



**Belmont Water Department's Report  
Card on Water Quality – 2014  
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 2014.

**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. We are pleased to report this year that the Phase II Waterline replacement project was completed in 2014 and the Water Meter

Replacement Project which was funded in 2014 has been completed as of the printing of this report. Also completed in 2014 was the Water Department Asset Management Program. The brochure outlining the results of the project is available at [www.belmontnh.org](http://www.belmontnh.org). Your cooperation was greatly appreciated during each of these vital projects. Work has begun to review options for the replacement of Well #1. Your Water Department has been very pro-active in the past several years to improve infrastructure and plan for the future needs of the community.

**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

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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/divisions/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. • II: 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

**System Name: Belmont Water Department      EPA ID: 0201010**  
**Summary of Activity for 2014 Report**

**VIOLATIONS**

VIOLATIONS	Date of violation	Explain violation	Length of violation	Action taken to resolve	Health Effects (Env-Dw 811.21)
Total Coliform Rule	8/8/2014 9/16/2014	Presence of coliform bacteria		Subsequent sampling was completed; notice was distributed via mail to the public dated 8/15/2014 and 9/25/2014 and posted on our website.	Coliforms are bacteria that are naturally present in the environment and are used as an indicator that other; potentially-harmful, bacteria may be present. Coliforms were found in more samples than allowed and this was a warning of potential problems.

\*\* If a violation occurred, or you failed to install adequate filtration or disinfection, you must include this statement: "Inadequately treated water may contain disease causing organisms. These organisms include bacteria, viruses, and parasites which can cause symptoms such as nausea, cramps, diarrhea, and associated headaches."

**DETECTED WATER QUALITY RESULTS**

Contaminant (Units)	Level Detected <i>(please list date sampled if prior to current reporting year)</i>	MCL	MCLG	Violation YES/NO	Likely Source of Contamination	Health Effects of Contaminant
<b>Microbiological Contaminants</b>						
Total Coliform Bacteria	08/06/14 Location 001 Present	< 40 samples >1 is positive	0	Y	Naturally present in the environment	Coliforms are bacteria that are naturally present in the environment and are used as an indicator that other potentially-harmful, bacteria may be present. Coliforms were found in more samples than allowed and this was a warning of potential problems.
	08/08/14 Location 002 Present			Y	Naturally present in the environment	
	08/08/14 Location 001, 011 Absent					Coliforms are bacteria that are naturally present in the environment and are used as an indicator that other potentially-harmful, bacteria may be present. Coliforms were found in more samples than allowed and this was a warning of potential problems.
	9/16/14 Location 012, 011, 002 Present					
	9/16/14 Location 007,					

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	001 Absent 10/01/2014 Location 007, 012, 011, 002, 001 Absent 11/06/14 Location 013, 001 Absent 12/02/14 Location 013, 001 Absent					
<b>Radioactive Contaminants</b>						
Compliance Gross Alpha (pCi/L) <b>GPW #3</b>	3/2011: ND 7/2011: .6 10/2011: .7 12/2011: .7	15	0		Erosion of natural deposits	Certain minerals are radioactive and may emit a form of radiation know as alpha radiation. Some people who drink water containing alpha emitters in excess of the MCL over many years may have an increased risk of getting cancer.
Combined Radium 226 + 228 (pCi/L) <b>GPW #3</b>	3/2011: ND 7/2011: .1 10/2011: .1 12/2011: .5	5	0		Erosion of natural deposits	Some people who drink water containing radium 226 or 228 in excess of the MCL over many years may have an increased risk of getting cancer.
<b>Inorganic Contaminants</b>						
Arsenic (ppb)	11/2013 GPW #2: .0010 11/2014 GPW #1: ND	10	0		Erosion of natural deposits; runoff from orchards; runoff from glass and electronics production wastes	(5 ppb through 10 ppb) While your drinking water meets EPA's standard for arsenic, it does contain low levels of arsenic. EPA's standard balances the current understanding of arsenic's possible health effects against the costs of removing arsenic from drinking water. EPA continues to research the health effects of low levels of arsenic, which is a mineral known to cause cancer in humans at high concentrations and is linked to other health effects such as skin damage and circulatory problems.  (above 10 ppm) Some people who drink water containing arsenic in excess of the MCL over many years could

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Contaminant (Units)	Level Detected <i>(please list date sampled if prior to current reporting year)</i>	MCL	MCLG	Violation YES/NO	Likely Source of Contamination	Health Effects of Contaminant
						experience skin damage or problems with their circulatory system, and may have an increased risk of getting cancer.
Barium (ppm)	11/2013 GPW #2: .0293 3/2013 GPW #3: .0081 11/2014 GPW#1 .0083	2	2		Discharge of drilling wastes; discharge from metal refineries; erosion of natural deposits	Some people who drink water containing barium in excess of the MCL over many years could experience an increase in their blood pressure.
Copper (ppm)	Route 3 Sampling June 2011 – result .027 .Village System Sampling April 2013 – result .166	AL=1.3	1.3		Corrosion of household plumbing systems; erosion of natural deposits; leaching from wood preservatives	Copper is an essential nutrient, but some people who drink water containing copper in excess of the action level over a relatively short amount of time could experience gastrointestinal distress. Some people who drink water containing copper in excess of the action level over many years could suffer liver or kidney damage. People with Wilson’s Disease should consult their personal doctor.
Lead (ppb)	Route 3 Sampling June 2011- result .004  Village System sampling April 2013 – result .0	AL=15			Corrosion of household plumbing systems, erosion of natural deposits	(15 ppb in more than 5%) Infants and young children are typically more vulnerable to lead in drinking water than the general population. It is possible that lead levels at your home may be higher than at other homes in the community as a result of materials used in your home’s plumbing. If you are concerned about elevated lead levels in your home’s water, you may wish to have your water tested and flush your tap for 30 seconds to 2 minutes before using tap water. Additional information is available from the Safe Drinking Water Hotline (800-426-4791). (above 15 ppb) Infants and children who drink water containing lead in excess of the action level could experience delays in their physical or mental development. Children could show slight deficits in attention span and learning abilities. Adults who drink this water over many years could develop kidney problems or high blood pressure.
Nitrate (as Nitrogen) (ppm)	11/2014 GPW #1: .37 11/2014 GPW #2: .85	10	10		Runoff from fertilizer use; leaching from septic tanks, sewage; erosion of natural deposits	(5 ppm through 10ppm) Nitrate in drinking water at levels above 10 ppm is a health risk for infants of less than six months of age. High nitrate levels in drinking water can cause blue baby syndrome. Nitrate levels may rise quickly for short

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	3/2013 GPW #3: .33					periods of time because of rainfall or agricultural activity. If you are caring for an infant, you should ask for advice from your health care provider. (Above 10 ppm) Infants below the age of six months who drink water containing nitrate in excess of the MCL could become seriously ill and, if untreated, may die. Symptoms include shortness of breath and blue baby syndrome.
<b>Synthetic Organic Contaminants including Pesticides and Herbicides</b>						
<b>Volatile Organic Contaminants</b>						
o-Dichlorobenzene (ppb) <b>1,2 Dichlorobenzene-D4</b>	11/2012 GPW#1: 89 11/2012 GPW#2: 90 1/2012 GPW#3: 91	600	600		Discharge from industrial chemical factories	Some people who drink water containing o-dichlorobenzene well in excess of the MCL over many years could experience problems with their liver, kidneys, or circulatory systems.
<b>4- Bromofluorobenzene</b>	1/26/2012 GPW #3: 86 11/8/2012 GPW #1: 90 11/8/2012 GPW #2: 82					