

Vail's Grove Cooperative, Inc.

Five Vail Boulevard • Peach Lake
Brewster, New York 10509
(914) 669-5100 • Fax: (914) 669-5064
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2019 was another excellent year for the quality of our drinking water. We pumped and delivered millions of gallons of pristine water to each and every home in our community and our waste water treatment facility located at the north end of Vail's. Unless you have a break in your pipes or we need to take the water "offline" to repair the mains, you just assume the water is just there. It takes a tremendous amount of work to deliver your water to you. From the wells to the tap, we oversee every aspect and function. Our maintenance man, Jay Moore is vital. He oversees and does most of the work related to the delivery system. He tests the water daily. He also tests our generator on a weekly basis. Cindy Battreall, our invaluable office Manager fields all calls and makes sure the lab does the requisite testing monthly and yearly. Cindy ensures our monthly reports are submitted to the Board of Health on time. I compile the monthly statistics and write up the report. I also, compile a yearly report consisting of in depth analysis of our water done by Northeast Laboratories. This report is submitted to the Board of Health.

I am delighted to once again report that our drinking water is wonderful. Our water meets or exceeds the mandated state levels. The water was bacteria free. And, although you sometimes can smell chlorine in the water, I can assure you that the daily levels of detected chlorine are never above the limit. New York state mandates that a certain level of chlorine be present in public water supplies which is known as a "residual." If the residual exceeds 1mg/l, a discernible smell will be present. We need a certain level of residual in our system to be assured that the homes at the farthest end of our water transmission lines are being delivered the same quality water as the rest of the system.

After we treat the water it is stored in 2 large tanks located at the pump house. As demand rises, the water leaves the tanks and goes thru the transmission lines and on to the homes. As the tanks are depleted the wells pump up the untreated water. The water goes thru "raw water" lines into the pump house. The water is treated with chlorine as it's surging through the line. When it enters the tanks the water is mixed. There are baffles in the tanks that causes new water entering to mix with the water that is already in the tank. This assures the "residual" level of Chlorine is a constant. We test the water daily, as it leaves those tanks. The whole process is repeated over and over. A typical day means that an average of 20,000 to 50,000 gallons of water is pumped, treated, stored and delivered to the homes in Vail's. And, in the event of a power failure, we have a back up power supply that kicks in within seconds so that you, the community are guaranteed water no matter what. We consume millions of gallons yearly-That's a lot of water!

Patrick McGuinness will be taking over for me. He has been a vital member of our team. He will oversee the smooth running of our water system. I will continue to be on standby to help with any paperwork, if needed. Please congratulate Pat when you see him.

Every year I ask members of our community to step up and become Licensed. We need motivated people to take the class at Westchester Community College. It takes very little time and it's in the evening. Challenge yourself. Just do it!

As an aside; if Vail's Grove Cooperative had to hire an outside water operator to oversee the water delivery system in our community, it would cost thousands of dollars per year. They would charge for daily testing, overtime for alarm call outs and a hefty sum for submitting all the reports needed by the state. We DO NOT charge for the water. The New York state average cost of water is \$50.81 monthly. 152.43 Quarterly and 609.72 per year. Think about your quarterly dues with an added 152.43.

You have a water meter on your line so that the wastewater plant can charge for wastewater treatment. We see none of that money. So, that's why it's important for volunteers to step up.

I want to thank everyone that has helped me along the way. Jack Waltzer, for his mentorship and faith that I could do it. Cindy Battreal, for always being patient with me when I ask for old reports or anything I need. Jay Moore, for always being there to test the water and oversee the repairs. And Pat McGuinness, for testing the water on the weekends and holidays and graciously stepping into my shoes. I would like to thank The board of directors for allowing me to serve the community. I learned so much. It's just water to you but, to me it was helping my community by getting involved and learning about this precious and vital commodity.

All the best!

