Oneida Nation Water Utility

Annual Drinking Water Report 2026

Each year, the Oneida Water Utility provides its customers with an annual Water Quality Report to offer a snapshot of Oneida's drinking water quality and letting you know how the Utility works to stay in compliance with drinking water standards. The Oneida Water Utility is part of the Oneida Division of Public Works. The same team who works on your drinking water also works with the Oneida Wastewater Facility. The Oneida Utilities Team provides safe drinking water and environmentally safe wastewater treatment for the Oneida Nation's citizens and utility customers through routine testing, maintenance, environmental advocacy and continuous education.

WHERE DOES OUR WATER COME FROM

Oneida Utility customers located within the Ridgeland water supply receive their water from 2 groundwater wells in Oneida. The service area includes Skylark Drive, Shawnee Road, E & EE, and Daniel Court.

The ground water is pushed up to a pump house where it is treated with chlorine. The chlorine disinfects the water from various viruses and bacteria that may be present – this protects against microbial contamination of the drinking water and keeps the drinking water clear. Chlorine levels are monitored daily and tested weekly to ensure healthy treatment of the water.

HEALTH INFORMATION

Drinking water, including bottled water, may reasonably be expected to contain small amounts of some contaminants. The presence of contaminants does not necessarily indicate that water poses a health risk. More information about contaminants and potential health effects can be obtained by calling the Environmental Protection Agency's Safe Drinking Water Hotline at (800) 426-4791.

DETECTED CONTAMINANTS

Your water was tested for many contaminants last year. Most water monitoring testing occurs every three (3) years, except for annual reporting for nitrates and trihalomethanes, monthly reporting for total coliform bacteria, and weekly residual chlorine reporting. This report lists only those contaminants which were detected in your water and have enforceable standards assigned to them. Enforceable standards consider safe levels for human consumption for various contaminants; the standards could be in the form of either a

Health Advisory Level (HAL) or a Secondary Maximum Contaminant Level (SMCL), or both. Health Advisory Levels identify at which concentration levels contaminants in drinking water present health risks. Secondary Maximum Contaminant Levels are levels that do not present health concerns but may pose aesthetic problems such as objectionable taste, odor or color.

The following tables list contaminants which were detected in your water and that have either a Health Advisory Level (HAL) or a Secondary Maximum Contaminant Level (SMCL), or both. Test results that were "negative" or showed "no detected levels" of contaminants are not reported in these tables. If the contaminant was not monitored last year, but was detected within the past 5 years, it will appear in the tables on the next page along with the sample date.

RIDGELAND

Skylark Drive • Shawnee • EE & E • Daniel Ct.

PWSID# 55295704

Definitions

Units are in milligrams per liter (mg/L) unless otherwise noted. Milligrams per liter are equivalent to parts per million (PPM)

MCL : Maximum Contaminant Limit	**AL: Action Level**	**ND: Not Detected**
MFL : Million Fibers per liter	**PPM : Parts Per Million**	**PPB : Parts Per Billion**
J : Joules	**pCi/L: stands for picocuries per liter**	

CONTAMINANTS – TESTED 2023

PARAMETERS	MCL (mg/L)	LEVEL	TYPICAL SOURCE OF CONTAMINANTS
Fluoride	4.0	1.4 mg/L	Erosion of natural deposits, water additive which promotes strong teeth, & discharge from fertilizer
Nitrate	10	<0.044 mg/L	Runoff from fertilizer use, leaching from septic tanks, sewage, & erosion of natural deposits
Iron	0.3	0.979 mg/L	Natural existence in underground rock formation and precipitation water that infiltrates through these formations.
Hardness	n/a	262 mg/L	Dissolved calcium and magnesium the end product of dissolving limestone from soil and rock materials.

