

## Table of Detected Contaminants

### Turbidity at Entry Point

Contaminant	Water Source	Violation Yes / No	Sampling frequency (highest reading)	Average Level found (Range)	Units Measured	MCLG	Regulatory Limit (MCL, TT, or AL)	Lowest % of Monthly tests meeting limit	Likely Source of Contamination
Turbidity	Otisco	No	Every 4 hrs (Aug-12)	0.06 (.03 -.12)	NTU	N/A	TT = 0.3 NTU for systems that filter	100%	Soil run off
	Ontario	No	Every 4 hrs (Jul-12)	0.06 (.03 -.11)	NTU	N/A	TT = 0.3 NTU for systems that filter	100%	
	Skaneateles	Yes*	Every 4 hrs (Dec-11)	0.52 (.11-18.49)	NTU	N/A	MCL = 5.0 NTU for systems that don't filter	N/A	

#### About Turbidity:

Customers of the Onondaga County Water Authority (OCWA) get their water from one of three sources. Water may originate from Otisco Lake, which is treated by OCWA itself, Lake Ontario which is treated by the Metropolitan Water Board (MWB) and sold to OCWA, or Skaneateles Lake which is treated by the Syracuse Water Department and also sold to OCWA. Customers may also get a mixture of these waters.

Water purveyors are required to measure **turbidity** as water leaves their plants. Turbidity is a measure of the cloudiness of water. Turbidity is monitored because it is a good indicator of water quality. High turbidity can hinder the effectiveness of disinfectants. Treatment plants that filter also measure it because it is a good indicator of filter efficiency. Otisco Lake and Lake Ontario waters are filtered. Skaneateles Lake water is not.

**\*Treatment Technique Violation for Turbidity;** On December 21, 2012, because of high winds, the turbidity levels entering the City of Syracuse's intake exceeded the maximum allowable standard of 5 Nephelometric Turbidity Units (NTU). Turbidity levels reached 18.49 NTU's on this date. Notification of this event was made to the public and to the Onondaga County Health Department .

**Health Effects of Turbidity:** Turbidity has no health effects. However, turbidity can interfere with disinfection and provide a medium for microbial growth. Turbidity may indicate the presence of disease-causing organisms. These organisms include bacteria, viruses, and parasites, which can cause symptoms such as nausea, cramps, diarrhea, and associated headaches. Please pay special attention to the additional statements in this document regarding Cryptosporidium.