

# Pound Road Association

## Water Quality Report – 2009

What is the source of my drinking 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 hydro pneumatic storage tank. The water is not treated.

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.

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 US Environmental Protection Agency's Safe Drinking Water Hotline (1-800-426-4791).

Violations and Other information: 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 meets all current requirements for safe water.

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 trans-plants, 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 Cryptosporidium and other microbial contaminants are available from the Safe Drinking Water Hotline (1-800-426-4791).

### 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 (for water systems that use chlorine).

**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 (for water systems that use chlorine)..

### Abbreviations:

**ppm:** parts per million    **ppb:** parts per billion    **ppt:** parts per trillion    **ppq:** parts per quadrillion    **pCi/L:** pico curies per liter

**NTU:** Nephelometric Turbidity Unit

**NA** – Not applicable    **nd:** not detectable at testing limits    **AL:** Action Level    **TT:** Treatment Technique

**Sample Dates:** The results for detected contaminants listed below are from the most recent monitoring done in compliance with regulations ending with the year 2008. The State of New Hampshire allows water systems to monitor for some contaminants less than once per year because the concentrations of these contaminants do not change frequently. Thus some of the data present, though representative, may be more than one year old.

## DETECTED WATER QUALITY RESULTS

Contaminant (Units)	Level Detected	MCL	MCLG	Violation YES/NO	Likely Source of Contamination	Health Effects of Contaminant
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### Radioactive Contaminants

Uranium (ug/L)	Range nd – 8.2 Average 5.45 Sampled 2005	30	0	No	Erosion of natural deposits	
Combined Radium 226 + 228 (pCi/L)	Range nd – 1.1 Average 0.7 Sampled 2005	5	0	No	Erosion of natural deposits	

### Inorganic Contaminants

Arsenic (ppb)	2 Sampled 2007	10	0	No	Erosion of natural deposits; runoff from orchards; runoff from glass and electronics production wastes	
Barium (ppm)	0.004 Sampled 2007	2	2	No	Discharge of drilling wastes; discharge from metal refineries; erosion of natural deposits	
Chromium (ppb)	2 Sampled 2007	100	100	No	Discharge from steel and pulp mills; erosion of natural deposits	
Copper (ppm)	90 <sup>th</sup> Percentile = 0.057 Sampled 2006	AL=1.3	1.3	No	Corrosion of household plumbing systems; erosion of natural deposits; leaching from wood preservatives	
Fluoride (ppm)	0.2 Sampled 2007	4	4	No	Erosion of natural deposits; water additive which promotes strong teeth; discharge from fertilizer and aluminum factories	
Lead (ppb)	90 <sup>th</sup> Percentile = 3 Sampled 2006	AL=15	0	No	Corrosion of household plumbing systems, erosion of natural deposits	

## **Description of Drinking Water Contaminants:**

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.

Radon: Radon is a radioactive gas that you can't see, taste or smell. It can move up through the ground and into a home through cracks and holes in the foundation. Radon can also get into indoor air when released from tap water from showering, washing dishes, and other household activities. It is a known human carcinogen. Breathing radon can lead to lung cancer. Drinking water containing radon may cause an increased risk of stomach cancer. Presently the EPA is reviewing a standard for radon in water.

## **Source Water Assessment Summary:**

The NH Department of Environmental Services has prepared a Source Water Assessment Report for the source(s) serving this community water system, assessing the sources' vulnerability to contamination. The results of the assessment, prepared during 2000, are as follows:

The source received 1 high susceptibility ratings, 2 medium susceptibility ratings, and 9 low susceptibility ratings.

The complete Assessment Report is available for review at Water System Operators, Inc. For more information call 603/428-3525 or visit NH Department of Environmental Services Drinking Water & Groundwater Bureau web site at <http://des.nh.gov/organization/divisions/water/dwgb/dwspp/reports/part1.htm>.