INORGANIC CONTAMINANTS – TESTED IN 2025

PARAMETERS	MCL OR AL (mg/L)	DETECTED LEVEL (mg/L)	TYPICAL SOURCE OF CONTAMINANTS
Fluoride	4.0	0.090	Erosion of natural deposits, water additive which promotes strong teeth, and discharge from fertilizer.
Nitrate	10	<0.044	Runoff from fertilizer use, leaching from septic tanks, sewage, and erosion of natural deposits.
Asbestos (MFL)	7	ND	Decay of Asbestos Cement Water Mains; erosion of natural deposits.
Antimony	0.006	ND	Discharge from petroleum refineries, fire retardants, ceramics, electronics and solder.
Arsenic	10	ND	Erosion of natural deposits; runoff from orchards; runoff from glass and electronics production wastes.
Barium	2.0	0.080	Discharge of drilling wastes; discharge from metal refineries; erosion of natural deposits.

INORGANIC CONTAMINANTS – TESTED IN 2025 CONTINUED			
Beryllium	0.004	ND	Discharge from metal refineries and coal-burning factories; discharge from electrical, aerospace, and defense industries.
Cadmium	0.005	ND	Corrosion of galvanized pipes; erosion of natural deposits; discharge from metal refineries; runoff from waste batteries and paints.
Chromium	0.1	ND	Discharge from steel and pulp mills; erosion of natural deposits.
Cyanide	0.2	ND	Discharge from steel or metal factories; discharge from plastic and fertilizer factories.
Mercury	0.002	ND	Erosion of natural deposits; discharge from refineries and factories; runoff from landfills; runoff from cropland.
Nickel	0.1	0.002	Naturally occurring in soil.
Selenium	0.05	ND	Discharge from petroleum and metal refineries; erosion of natural deposits; discharge from mines.
Thallium	0.002	ND	Leaching from ore-processing sites; discharge from electronics, glass, and drug factories.

LEAD AND COPPER – TESTED 2025						
TYPICAL SOURCE OF CONTAMINANTS – LEAD/COPPER - Corrosion of household plumbing systems; erosion of natural deposits						
PARAMETERS		**SAMPLING LOCATION RESULTS IN mg/L**				
	MCL or AL (mg/L)	**Skylark 1**	**CTY Trunk EE**	**Shawnee Dr**	**Cty Truck E1**	**Cty Truck E 2**
Lead	0.015	0.0017	0.0067	0.0016	0.0035	0.00039
Copper	1.300	0.0545	0.139	0.141	0.105	0.0147

MICROBIOLOGICAL – TESTED 2026			
PARAMETERS	**MCL**	**DETECTED LEVEL**	**TYPICAL SOURCE OF CONTAMINANTS**
Total Coliform Bacteria (Safe/Unsafe)	0	0	Naturally present in the environment

RADIOACTIVE CONTAMINANTS – 2025			
PARAMETERS	**MCL**	**DETECTED LEVEL**	**TYPICAL SOURCES OF CONTAMINANTS**
Total Radium 226 & 228 Activity	5	2.74 pCi/L	Erosion of natural deposits
Gross Alpha	15	12.3 pCi/L	Erosion of natural deposits

TRIHALOMETHANES DISINFECTION BY-PRODUCTS – TESTED 2025			
PARAMETERS	**MCL**	**DETECTED LEVEL (ppb)**	**TYPICAL SOURCE OF CONTAMINANTS**
Total Trihalomethanes (TTHMs)	80	0.0178 mg/L	By-product of drinking water chlorination
Total Haloacetic Acids (HAA5)	60	0.0065 mg/L	By-product of drinking water chlorination

VOLATILE ORGANIC CONTAMINANTS – TESTED IN 2025				
PARAMETERS	**LOD (mg/L)**	**MCL (mg/L)**	**DETECTED LEVEL (mg/L)**	**TYPICAL SOURCE OF CONTAMINANTS**
Benzene	0.11	0.005	ND	By-products of industrial processes and petroleum production, and can also come from gas stations, urban storm water runoff, and septic systems
Carbon tetrachloride	0.19	0.005	ND	Same as above
1,2-Dichlorobenzene	0.32	0.6	ND	Same as above
1,4-Dichlorobenzene	0.29	0.075	ND	Same as above
1,2-Dichloroethane	0.13	0.005	ND	Same as above
1,1-Dichloroethene	0.14	0.007	ND	Same as above
Cis-1,2-Dichloroethene	0.15	0.07	ND	Same as above

