking water Chlorination
Town of Campbell	No	07/22/19	8.4				
Victory Highway (WD#2) Meads Creek (WD#3)	No	08/19/19	16				
<b>Radiological</b>							
Well #2 Radium 226/228	No	10/08/13	Gross Alpha: 2.21 226: 0.19 228: 0.32	pCi/L	0	Combined Rad 226 & 228: 5	Erosion of natural deposits
Well #3 Radium 226/228	No	8/30/16	Gross Alpha: 0.037 226: 0.309 228: 0.367	pCi/L	0	Combined Rad 226 & 228: 5	Erosion of natural deposits
Well #4 Radium 226/228	No	08/13/19	Gross Alpha: 3.2 226: 0.622 228: 0.455	pCi/L	0	Combined Rad 226 & 228: 5	Erosion of natural deposits
Well #5R Radium 226/228	No No	11/18/14	Avg Gross Alpha: 0.75 Avg 226: 0.34 Avg 228: 0.19	pCi/L	0	Combined Rad 226 & 228: 5	Erosion of natural deposits
Well #6 Radium 226/228	No No	11/18/14	Avg Gross Alpha: 0.88 Avg 226: 0.25 Avg 228: 0.33	pCi/L	0	Combined Rad 226 & 228: 5	Erosion of natural deposits

<b>Table of Detected Contaminants</b>							
<b>Contaminant</b>	<b>Violation Yes/No</b>	<b>Date of Sample</b>	<b>Level Detected (Avg/Max) (Range)</b>	<b>Unit Measurement</b>	<b>MCLG</b>	<b>Regulatory Limit (MCL, TT or AL)</b>	<b>Likely Source of Contamination</b>
Contaminant					MCLG	MCL	Likely Source
Perfluorooctane sulfonic acid (PFOS)	No	11/16/20	3.51	Ng/l	n/a	10	Released into the environment from widespread use in commercial and industrial applications.

**Notes:**

(1) – The level presented represents the 90<sup>th</sup> percentile of the 20 sites tested. The 90<sup>th</sup> percentile is equal to or greater than 90% of the lead values detected at your water system. In this case, 20 samples were collected at your water system and the 90<sup>th</sup> percentile value was the 0.0092 mg/l value. The action level for lead was exceeded at one of the 20 sites tested.

(2) - The level presented represents the 90<sup>th</sup> percentile of the 20 sites tested. The 90<sup>th</sup> percentile is equal to or greater than 90% of the copper values detected at your water system. In this case, 20 samples were collected at your water system and the 90<sup>th</sup> percentile value was the 1.12 mg/l value. The action level for copper was exceeded at one of the 20 sites tested.

**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.

**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.

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

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

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

**Nephelometric Turbidity Unit (NTU)**: A measure of the clarity of water. Turbidity in excess of 5 NTU is just noticeable to the average person.

**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).

**Nanograms per liter (ng/l)**: Corresponds to one part of liquid to one trillion parts of liquid (parts per trillion - ppt).

**Picograms per liter (pg/l)**: Corresponds to one part per of liquid to one quadrillion parts of liquid (parts per quadrillion – ppq).

**Picocuries per liter (pCi/L)**: A measure of the radioactivity in water.

**Millirems per year (mrem/yr)**: A measure of radiation absorbed by the body.

**Million Fibers per Liter (MFL)**: A measure of the presence of asbestos fibers that are longer than 10 micrometers.

## **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?**

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

## **INFORMATION ON RADON**

Radon is a naturally-occurring radioactive gas found in soil and outdoor air that may also be found in drinking water and indoor air. Some people exposed to elevated radon levels over many years in drinking water may have an increased risk of getting cancer. The main risk is lung cancer from radon entering indoor air from soil under homes.

There is currently no standard for the amount of radon in drinking water. For additional information call your state radon program (1-800-458-1158) or call EPA's Radon Hotline (1-800-SOS-Radon).