Kathleen Heuschkel
NYS water operator-C
NY0039305

To comply with state regulations, Vail's Grove Cooperative annually issues a report describing the quality of your drinking water. The purpose of this report is to raise your understanding of the drinking water and awareness of the need to protect our drinking water sources. We test your drinking water in accordance with the requirements of New York State for numerous contaminants including, total coliform, inorganic compounds, nitrate, nitrite; lead and copper; volatile organic compounds (VOC's); total trihalomethanes; synthetic organic compounds (SOC's) and purgeable organic compounds (POC's). Last year, we conducted tests for contaminants, of which none was a level higher than the state allows.

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. It 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 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.

This Annual Water Quality Report (AWQR) is to keep you informed about the water and services delivered to you during calendar year 2019. The Cooperative's goal is to provide a safe and dependable supply of drinking water. Our water source is from three subterranean bedrock wells (each at an approximate depth of 300 feet) located near the pump house at the North end of Vail's Lakeshore Drive. The water is pumped from the wells into two (2) 25,000-gallon storage ((50,000 gallons total) tanks after chlorination and then pumped to the homes and Pavilion of the Vail's Grove community at between 70 and 80 pounds of pressure per square inch. NY State certifies operators who serve on our Public Health Committee who test chlorine levels daily. During 2019 the wells produced and delivered 8,666,000 gallons of potable water. In 2003, the Department of Health completed a Source Water Assessment Summary and Final report regarding the three wells at Vail's Grove. The full report is available at the Vail's Grove Office should you wish to read it.

For more information or to discuss any drinking water issues, feel free to call us at (914) 669-5100, or you may call the Putnam County department of Health located at One Geneva Road, Brewster, New York 10509 at (845) 803-1370. Kathleen Heuschkel, Vail's Grove "Principal Operator in charge" will also answer any questions on drinking water quality. She may be reached at (845) 612-1851. Patrick McGuinness (Operator) may be reached at (845) 669-5548. J. Moore may be reached at (845) 803-2786/(914) 669-9606. Any issues concerning drinking water quality may also be discussed at our regular monthly board meetings on the 3rd Thursday of each month.

In light of recent terrorist activities, in the event of suspected vandalism or sabotage at the pump house; contact the State Police at (845) 279-6161 or the Putnam County Sheriff's office at (845) 225-4300.

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Vail's Grove Cooperative, Inc. routinely monitors (by a laboratory certified by New York State) for various substances and possible contaminants in our drinking water, according to Federal and State laws and on a schedule as determined by the State of New York. On the New York State schedule, our water is tested for inorganic contaminants, nitrate, nitrite, lead and copper, volatile organic contaminants, synthetic organic contaminants and total trihalomethanes. Our water is tested for coliform bacteria once per month. A coliform violation occurs when a total coliform positive sample is positive for E. coli and a repeat total coliform sample is positive, or when a total coliform positive sample is negative for E. coli, but a repeat coliform sample is positive for total coliforms and E. coli. The MCL for coliforms is 0 per 100 ml.

During the year 2019, there were no positive coliforms bacteria detected. We also monitored for the following: Purgeable Organic Compounds; Nitrates; nitrites; Trihalomethanes; Tetrahalomethanes and disinfectant by-products in drinking water which were all well below allowable limits.

WE ARE PLEASED TO REPORT THAT VAIL'S GROVE DRINKING WATER CONTINUES TO MEET ALL FEDERAL AND STATE REQUIREMENTS. Last year your tap water met all State drinking water health standards. In 2019, our system did not violate a maximum contaminant level (MCL).

Water Conservation

Because of the recent necessity for water conservation, the Board of Directors has approved a rule applicable when the state or either county has imposed a water emergency, water watch, or any other drought condition calling for water conservation. This rule mandates that Vail's Grove residents:

- Will not wash cars
- Will not water their landscape with hoses or sprinklers
- Will not wash down driveways or roadways

Failure to comply with the above will result in an Improper Use Fee by the Board for each occurrence.