VOLATILE ORGANIC CONTAMINANTS – TESTED IN 2023 CONTINUED				
Trans-1,2-Dichloroethene	0.11	0.1	ND	Same as above
Dichloromethane	0.38	0.005	ND	Same as above
1,2-Dichloropropane	0.16	0.005	ND	Same as above
Ethylbenzene	0.21	0.07	ND	Same as above
Chlorobenzene	0.20	0.1	ND	Same as above
Styrene	0.19	0.1	ND	Same as above
Tetrachloroethene	0.49	0.005	ND	Same as above
Toluene	0.17	1.0	ND	Same as above
1,2,4-Trichlorobenzene	0.28	0.07	ND	Same as above
1,1,1-Trichloroethane	**0.15**	**0.2**	ND	Same as above
1,1,2-Trichloroethane	0.21	0.05	ND	Same as above
1,1,2-Trichloroethene	0.17	0.05	ND	Same as above
Vinyl chloride	0.087	0.002	ND	Same as above
Xylene (total)	0.73	10.0	ND	Same as above

The Oneida Nation Water Utility has no violations for detections of contaminants that exceed Health Advisory Levels, Ground Water Standards or Secondary Maximum Contaminant Levels.

PARTICIPATION IN VOLUNTARY EPA STUDY FOR LEAD AND COPPER SERVICE LINE INVENTORY.

Oneida Nation Water Utility participated in conducting a Ridgeland Community Water System Lead and Copper Service Line Inventory. The purpose of this inventory is to identify all lead service lines in a public water system's service area, both tribally owned, and customer owned. Oneida compiled an inventory of 35 public water connections. Every service line either owned by the Oneida Nation Utilities public water system or privately owned has been classified as non-lead. The methods used to make this determination are (select or add the methods you used and delete those you did not use):

1. Construction records and plumbing codes, such as local ordinances, international plumbing codes, permits for replacing lead service lines
2. Water system records, such as capital improvement plans, standard operating procedures, engineering standards
3. Distribution system inspections and records, such as distribution system maps, tap cards, service line repair/replacement records, inspection records, meter installation records
4. Potholing, or visual inspections at the meter pit
5. Inspection during meter repair, line replacement, or main repair

The Oneida Nation Water Utility has no Lead Service Lines, Galvanized requiring replacement or any unknown service lines.

PARTICIPATION IN VOLUNTARY EPA STUDY FOR UNREGULATED CONTAMINANTS (PFAS)

The Oneida Nation Water Utility participated in a voluntary study with the EPA related to PFAS. PFAS are contaminants of emerging concern that are not yet regulated. Unregulated contaminants are those for which EPA has not established drinking water standards. The purpose of unregulated contaminant monitoring is to assist EPA in determining the occurrence of unregulated contaminants in drinking water and whether future regulation is warranted. Perfluoroalkyl and polyfluoroalkyl substances (PFAS) are a large group of human-made chemicals that have been used in industry and consumer products worldwide since the 1950s. These chemicals are all around us in water bottles, fast food wrappers, toilet paper, rain jackets, the list goes on and on.

There are no detectable levels of PFAS in the drinking water provided by the Oneida Nation Water Utility.

The first samples for PFAS were collected by the EPA as part of the voluntary study in December 2022. Although there are currently no detectable levels of PFAS in the drinking water provided by the Utility, PFAS is all around us, so the Nation will continue monitoring PFAS in Oneida's drinking water to ensure our water remains safe for consumption.

More information about PFAS can be found here: https://www.epa.gov/pfas.

The EPA's DRAFT PFAS regulations: https://www.regulations.gov/document/EPA-HQ-OW-2022-0114-0027.

IMPORTANT INFORMATION

Some people may be more vulnerable to contaminants in drinking water than the general population. Immuno-compromised persons, such as those with cancer undergoing chemotherapy, individuals who have undergone organ transplants, people with HIV/AIDS or other immune system disorders, some elderly, and infants, can be particularly at risk from infection and should seek advice about drinking water from their health care providers. Contact the EPA/Center for Disease Control for guidelines on appropriate means to lessen the risk of infection by microbial contaminants from the Environmental Protection Agency's Safe Drinking Water Hotline at 800-426-4791.

