

# *Town of Dix*

Town Hall – 304 Seventh Street, Watkins Glen, NY 14891

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Town Clerk, Extn. 201

Administration, Extn. 202

Code Enforcement, Extn. 205

January 27, 2017

Town of Dix Water Customers:

Attached is a notice from New York State Department of Health regarding our Total trihalomethanes (TTHM) violation for the third and fourth quarter of 2016.

The Town of Dix is currently working with the Village of Watkins Glen, New York State Department of Health and an engineer and the Town is slowly hearing back on the funding applications processed in 2016.

You do not need to use an alternative water supply (e.g., bottled water).

If you have any questions you can contact Catherine Rees at the Department of Health, her number is 607-324-8371. You can also contact the Town of Dix at 607-535-7973 ext.202

Town of Dix  
Water Administration

**New York State Department of Health**

107 Broadway  
Hornell, NY 14843  
Phone: 607-324-8371

**NOTICE OF VIOLATION**

This public water supply is required to collect quarterly total trihalomethane (TTHM) water samples. These samples are to be analyzed by a New York State approved laboratory and the results submitted to the New York State Department of Health. The results are calculated as a Running Annual Average (RAA) for the previous twelve months.

Water sample results for total trihalomethanes taken for the 3<sup>rd</sup> quarter of 2016 in the Town of Dix exceeded the maximum contaminant level (MCL) allowed for these contaminants. The MCL for total trihalomethanes is 80 ug/L.

The results collected were as follows:

Date of Sample	Total trihalomethanes	RAA
August 16, 2016	116.0 ug/L	82.5 ug/L

Trihalomethanes are a group of chemicals that includes chloroform, bromoform, bromodichloromethane, and chlorodibromomethane. Trihalomethanes are formed in drinking water during treatment by chlorine, which is the most commonly used disinfectant in New York State. Chlorine reacts with certain acids that are in naturally-occurring organic material (e.g., decomposing vegetation such as tree leaves, algae or other aquatic plants) in surface water sources such as rivers and lakes. The amount of trihalomethanes formed in drinking water during disinfection can change from day to day, depending on the temperature, the amount of organic material in the water, the amount of chlorine added, and a variety of other factors. Drinking water is disinfected by public water suppliers to kill bacteria and viruses that could cause serious illnesses. For this reason, disinfection of drinking water by chlorination is beneficial to the public health.

Some studies suggest that people who drink chlorinated water (which contains trihalomethanes) or water containing elevated levels of trihalomethanes for long periods of time may have an increased risk for certain health effects. For example, some studies of the people who drank chlorinated drinking water for 20 to 30 years show that long term exposure to disinfection by-products (including trihalomethanes) is associated with an increased risk for certain types of cancer. A few studies of women who drank water containing trihalomethanes during pregnancy show an association between exposure to elevated levels of trihalomethanes and small increased risks for low birth weights, miscarriages and birth defects. However, in each of the studies, how long and how frequently people actually drank the water, as well as how much trihalomethanes the water contained is not known for certain. Therefore, we do not know for sure if the observed increases in risk for cancer and other health effects are due to trihalomethanes or some other factor. The individual trihalomethanes chloroform, bromodichloromethane and dibromochloromethane cause cancer in laboratory animals exposed to high levels over their lifetimes. Chloroform, bromodichloromethane and dibromochloromethane are also known to cause effects in laboratory animals after high levels of exposure, primarily on the liver, kidney, nervous system and on their ability to bear healthy offspring. Chemicals that cause adverse health effects in laboratory animals after high levels of exposure may pose a risk for adverse health effects in humans exposed to lower levels over long periods of time.

The Town of Dix has been awarded a NYS Water Grant for Storage Tank modifications for TTHM Removal. At this time, no additional precautions by customers or residents are necessary. If you have any questions, please contact the City of Hornell at 607-535-7973.

SYSTEM NAME Town of Dix

TIME FRAME POSTED: 1/20/17

SIGNATURE *Krista Quinn*

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Hornell, NY 14843  
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Water sample results for total trihalomethanes taken for the 4<sup>th</sup> quarter of 2016 in the Town of Dix exceeded the maximum contaminant level (MCL) allowed for these contaminants. The MCL for total trihalomethanes is 80 ug/L.

The results collected were as follows:

Date of Sample	Total trihalomethanes	RAA
November 8, 2016	Not analyzed *	80.6 ug/L

\*Due to a laboratory error; therefore, the RAA was calculated on the last three quarters.

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SIGNATURE *Christie Peir*