We all recognize the need to conserve water during times of drought. It is just as important to use water wisely when the supply is plentiful. Some common sense measures to conserve water include:

- Shut faucets off tightly. A small drip can waste 25 gallons per day.
- Check all toilets for leakage. A bad toilet leak will waste as much as **200 gallons a day.** Don't run the faucet to get a cold drink. Please a container of water in the refrigerator.
- Don't run the faucet while shaving or brushing your teeth.

- Take shorter showers and half-full baths. Install low flow showerheads and faucets.
- Run washing machine and dishwasher only when full. Don't wash dishes under a running faucet.
- Don't cut the lawn too short. Longer grass saves water.
- Mulch around trees and plants to help retain moisture.

Health Considerations

There are some people who maybe more vulnerable to disease causing micro-organisms or pathogens in drinking water than the general population. Immune compromised persons such as persons with cancer undergoing chemotherapy, persons that have undergone organ transplants, people with HIV/AIDS or immune system disorders, some elderly, and infants can be particularly at risk from infections. These people should seek advice about their drinking water from their health care providers. EPA/CDC guidelines on the proper 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.

About Lead

Infants and young children are typically more vulnerable to lead in drinking water than the general population. It is possible that lead in your home maybe higher than other homes in the community as a result of materials used your home's plumbing. If you are concerned about elevated lead levels in your home's water, you may wish to have your water tested and flush your tap for 30 seconds to 2 minutes before using tap water. Don't use hot water for drinking purposes. Additional information is available from Safe Drinking Water Hotline. (800) 426-4791

Definitions:

Maximum Contaminate Level Goal (MCLG):The level of contaminant in drinking water below which there is no known or expected risk to health. MCLG's allow for a margin of safety.

Maximum Contaminate Level(MCL):The highest level of a contaminate that is allowed in drinking water. MCL's are set as close to the MCLG as possible.

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

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

Variances and Exemptions: State permission not to meet an MCL or treatment technique under certain conditions. In 2001 Vail's Grove operated under a waiver from sampling synthetic organic compounds (SOC's). In 2002, SOC's were tested. SOC testing was done again in 2005 and 2011. In 2008, Vail's Grove operated under a waiver from sampling SOC's)

Milligrams per liter (mg/l): Corresponds to one part of liquid in one million parts of liquid (part 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 in one trillion parts of liquid (parts per trillion-ppt).

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

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% lead and copper values detected at your water system.

NDL: No determined limit

ND: None detected

n/d: Not determined in routine laboratory analysis.

N/A: Not Applicable.

LT or <:less than

GT or >: greater than

BDL: Below detectable limits.

Cc: Commissioner, New York State Department of Health
Attn: Director, Bureau of Public Water Supply Protection
Flannigan Square, 547 River Street, Room 400
Troy, New York 12180-2216

Ms. Anne Bittner
Putnam County Health Department
One Geneva Road
Brewster, New York 10509

