Consumer Confidence Report

Cabot Preserve

EPA # 0192070

2021

What is a Consumer Confidence Report?

The Consumer Confidence Report (CCR) details the quality of your drinking water, where it comes from, and where you can get more information. This annual report documents all detected primary and secondary drinking water parameters, and compares them to their respective standards known as Maximum Contaminant Levels (MCLs).

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 amounts of certain contaminants in water provided by public water systems. The US Food and Drug Administration (FDA) regulations establish limits for contaminants in bottled water which must provide the same protection for public health.

What is the source of my drinking water? The source of the Cabot Preserve water supply is an interconnection with the Town of Merrimack. The Merrimack Village Water District operates six wells located in Merrimack and Hollis. Wells 2, 3, 4, 5, 7 and 8. Wells 4 and 5 are off-line and will remain so until the Per- and Polyfluoroalkyl Substances (PFAS) Treatment Plant is constructed and operational which was in late November of 2020. Water treatment occurs onsite at each pumping station. Water from all online wells is chlorinated for disinfection. Additionally, Wells 7 and 8 are treated for naturally occurring Iron and Manganese. Once treated, water is pumped to one of the three water storage tanks. Water is distributed through a network of over 175 miles of water mains to homes, businesses and schools. www.mvdwater.org.

Why are contaminants in my water? Drinking water, including bottled water, may reasonably be expected to contain at least 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 1-800-426-4791.

Do I need to take special precautions? Some people may be more vulnerable to contaminants in drinking water than the general population. Immuno-compromised 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 *Cryptosporidium* and other microbial contaminants are available from the Safe Drinking Water Hotline at 1-800-426-4791.

Source Water Assessment Summary Department of Environmental Service (DES) prepared drinking water source assessment reports for all public water systems between 2000 and 2003 in an effort to assess the vulnerability of each of the state's public water supply sources. Included in the report is a map of each source water protection area, a list of potential and known contamination sources, and a summary of available protection options.

Source Name	Date	Low	Med	High
GPW # 3 Camp Sargent Rd.	2002	9	2	1
GPW # 4 MVD	2002	5	4	3
GPW # 5 MVD	2002	5	3	4
GPW # 7 Witches Brook Hollis	2002	9	2	1
GPW # 2A Berry Ln.	2002	9	2	1
GPW # 8 450' SE Well 7 Hollis	2002	9	2	1

Note: This information is over 15 years old and includes information that was current at the time the report was completed. Therefore, some of the ratings might be different if updated to reflect current information. At the present time, DES has no plans to update this data.

The complete Assessment Report is available for review. For more information, call *Matt Day at 800-553-5191* or visit the DES Drinking Water Source Assessment website: https://www.des.nh.gov/climate-and-sustainability/conservation-mitigation-and-restoration/source-water-protection/assessment.

How can I get involved?

For more information about your drinking water, please call our laboratory at 800-553-5191 or send an email to customer-service@pennichuck.com. Although we do not have specific dates for public participation events or meetings, feel free to contact us with any questions you may have.

Health Effects

Lead: If present, elevated levels of lead can cause serious health problems, especially for pregnant women and young children. Lead in drinking water is primarily from materials and components associated with service lines and home plumbing. This water system is responsible for high quality drinking water but, cannot control the variety of materials used in your plumbing components. **When your water has been sitting for several hours, you can minimize the potential for lead exposure by flushing cold water from your tap for at least 30 seconds to 2 minutes before using water for drinking or cooking.** Do not use hot water for drinking and cooking. If you are concerned about lead in your water, you may wish to have your water tested. Information on lead in drinking water, testing methods, and steps you can take to minimize exposure is available from the Safe Drinking Water Hotline at 800-426-4791 or at http://water.epa.gov/drink/info/lead.

Perfluorooctanoic acid (PFOA)
Some people who drink water containing perfluorooctanoic acid (PFOA) in excess of the MCL over many years could experience problems with their liver, endocrine system, or immune system, may experience increased cholesterol levels, and may have an increased risk of getting certain types of cancer. It may also lower a women's chance of getting pregnant.

Definitions

Action Level or **AL:** The concentration of a contaminant which, if exceeded, triggers treatment or other requirements which a water system must follow.

Maximum Contaminant Level or **MCL**: The highest level of a contaminant that is allowed in drinking water. MCLs are set as close to the MCLGs as feasible using the best available treatment technology.

Maximum Contaminant Level Goal or **MCLG:** 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.

Maximum Residual Disinfectant Level or MRDL: The highest level of a disinfectant allowed in drinking water. There is convincing evidence that addition of a disinfectant is necessary for control of microbial contaminants.

Maximum Residual Disinfectant Level Goal or MRDLG: The level of a drinking water disinfectant below which there is no known or expected risk to health. MRDLGs do not reflect the benefits of the use of disinfectants to control microbial contaminants.

Secondary Maximum Contaminant Level or **SMCL**: They identify acceptable concentrations of contaminants which cause unpleasant tastes, odors, or colors in the water.