Trihalomethanes – Because Oneida's drinking water system is a chlorinated well system, the water may contain trihalomethanes. Trihalomethanes (THMs) are the result of a reaction between the chlorine used for disinfecting water and natural organic matter in the water. At elevated levels, trihalomethanes have been associated with negative health effects such as cancer and adverse reproductive outcomes. The utility's water is sampled and tested annually to ensure trihalomethanes remain within acceptable levels.

Lead – Lead can cause serious health effects in people of all ages, especially pregnant people, infants (both formula-fed and breastfed), and young children. Lead in drinking water is primarily from materials and parts used in service lines and in home plumbing. Oneida Nation Utilities is responsible for providing high quality drinking water and removing lead pipes but cannot control the variety of materials used in the plumbing of private homeowners.

Lead levels may vary over time, lead exposure is possible even when your tap sampling results do not detect lead at one point in time. You can help protect yourself and your family by identifying and removing lead materials within your home plumbing and taking steps to reduce your family's risk. Using a filter, certified by an American National Standards Institute accredited certifier to reduce lead, is effective in reducing lead exposures. Follow the instructions provided with the filter to ensure the filter is used properly. Use only cold water for drinking, cooking, and making baby formula.

Boiling water does not remove lead from water. Before using tap water for drinking, cooking, or making baby formula, flush your pipes for several minutes. You can do this by running your tap, taking a shower, doing laundry or a load of dishes. If you have a lead service line or galvanized requiring replacement service line, you may need to flush your pipes for a longer period.

If you are concerned about lead in your water and wish to have your water tested, contact Oneida Nation Utilities at (920) 496-5290. Information on lead in drinking water, testing methods, and steps you can take to minimize exposure is available at https://www.epa.gov/safewater/lead.

Radium – Radium is radioactive and is found in small quantities in nature. Radium is a decay product of uranium and thorium. In addition to occurring naturally in the environment, radium may also be released into the environment by human activity. Exposure to radium over a period of many years may result in an increased risk of some types of cancer, particularly lung and bone cancer. Higher doses of radium have been shown to cause effects on the blood (anemia), eyes (cataracts), teeth (broken teeth), and bones (reduced bone growth). The Oneida Water Utility regularly monitors radium levels in our drinking water and the radium levels in our water are beneath well beneath the levels at which radium drinking water notices are required (when levels are detected at 5 parts per billion or greater). Still, because radium is naturally occurring in ground water, there will likely always be *some* radium in the Oneida Utility drinking water.

During the monitoring period of June 1st, 2025, through September 30th, 2025, the Ridgeland water system failed to complete or report required Lead and Copper Rule tap monitoring within the required time frame. Monitoring is required to ensure that lead and copper levels in drinking water remain below EPA action levels. Because the required monitoring was not completed or reported on time, we cannot be certain of the water quality during that monitoring. The required monitoring was completed, and compliance was achieved on December 3rd, 2025, this violation was related to monitoring requirements and was not the result of exceeding the EPA action level for lead or copper.

FUTURE DEVELOPMENTS

The Oneida Nation Water Utility already provides excellent drinking water and we are always looking towards future developments that can improve the quality of our water. As we have reported in previous annual reports, the Nation continues to work with Indian Health Services to build a new drinking water well located on King Lane. The construction of this well is mindful of the radium levels naturally occurring in our water supply. Our new well will have a media filter that is highly effective at removing most of the radium and iron when the new well is complete. The Nation will stop using the existing wells that currently serve this drinking water system as the primary water source, although, they may be relied upon as a backup water source as needed. We are looking forward to integrating this new well into our water system to enhance the quality of our drinking water and we will continue to provide updates as the project progresses!

If you have any questions regarding the quality of your water or billing purposes, please don't hesitate to call John Nicholas Utilities Manager at 920-496-5290 or email: jnichol4@oneidanation.org or visit 3783 W. Mason St Oneida WI 54155 between the hours of 8 A.M. and 4 P.M (the Utility is closed from 12 PM to 1 PM).