

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	6/7/2020	0.10	NTU	N/A	TT = 0.3 NTU for systems that filter	100%	Soil run off
	Otisco	No	Every 4 hrs	100 % < 0.3	NTU	N/A	TT = 0.3 NTU for systems that filter	100%	
	Ontario	No	11/16/2020	0.087	NTU	N/A	TT = 0.3 NTU for systems that filter	100%	
	Ontario	No	Every 4 hrs	100 % < 0.3	NTU	N/A	TT = 0.3 NTU for systems that filter	100%	
	Skaneateles	Yes*	12/23/2020	41.38	NTU	N/A	TT = 5.0 NTU for systems that do not 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, Lake Ontario, or Skaneateles Lake which is treated by the Syracuse Water Department and 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.

Our highest single turbidity measurement for the year at the Otisco Lake treatment plant occurred on 6/7/20 (0.10 NTU). Our highest single turbidity measurement for the year at the Lake Ontario treatment plant occurred on 11/16/20 (0.087 NTU). State regulations required that turbidity must always be less than or equal to 1.0 NTU. The regulations require that 95 % of the turbidity samples collected have measurements below 0.3 NTU. The levels recorded at both treatment plants were within acceptable range allowed and did not constitute a treatment technique violation.

***Treatment Technique/MCL Violation for Turbidity;** On November 15, 2020 and November 16, 2020, due to sustained southerly 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 23.37 NTU and triggered one MCL Violation (2 day exceedance). Additionally, on November 22, 2020 the turbidity level was 19.67 NTU and on December 23, 2020 the turbidity level was 41.38 NTU. Both of these dates had a one day exceedance of the maximum allowable turbidity and resulted in two Treatment Technique Violations. Notification of each of these events 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.