## **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 FLUORIDE ADDITION**

Our system is one of the many drinking water systems in New York State that provides drinking water with a controlled, low level of fluoride for consumer dental health protection. According to the United States Centers for Disease Control, fluoride is very effective in preventing cavities when present in drinking water at a properly controlled level. To ensure that the fluoride supplement in your water provides optimal dental protection, we monitor fluoride levels on a daily basis to make sure fluoride is maintained at a target level of 0.7 mg/l with a maximum concentration of 2.2 mg/l. During 2020, monitoring showed that fluoride levels in your water had an average concentration of 0.71 mg/l and all concentrations were below the maximum allowable level 100% of the time.

**GENERAL INFORMATION ON LEAD IN DRINKING WATER:**

If present, elevated levels of lead can cause serious health problems, especially for pregnant women, infants, and young children. It is possible that lead levels at your home may be higher than at other homes in the community as a result of materials used in your home's plumbing. The Morningside Heights Water District 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 (1-800-426-4791) or at <http://www.epa.gov/safewater/lead>.

**This report contains important information about your drinking water. Translate it, or speak with someone who understands it.**

**Spanish**

Este informe contiene información muy importante sobre su agua beber. Tradúzcalo ó hable con alguien que lo entienda bien.

**French**

Ce rapport contient des informations importantes sur votre eau potable. Traduisez-le ou parlez en avec quelqu'un qui le comprend bien.

**Korean**

이러의 보고는 귀라에서 드시는 식수에 대한 중요한 정보가 포함되어 있습니다. 번역은 해서드리 아니면 이 보고를 읽은 이래 하시는 분나 알람하시기를 바랍니다.

**Chinese**

這份報告含有非常重要有關您喝的水的資料。請找懂得這份報告的人翻譯或解釋給您聽。

**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 fire fighting 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 up 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 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 moved, you have a leak.

**WATER SYSTEM IMPROVEMENTS**

We made mechanical improvements and performed regular maintenance, replacing parts such as replacing the Well Control valve with a new Check valve at Well #2. We also repainted the outside of both the 1-million-gallon water storage tank and the water storage tank on Route 417 in the Industrial Park. Newly installed radio communications to Well #3 which updated the computer equipment that records data and adjusts operations accordingly for water distribution. We increased security by installing a chain link fence around the Woodbine pumphouse and water storage tank.

**CLOSING**

Thank you for allowing us to continue to provide 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. **Please call our office if you have questions at (607) 962-7021.**

## Annual Water Quality Report Certification Form

Water System Name: Town of Erwin Morningside Heights Water District

Public Water Supply ID #: 5001212

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: James Brarens  
Title: CHIEF WATER PLANT OPERATOR  
Phone #: (607) 962-3483 Date: 3-25-21

**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) Posted in two nursing homes and 4 apartment complexes

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.erwinny.org/AnnualWaterReport.pdf](http://www.erwinny.org/AnnualWaterReport.pdf)

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.erwinny.org/AnnualWaterReport.pdf](http://www.erwinny.org/AnnualWaterReport.pdf)
- 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) \_\_\_\_\_

## INSTRUCTIONS

### Annual Water Quality Report Certification Form

Community Water Systems must submit this Certification Form **by September 1<sup>st</sup>** of each year to the New York State Department of Health in Albany, NY and to the county or district health department office that has jurisdiction over the water system.

The certification must indicate how the water systems Annual Water Quality Report (AWQR) was distributed and that the information within the AWQR is correct and consistent with the compliance monitoring data previously submitted to the overseeing health department.

This Certification Form should be submitted to the New York State Department of Health in Albany:

By mail to:

**NYS Department of Health  
Attn: Roger C. Sokol, Ph.D.  
Director, Bureau of Water Supply Protection  
Corning Tower, Room 1110  
Empire State Plaza  
Albany, NY 12237**

Or electronically to:

**AWQR@health.ny.gov**