Abbreviations

DEP: Distribution Enter Point

NA: Not Applicable

ND: Not Detectable at testing limits

pCi/L: picoCurie per Liter

ppb: parts per billion

ppm: parts per million

ppt: parts per trillion

RAA: Running Annual Average

90th Percentile – Out of every 10 homes sampled, 9 were at or below this level

2020 Data

	Year Collected	90th Percentile	Action Level	MCLG	# of Sites Sampled	# Sites Above Action Level	Violation Yes/No	Typical Source of Contaminant
Lead (ppb)	2020	06	15	0	12	0	No	Corrosion of household plumbing system
Copper (ppm)	2020	0.227	1.3	1.3	12	0	No	Corrosion of household plumbing systems, erosion of natural deposits; leaching from wood preservatives

Inorganic Contaminants	Year Collected	Highest Detect	Range Detected	MCL	MCLG	Violation Yes/No	Typical Source of Contaminant
Barium (ppm)	2018-2020	Average 0.05	0.014 – 0.118	2	2	No	Discharge of drilling wastes; discharge from metal refineries; erosion or the natural deposits
Nitrate (ppm)	2020	2.2	ND – 2.2	10	10	No	Runoff from fertilize use; leaching from septic tanks, sewage; erosion of natural deposits
Disinfectants and Disinfection By-Products							
Chlorine (ppm)	Monthly 2020	Average 0.36	ND – 0.93	4-MRDL	4-MRDLG	No	Water additive used to control microbes
Total Trihalomethanes (ppb)	2020	30	NA	80	0	No	By-product of drinking water chlorination
Haloacetic Acids (ppb)	2020	13	NA	60	0	No	By-product of drinking water chlorination

Secondary MCLs (SMCL)	Level Detected	Dates	Treatment technique (if any)	AL (Action Level), SMCL or AGQS (Ambient groundwater quality standard)	Specific contaminant criteria and reason for monitoring
Chloride (ppm)	87.0-434	2018 -2020	N/A	250	Wastewater, road salt, water softeners, corrosion
Iron (ppm)	ND-0.191	2018 -2020	Filtration	0.3	Geological
Manganese (ppb)	ND-51	2018 -2020	Filtration	50	Geological
Nickel (ppm)	ND-0.004	2018 -2020	N/A	N/A	Geological; electroplating, battery production, ceramics
PH (ppm)	5.93-7.40	2018 -2020	N/A	6.5-8.5	Precipitation and geology
Sodium (ppm)	28.3-144	2018 -2020	N/A	100-250	Road salt, septic systems (salt from water softeners) We are required to regularly sample for sodium
Sulfate (ppm)	7.82-36.2	2018 -2020	N/A	250	Naturally occurring
Zinc (ppm)	ND-0.024	2018 -2020	N/A	5	Galvanized pipes

The Merrimack Village Water District has completed their PFAS removal treatment system and the results are very promising. Please visit www.pennichuck.com for the latest Cabot PFAS results.

Per- and Polyfluoroalkyl Substances (PFAS) Contaminants	11/19/20	12/4/19	MCL	MCLG	Violation Yes/No	Typical Source of Contaminant
Perfluorooctanoic acid (PFOA)(ppt)	Treatment House/008 - 11.7 Treatment House/003 – 19.4 DEP/005/011 - ND Finish Water Blend/007/009 – 25.8	Treatment House/008 -17.0 Treatment House/003 – 21 005/011 – off-line Finish Water Blend/007/009 – 18.0	12	0	pending	Discharge from industrial processes, wastewater treatment, residuals from firefighting foam, runoff/leachate from landfills and septic systems
Perfluorooctane sulfonic acid (PFOS)(ppt)	Treatment House/008 – 2.28 Treatment House/003 – ND DEP/005/011 - ND Finish Water Blend/007/009 – 2.06	Treatment House/008 – 2.0 Treatment House/003 – 2.1 005/011 – off-line 007/009 -1.8	15	0	pending	
Perfluorohexane sulfonic acid (PFHxS)(ppt)	Treatment House/008 - ND Treatment House/003 – ND DEP/005/011 - ND Finish Water Blend/007/009 - ND	Treatment House/008 – 0.98 Treatment House/003 – 0.73 005/011 – off-line 007/009 – 1.2	18	0	pending	
Perfluorononanoic acid (PFNA)(ppt)	Treatment House/008 - ND Treatment House/003 – ND DEP/005/011 - ND Finish Water Blend/007/009 - ND	Treatment House/008 – 0.6 Treatment House/003 -0.88 005/011 – off-line 007/009 – 0.52	11	0	pending	

Unregulated Contaminant Monitoring Results: The elements listed in this section are contaminants that do not have a standard set. These contaminants are monitored in order to provide information to the US Environmental Protection Agency, while they conduct evaluation on whether these contaminants should have a standard established.

Contaminant	Results Average	Range	Date	Health Advisory	Possible Source of Contaminant
Chromium (ppb)	0.27	ND – 0.40	2014/2015	100	Found naturally in rock, plants, soil, volcanic dust and animals.
Cobalt (ppb)	0.38	ND – 1.6	2014/2015	1	A natural element found throughout the environment
Molybdenum (ppb)	0.42	ND – 3.5	2014/2015	1	Found naturally in rocks, plants, soil and animals.
Strontium (ppb)	192.8	72.7 - 356	2014/2015	0.3	Naturally occurring element
Vanadium (ppb)	1.58	0.14 – 2.5	2014/2015	0.2	Naturally occurring element
1, 4 Dioxane (ppb)	0.016	ND – 0.056	2014/2015	0.07	Used as a solvent rf solvent stabilizer in manufacturing.
Chlorate (ppb)	71.91	ND - 290	2014/2015	20	Agricultural defoliant or desiccant; disinfection byproducts; and used in production to chlorine dioxide.
Chromium Hexavalent (ppb)	0.15	0.11 - 0.27	2014/2015	100	Agricultural defoliant or desiccant; disinfection byproducts; and used in production to chlorine dioxide.