

Pound Road Association Water Quality Report – 2005

<p>What is the water quality of my drinking water? The testing performed by the Association, as required by the Environmental Protection Agency and the NH Department of Environmental Services, shows that the water provided to our consumers exceeds all current requirements for safe water.</p>
<p>What is the source of my water? The water supplied by the Association is from a groundwater source. It is pumped from a single well. The water flows from the well to a storage tank, and is then transferred by a booster pumps to a hydropneumatic storage tank. The water is not treated.</p>
<p>Why are contaminants in my water? Drinking water, including bottled water, may reasonably be expected to contain at least small amounts of 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 (1-800-426-4791).</p>
<p>How can I get involved? The Association holds its annual meeting during the month of April or May. Notification is sent to inform all consumers of specific details involving the meeting. Officers are elected at this time. For questions about the water quality, Water System Operators Inc. can be reached at 428-3525.</p>
<p>Other information: The Association has contracted Water System Operators, Inc. to provide trained and certified professional operators.</p>
<p>Do I need to take special precautions? Some people may be more vulnerable to contaminants in drinking water than the general population. Immunocompromised persons, such as persons with cancer undergoing chemotherapy, persons who have undergone organ transplants, people 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 infection by <i>Cryptosporidium</i> and other microbial contaminants are available from the Safe Drinking Water Hotline (1-800-426-4791).</p>

Definitions: MCLG: Maximum Contaminant Level Goal, or the level of a contaminant in drinking water below which there is no known or expected risk to health. MCLGs allow for a margin of safety. • MCL: Maximum Contaminant Level: The highest level of a contaminant that is allowed in drinking water. They are set as close to the MCLGs as feasible using the best available treatment technology • AL: Action Level, or the concentration of a contaminant which, when exceeded, triggers treatment or other requirements which a water system must follow. • TT: Treatment Technique, or a required process intended to reduce the level of a contaminant in drinking water. MRDLG: Maximum residual disinfectant level goal or the level of a 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 contaminants. MRDL: Maximum Residual Disinfectant Level or the highest level of a disinfectant allowed in drinking water. There is convincing evidence that the addition of a disinfectant is necessary for control of microbial contaminants.

Abbreviations: ppt: parts per trillion • ppb: parts per billion • ppm: parts per million • n/a: not applicable • NTU: Nephelometric Turbidity Unit • MFL: million fibers per liter • nd: not detectable at testing limits * pCi/l: pico curies per liter, a measurement of radioactivity

TEST RESULTS

Contaminant	Violation Y/N	Level Detected/ Range of Detection	Unit Meas.	MCL.G	MCL	Likely Source of Contamination
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Radioactive Contaminants

Radon	No	1800	pCi/l	0	None	Erosion of natural deposits
Gross Alpha	No	8	pCi/l	0	15	Erosion of natural deposits

Inorganic Contaminants

Arsenic	No	1.3	ppb	0	10 (on 1/22/ 04 the MCL was set at 10 ppb with compliance required by 1/23/06)	Erosion of natural deposits; runoff from orchards; runoff from glass and electronics production wastes
Copper	No	0.087	ppm	1.3	AL=1.3	Corrosion of household plumbing systems; erosion of natural deposits; leaching from wood preservatives
Fluoride	No	0.2	ppm	4	4	Erosion of natural deposits; water additive which promotes strong teeth; discharge from fertilizer and aluminum factories
Lead	No	5	ppb	0	AL=15	Corrosion of household plumbing systems, erosion of natural deposits

The sources of drinking water (both tap water and bottled 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 minerals 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**, such as viruses and bacteria, which may come from sewage treatment plants, septic systems, agricultural livestock operations, and wildlife.
- **Inorganic contaminants**, such as salts and metals, which can be naturally occurring or result from urban storm water runoff, industrial or domestic wastewater discharges, oil and gas production, mining or farming
- **Pesticides and herbicides**, which may come from a variety of sources such as agriculture, urban storm water runoff, and residential uses.
- **Organic chemical contaminants**, including synthetic and volatile organic chemicals, which are by-products of industrial processes and petroleum production, and can also come from gas stations, urban storm water runoff, and septic systems.
- **Radioactive contaminants**, which can be naturally-occurring or be the result of oil and gas production and mining activities.

In order to ensure that tap water is safe to drink, EPA prescribes regulations which limit the amount of certain contaminants in water provided by public water systems. The United States Food and Drug Administration (FDA) regulations establish limits for contaminants in bottled water which must provide the same protection for public health.

Health Effects Information:

Radon - Presently, the Environmental Protection Agency is reviewing a proposed standard of 300 pCi/l for radon in drinking water. This review will not be completed until, at the earliest, December of 2005. Radon gas that is inhaled has been linked to lung cancer; however, it is not entirely clear at what level radon in your drinking water contributes to this and other possible carcinogenic effects.

Additional Information:

In 2000, the NH Department of Environmental Services prepared a Source Assessment Report for the source serving this public water system. The results of the assessments are as follows: 1 susceptibility factors were rated high, 2 were rated medium, and 9 were rated low. For more information call Water System Operators, Inc. at (603) 428-3525 or visit NH DES's Drinking Water Source Assessment Program web site at www.des.state.nh.us/dwssp.