



**Belmont Water Department's Report
Card on Water Quality – 2013
Consumer Confidence Report**

Spanish (Español)

Este informe contiene informacion muy importante sobre la calidad de su agua potable. Por favor lea este informe o comuniquese con alguien que pueda traducir la informacion.

On August 19, 1999, the US Environmental Protection Agency published the final ruling requiring every community water system (CWS) to prepare and provide customers an annual consumer confidence report (CCR). This rule was mandated by the 1996 amendments to the Safe Drinking Water Act. A CCR is a report card for customers on the quality of the water delivered by the water system. The following is the Town of Belmont's Consumer Confidence Report for 2013.

What is the water quality of my drinking water?

We are pleased to report that our drinking water is safe and meets or exceeds Federal and State requirements.

What is the source of my water?

The water that supplies Belmont comes

from three gravel packed wells located on the Town owned parcel Map 242, Lot 31 on Shaker Road in the area of Pout Pond. GPW 3 came online January 2011 and is an outstanding quality of water source. The water from Well #3 is treated with a 25% solution of Caustic Soda to raise the pH from a natural 6.5 to a neutral 7.1. We also treat for Iron and Manganese with a sequestering agent of Ortho-Polyphosphate. This keeps any unpleasant color or staining from occurring. The iron level of 0.05 is so low we have been able to reduce the levels of treatment substantially at a cost savings to the Department. Wells #1 and #2 are exercised on a monthly basis and are in a backup role only.

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).

How can I get involved?

The Belmont Water Department is under the direct supervision of the Public Works Director Jim Fortin and the Board of Selectmen. Jim Fortin is the operator of the water system and

Donald Hurd provides day-to-day oversight of any maintenance and repair needs. Any emergencies or specific inquiries about our drinking water should be referred to the Water Department at 267-8301. The Water Department is located at Town Hall.

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 person 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 (1-800-426-4791).

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 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.

Source Water Assessment Summary:

The NH Department of Environmental Services has prepared a Source Water Assessment Report for the source(s) serving our community water system, assessing the sources' vulnerability to contamination. The results of the assessment, prepared on April 17, 2000, are as follows:

Number of Vulnerability Rankings

Source Description	Source Type	Highs	Mediums	Lows
GPW 001	G	1	3	8
GPW 002	G	1	2	9
GPW 003 Online 2011	Not Rated			

The complete Assessment Report is available for review at the Belmont Water Department Office. For more information call the Belmont Water Department at 267-8301 or visit NH Department of Environmental Services Drinking Water and Groundwater Bureau web site at

<http://des.nh.gov/organization/division/water/dwgb/index.htm>.

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

Questions should be directed to the Town of Belmont's Water Department at 267-8301 or water@belmontnh.org.

runoff, petroleum products, mining and industrial wastewater. Radioactive materials can occur naturally or can come from oil and gas production and mining.

The quality of Laconia's drinking water is governed by the Safe Drinking Water Act. The U.S. E.P.A. and the NH Department of Environmental Services implement this very important law. It requires all of the nation's water suppliers to meet certain drinking water standards and to monitor the water regularly. If our test results ever violates one of these standards, or if the department ever fails to report water quality data to the state, the Laconia Water Department will alert you promptly and advise you what to do.

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 the water poses a health risk. Some people may be more vulnerable to contaminants in drinking water than the general population. Immuno-compromised people with cancer undergoing chemotherapy, people who have undergone organ transplants, people with HIV/AIDS or other immune system disorders, some elderly, and infants can be particularly at risk of infections. These people should seek advice about drinking water from their health care provider. 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. More information about contaminants and potential health effects can be obtained by calling the EPA's Safe Drinking Water Hotline at 1-800-426-4791.

The Safe Drinking Water Act was passed by the U.S. congress in 1974, and it was updated as recently as 1996. We need your continued help protecting Paugus Bay, our water source.

Laconia Water Dept.

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PERMIT NO. 1

OUR DAILY WATER!

UPDATED

5/28/13

FOR THE YEAR

2012

CONSUMER CONFIDENCE REPORT

LACONIA

WATER DEPARTMENT

How Does Laconia's Water Measure Up?

Laconia's drinking water has met or exceeded the strict standards set by the state of New Hampshire and the United States Environmental Protection Agency. The Laconia Water Department works hard to make sure the water you drink is of the highest quality. This annual report, which covers all of 2012 and previous years, describes the quality of our drinking water, where it comes from, and where you can get more information.

Consumers of the Laconia Water Department receive their drinking water from Paugus Bay, our water source. The water is treated and filtered at our treatment facility located at 117 Stark Street. One of the contaminants we monitor for is turbidity. Turbidity is a measure of cloudiness in the water. It is monitored because it is a good indicator of the quality of the water, and the potential for interfering with our disinfection process. The turbidity readings indicate how well our filtration process is working to reduce the turbidity levels. The chemicals used to ensure safe drinking water are Sodium Hypochlorite (disinfection), Sodium Hydroxide (ph control), Aluminum Sulfate (coagulation), Sodium Fluoride (dental care), and Zinc Orthophosphate (corrosion control).

