

## Why Save Water And How Do We 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 and save yourself money in the process 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:

- 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.
- Use low flow showerheads and faucets.
- 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 an invisible toilet leak. 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 your lawn sparingly early morning or late evening.
- Wash your car with a bucket and hose with a nozzle.
- Don't cut the lawn too short; longer grass saves water.

# Village of DeRuyter



PO BOX 277  
DERUYTER, NY 13052  
PWS ID#2602373

Nancy Parkhurst, Mayor  
Michael Skeele, Trustee  
Linda Radley, Trustee

Patricia Winters, Clerk/Treasurer  
Village Office Hours:  
Monday, Tuesday, Wednesday  
8AM to NOON

Phone/Fax: 315-852-9625  
Email: [deruytervillage@frontiernet.net](mailto:deruytervillage@frontiernet.net)

John Farewell, Street & Water Dept.  
Superintendent  
Pumphouse 315-852-7408

Village Board meetings are held on the 3<sup>rd</sup>  
Monday of each month at 7PM in the Village  
Clerk's Office.

## Annual Water Quality Report 2008

In compliance with the Safe Drinking Water Act, the Village of DeRuyter is pleased to bring you our 11<sup>th</sup> annual water quality report. The purpose of this report is to inform our customers about the quality of their drinking water. Included are details describing where your water comes from, what it contains, and how it compares to Environmental Protection Agency (EPA) and State standards.

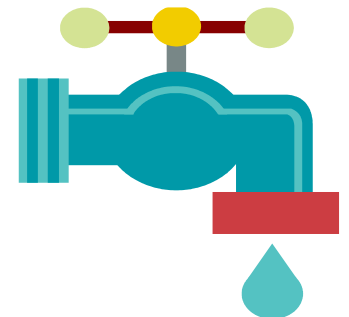
Last year we were required to test for several contaminants including coliform. The results showed that our tap water met all EPA and state drinking water health standards. Your local Water Department vigilantly safeguards its water supplies and we are happy to report that our system has never violated a maximum contaminant level or any other water quality standard. If you have any questions or concerns please contact John Farewell, Water Superintendent at 315-852-7408 or the Madison County Department of Health at 315-366-2526.

Some people may be more vulnerable to contaminants in drinking water than the general population. Immuno-compromised persons such as persons with cancer undergoing chemotherapy, persons with HIV/AIDS or other immune system disorders, some elderly, and infants can be particularly at risk from infections. These people should seek advice about drinking water from their health care providers.

EPA/CDC guidelines on appropriate means to lessen the risk of infections by Cryptosporidium and other microbial contaminants are available from the Safe Drinking Water Hotline (1-800-426-4791).

The sources of drinking water (both tap water and bottles 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 mineral and, in some cases, radioactive material, and can pick up substances resulting from the presence of animals or from human activity. 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 that 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 bottles water which must provide the same protection for public health.



## DeRuyter's Water Supply Facts & Figures

DeRuyter's water supply consists of 245 service connections and serves approximately 643 residents. Water is supplied through two wells located in the village at Smith Park. The first well was drilled in 1940 and the second in 1978. Water is pumped to a 200,000 gallon tank, installed in 1962, located on Paradise Hill Road. The original system is over 100 years old (with many improvements over the years) and consists of over 3 miles of water mains. The two wells are used alternately and produced over 16.04 million gallons of water last year. The average daily production is approximately 44,000 gallons per day or 31 gallons per minute. 79% of the total amount drawn from the wells was billed directly to consumers. The remaining 21% was used for firefighting, hydrant flushing, street sweeping and distribution system leaks. Water treatment is a standard sodium-hypochlorite solution. Water quality has been adequate and there have been no records of water quality problems.



### Village Water Rates

	Minimum Rate Up to 5,999 gallons	6,000 – 39,999 gallons	Over 40,000 gallons
<b>Village Users</b>	\$58.50	\$1.50/1,000 gallons	\$1.38/1,000 gallons
<b>Outside Village Users</b>	\$66.50	\$2.00/1,000 gallons	\$1.88/1,000 gallons
<b>DeRuyter Central School</b>	\$200.00	\$1.50/1,000 gallons	\$1.38/1,000 gallons

**Water bills are mailed out semi-annually in April and October. A family of four can expect to pay approximately \$100.00 per bill.**

The Madison County Planning Department has issued a groundwater/wellhead protection program report for the Village of DeRuyter. Copies of this report are available by contacting the DeRuyter Water Department. In summary, the following recommendations have been made:

- Register petroleum bulk storage tanks with DEC and/or EPA.
- Encourage proper septic maintenance to include pumping every 5 years.
- Notify surrounding planning board of groundwater protection concerns.
- Review surrounding pesticide use, as well as storage and mixing sites.
- Petroleum bulk storage inventory.
- Publicize County household hazardous waste days.
- Environmental Audits of Local Businesses.