Northeast Laboratories of Danbury
129 Mill Street
Berlin, Ct 06037-9990

cis-1,2-dichloroethene	5/13/19	ug/L	0.5	ND		
trans-1,2-dichloroethene	5/13/19	ug/L	0.5	ND	same as above	
1,2-Dichloropropane	5/13/19	ug/L	0.5	ND		
1,3-Dichloropropane	5/13/19	ug/L	0.5	ND		
2,2-Dichloropropane	5/13/19	ug/L	0.5	ND		
1,1-Dichloropropane	5/13/19	ug/L	0.5	ND	See Note 1	
cis-1,3-dichloropropene	5/13/19	ug/L	0.5	ND		
trans-1,3-dichloropropene	5/13/19	ug/L	0.5	ND		
Ethylbenzene	5/13/19	ug/L	0.5	ND		
hexachlorobutadiene	5/13/19	ug/L	0.5	ND		
Isopropylbenzene	5/13/19	ug/L	0.5	ND		
Methyl tert-butyl ether, MTBE	5/13/19	ug/L	0.5	ND		
Methylene Chloride	5/13/19	ug/L	0.5	ND		
Napthalene	5/13/19	ug/L	0.5	ND		
n-Propylbenzene	5/13/19	ug/L	0.5	ND		
Styrene	5/13/19	ug/L	0.5	ND		
1,2,3-Trichloropropane	5/13/19	ug/L	0.5	ND		
1,2,3-Trimethylbenzene	5/13/19	ug/L	0.5	ND		
1,1,1,2-Tetrachloroethane	5/13/19	ug/L	0.5	ND		
1,1,2,2-Tetrachloroethane	5/13/19	ug/L	0.5	ND		
Tetrachloroethane (PCE)	5/13/19	ug/L	0.5	ND		
Toluene	5/13/19	ug/L	0.5	ND		
Total Trihalomethanes	5/13/19	---	0.5	9.10		
1,2,3-Trichloropropane	5/13/19	ug/L	0.5	ND		
1,2,4-Trichlorobenzene	5/13/19	ug/L	0.5	ND		
1,1,1-Trichloroethane	5/13/19	ug/L	0.5	ND		
1,1,2-Trichloroethane	5/13/19	ug/L	0.5	ND		
Trichloroethene (TCE)	5/13/19	ug/L	0.5	ND		
1,1,2Trichlorofluoromethane	5/13/19	ug/L	0.5	ND		
1,2,4-trimethylbenzene	5/13/19	ug/L	0.5	ND		
1,3,5-Trimethylbenzene	5/13/19	ug/L	0.5	ND		
Vinyl Chloride	5/13/19	ug/L	ND	ND		
Xylenes (total)	5/13/19	ug/L	10000	0.50		
Sample QC						

Surrogate			QC Limits	
Bromofluorobenzene	5/13/19		70%-11	95
1,2-Dichlorobenzene-d4	5/13/19		70%-11	91

ANNUAL INORGANICS 2019

	Result	Units	Limit	violation
Silver	<0.001	mg/L	0.1	
Arsenic	<0.0005	mg/L	0.01	
Barium	0.119	mg/L	2	
Beryllium	<0.0003	mg/L	0.004	
Calcium	79.7	mg/L		
Cadmium	<0.001	mg/L	0.005	
Chromium	<0.001	mg/L	0.1	
Copper	0.035	mg/L	1.3	
Iron	0.012	mg/L	0.3	
Hardness(caCO3)	285	mg/L		
Mercury	<0.0002	mg/L	0.002	
Magnesium	20.8	mg/L		
Manganese	<0.001	mg/L	0.005	
Sodium	29.1	mg/L		
Nickel	<0.001	mg/L		
Lead	<0.0010	mg/L	0.015	
Antimony	<0.0004	mg/L	0.006	
Selenium	<0.001	mg/L	0.05	
Thallium	<0.0003	mg/L	0.002	
Zinc	0.020	mg/L	5	

Monthly statistics 2019

	Total Gallons	Avg. Gals/day	Avg. Chlorine/day	E.coli detected	Coliforms detected
January	708,000	22,800	0.29	ND	ND
February	680,000	24,280	0.23	ND	ND
March	775,000	25,000	0.27	ND	ND
April	577,000	19,230	0.25	ND	ND
May	604,000	19,480	0.26	ND	ND
June	705,000	23,500	0.28	ND	ND
July	955,000	32,100	0.31	ND	ND
August	817,000	27,200	0.26	ND	ND
September	751,000	25000	0.25	ND	ND
October	695,000	22,400	0.296	ND	ND
November	714,000	23,800	0.29	ND	ND
December	685,000	22,090	0.28	ND	ND
Total	8,666,000				
Avg/day		23907.00	0.27		