Generally, sources of drinking water include rivers, lakes, streams, natural springs and wells. As water travels over the surface of the land or under the ground, it dissolves naturally occurring minerals and radioactive material. It also picks up substances left by animal or human activity as it travels to its destination. For instance, microbial contaminants may come from sewage treatment plants, septic tanks, livestock operations and wildlife. Pesticides and herbicides come from agricultural runoff and excess residential use. Other contaminants come from urban

Carefully follow instructions on pesticides and herbicides you use for your lawn and garden, and properly dispose of household chemicals, paints, and waste oil.

Fertilizers can contaminate surface and groundwater. The phosphorus and nitrogen in fertilizers are nutrients that not only promote grass growth, but also promote excessive growth of algae in surface water. This reduces the clarity of the water and ultimately threatens survival of fish and other aquatic life. Since phosphorus is a nutrient which can most adversely effect New Hampshire's water bodies, proper use and application of fertilizer is extremely important. The Conservation Shoreland Protection Act prohibits the use of all fertilizers except limestone within 25 feet of the reference line of public waters. Twenty five feet beyond the reference line, low phosphate, slow release nitrogen fertilizer or limestone may be used.

The NH Department of Environmental Services completed a drinking water source assessment report for our water department. Included in the report is a map of our water protection area, a description of our water system, a list of potential contaminant sites (which we inspect on a tri annual basis), and a high-medium-low susceptibility rating for our raw water source. The ratings were low = 5, medium = 5, and high = 3. The three high susceptibility areas were two for MTBE detection (recreational watercraft and within our wellhead protection area), and roadways within 1,000 feet of our intakes (the possibility of accidental spills). It should be noted that all of our MTBE Test results for the last 7 years were below detection limits. The main purpose of this report is to show us what vulnerabilities are within our source waters and what we can do to minimize them. Being that the report is extensive, we will keep a report at our business office at 988 Union Avenue for our customers to look over.

Test Results

CONTAMINANT	VIOLATION	LEVEL DETECTED/	UNIT MEASURED	MCLG	MCL	LIKELY SOURCE OF CONTAMINATION
Microbiological Contaminants						
Total Coliform	N	0	100 ml	0	0	Naturally present in the environment
E. coli	N	0	100 ml	0	0	Human and animal fecal waste
Turbidity	N	.06	NTU	n/a	.3	Soil runoff
Volatile Contaminants						
TTHM (STAGE 1)	N	RAA = 50	ug/L		80	Byproduct of drinking water chlorination
TOC RAW	N	RAA = 2.2	ppm		TT	Byproduct of drinking water chlorination naturally present in the environment
TOC FILTERED	N	RAA = 1.6	ppm		TT	
HAA5 (STAGE 1)	N	RAA = 19	ug/L		60	Byproduct of drinking water disinfection
Inorganic Contaminants						
Lead (2011)	N	<.005 Average	mg/L	0	AL=15	Erosion of natural deposits
Copper (2011)	N	.02 Average	mg/L	1.3	AL=1.3	Corrosion of household plumbing
Nitrate	N	BDL	ppm	10	10	Runoff from fertilizer use; leaching from septic tanks, sewage; erosion of natural deposits
Nitrite	N	BDL	ppm	1	1	Same sources as Nitrate
Fluoride	N	.69 Average	ppm	4	4	Erosion of natural deposits; water additive which promotes strong teeth; discharge from fertilizer and aluminum factories

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TT: Treatment Technique, or a required process intended to reduce the level of a contaminant in drinking water.

Abbreviations

BDL: Below Detection Limit

mg/L: Milligrams Per Liter

HAA5: Haloacetic Acids

NTU: Nephelometric Turbidity Unit

ppm: Parts Per Million

TTHM: Total Trihalomethane

TOC: Total Organic Carbon

ug/L: Micrograms Per Liter

RAA: Running Annual Average

Due to the concerns of adding fluoride to drinking water, the EPA has notified state agencies requesting that public water suppliers who fluoridate their drinking water to reduce the levels to an optimal level of .70 mg/l. The acceptable level is .60 - .80.

All infant formulas, either concentrates or ready-to-feed, have some fluoride, but most infant formula manufacturers develop their products to ensure low levels of fluoride. A recent study by the American Dental Association (ADA) confirmed that fluoride concentrations in commercially available infant formulas are very low. It is not possible to remove this small amount of fluoride by filtering or boiling the formula; however, at normal consumption amounts, infant formula alone does not contain fluoride at levels that would be higher than the daily upper limit established by the Institute of Medicine. In liquid or powdered infant formula concentrate, the majority of fluoride comes from the water used to mix the formula. Some parents may choose bottled water. To learn more, check out the CDC's *Bottled Water and Fluoride* and FDA's website <http://www.fda.gov/ForConsumers/ConsumerUpdates/ucm203620.htm>.

The new lower level of fluoride being added is safe for infants and all other ages. If you have any questions, please contact the NH Division of Public Health at 603-271-4535.

Our water department has created a website detailing information about our business operation. To get to our website, just type in "Laconia Water Department" on the internet page of your computer and it will take you to our site.

For more information about Laconia's drinking water, please call Seth Nuttelman, Superintendent, at 524-0901 or Floyd Dungenman, Water Quality Control Supervisor, at 524-1096. The Laconia Water Department's Board of Water Commissioners generally meet each 2nd and 4th Thursday of each month at 8:00 a.m. at the Water Treatment Facility, 117 Stark Street. The meetings are open to the public.