### Source Water Assessment Summary

The NYS DOH has completed a source water assessment for this system, based on available information. Possible and actual threats to this drinking water source were evaluated. The state source water assessment includes susceptibility rating based on the risk posed by each potential source of contamination and how easily contaminants can move through the subsurface to the wells. The susceptibility rating is an estimate of the potential for contamination of the source water, it **does not mean** that the water delivered to consumers is, or will become contaminated. See the "Table of Detected Contaminants" for a list of the contaminants that have been detected. The source water assessments provide resource managers with additional information for protecting source waters into the future.

The public water supply serving the Village of DeRuyter is derived from 2 wells. The source water assessment has rated these wells as having a high susceptibility rating for nitrates, and a medium-high susceptibility to industrial solvents, other industrial contaminants, and microbes. These ratings are due primarily to the close proximity of permitted discharge facilities (industrial/commercial facilities that discharge waste water into the environment and are regulated by the state and/or federal government) and land use practices (pastures) identified within the assessment area. Based on submitted data, the wells draw from fractured bedrock and a lower permeability layer exists above the aquifer. Please note that, while the source water assessment rates the wells as being susceptible to microbials, the water is disinfected to ensure that the finished water delivered into your home meets the New York State drinking water standards for microbial contamination.

County and state health departments will use this information to direct future source water protection activities. These may include water quality monitoring, resource management, planning, and education programs. If you should have any questions or would like to review the Source Water Assessment in our offices please contact the Madison County Department of Health at (315)366-2526.

In accordance with State regulations, the Village of De Ruyter routinely monitors your drinking water for numerous contaminants. We test your drinking water for coliform bacteria, asbestos, inorganic chemicals, nitrates, sodium, total trihalomethanes, volatile organic contaminants, synthetic organic contaminants, radiological contaminants and lead and copper. The table presented below depicts which contaminants were detected in your drinking water. The state allows us to monitor for certain contaminants less than once per year because the concentration of these contaminants are not expected to vary significantly from year to year. Therefore some of the data, though representative of the water quality, is more than one year old.

### TABLE OF DETECTED CONTAMINANTS

Contaminant	Violated Yes/No	Latest Sample	Lead Level (rainwater)	Unit Measurement	Max	Regulatory Limit (MCL or A)	Likely Source of Contaminant
<b>Inorganic Contaminants</b>							
Nitrate	No	7/12/08	27	mg	10	MCL=10	Fertilizer use, leaking septic tanks, sewage disposal
Barium	No	6/22/08	01	mg	20	MCL=20	Natural deposits, pig manure, pyrite, and other minerals
Nitrite	No	6/22/08	3	mg	100	MCL=100	Natural deposits, pig manure, and other minerals
Sulfate	No	3/22/08	32 [1]	mg	na	na	Natural deposits, volcanic ash, and other minerals
<b>Lead</b>	No	6/12/08	24 [2] (11-6)	mg	0	A=5	Corrosion of lead pipes, lead solder, and lead paint
<b>Copper</b>	No	6/12/08	0.19 [3] (0.13-37)	mg	13	A=13	Corrosion of copper pipes, copper solder, and copper fittings
<b>Disinfection Byproducts</b>							
Total Trihalomethanes (TTHM)	No	8/16/07	13	mg	na	8	Byproduct of drinking water disinfection, chlorination, and chloramination
Total Dissolved Aesthetics (TAA)	No	8/16/07	29	mg	na	6	Byproduct of drinking water disinfection, chlorination, and chloramination

[1] Water containing more than 20 mg/l should not be used for drinking by people on severely restricted sodium diets. Water containing more than 270 mg/l of sodium should not be used for drinking by people with moderately restricted sodium diets.  
 [2] The level presented represents the 90<sup>th</sup> percentile of the 10 sites tested. The action level for lead was not exceeded at any of the sites tested.  
 [3] This level represents the 90<sup>th</sup> percentile of the 10 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 90<sup>th</sup> percentile is equal to or greater than 90% of the copper values detected in our system. In this case, 10 samples were collected and the 90<sup>th</sup> percentile value was 0.190 mg/l. Of those 10 sites, none exceeded the action level for copper.

“See back for definitions of terms used in this table”

## “Definitions of terms used in table”

**Maximum Contaminant Level Goal (MCLG):** The level of a contaminant in drinking water below, which there is not known or expected risk to health. MCLG’s allow for a margin of safety.

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

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

**Milligrams per liter (mg/l):** Corresponds to one part of liquid in one million parts of liquid. (parts per million or ppm)

**Micrograms per liter (ug/l):** Corresponds to one part of liquid in one billion parts of liquid. (parts per billion or ppb)

**PCi/l-** Picocuries per liter: A measure of radioactivity in water.

**MRDL-** Maximum Residual Disinfectant Level- The highest level of disinfectant allowed.

**MRDLG-** Maximum Residual Disinfectant Level Goal- The level of drinking water disinfectant below which there is no known or expected risk to health. MRDLG’s do not reflect the benefits of the use of disinfectants to control microbial contaminations.

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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 New York State requirements. We are required to present the following 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 Village of De Ruyter 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>.