

# Consumer Confidence Report

## East Penacook Road

### Community Water System (CWS)

#### 2022

#### 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).

NOW IT COMES WITH A  
LIST OF INGREDIENTS.



**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, 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 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 East Penacook Road Community Water System is supplied by a well which is located on the easternmost portion of the town's property (approximately 150 acres) that also contains the MSW Facilities and capped municipal sanitary landfill. The well is "up-gradient" of the closed landfill, approximately 4,000 feet east of the Transfer Station, and is 1,540 feet deep.**

*The East Penacook Road Community Water System has a sophisticated arsenic removal system. The water is conditioned with sodium hypochlorite (bleach) which converts this contaminant to an easily removable molecular form. The PH of the water is then adjusted by simple food grade Carbon Dioxide to further optimize the process. Finally the arsenic is removed by adsorbent resin. Arsenic must be below 0.01 parts per million to meet drinking water regulations. There is no detectable arsenic at all in the water entering the distribution system.*

**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 po-

tential 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

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.

The East Penacook Road Community Water System was constructed in 2010 and 2011. The overall area of this site has been subjected to extensive groundwater investigation since 1980. The culmination of this data was used by the Town's Engineering Firm (Nobis Engineering, inc.) in conjunction with recommended well-sitting practices to evaluate this site. The specific location of the well was approved by the New Hampshire Department of Environmental Services subject to all of the usual conditions. The well testing, additional water quality testing, system design, and inspections were all also approved by NHDES.

**Note:** At the present time, DES has no plans to update existing Source Water Assessments. However, the well site area is in the immediate proximity of the Town's Groundwater Management Zone which is monitored regularly. The community well has its

own specific testing program which has been developed by DES's drinking water division with additional input from the waste management division.

For technical information, testing data, or questions about the operation of the East Penacook Road CWS contact Town Administrator Neal Cass or call town of Hopkinton Water/Sewer department at 603 746-8261. For general questions and comments contact Neal Cass, Town of Hopkinton, Administrator.

#### **How can I get involved?**

The operation of the East Penacook Road CWS is managed as part of the Town of Hopkinton's established managerial process.

The Landfill Committee oversees the operation, maintenance, and planning on an ongoing basis and makes recommendations to the Boards of Selectmen (Hopkinton & Webster) who are ultimately the responsible decision-making parties.

The expenses for the operation of the CWS are in the Solid Waste Budget (4325). This budget is developed by the department, goes on to the Hopkinton Board of Selectmen for finalization, is subjected to review by the Hopkinton Budget Committee, and is then voted on at the Annual Town Meeting.

All agendas and Minutes for the above committees and Boards are posted on the Town of Hopkinton website.

**Violations and Other information:** *The East Penacook Road CWS had a violation in December of 2016 for inadvertently forgetting to take the required monthly bacteria test. A passing test was taken, Public Notice was given, and the action was certified to NHDES which satisfied the violation requirements.*

**Definitions:** A table is not being provided because there were no violations. The following definitions are used to describe contaminants when they are listed in a table.

**Ambient Groundwater Quality Standard or AGQS:** The maximum concentration levels for contaminants

in groundwater that are established under RSA 485-C, the Groundwater Protection Act.

**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.

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

**Turbidity:** A measure of the cloudiness of the water. It is monitored by surface water systems because it is a good indicator of water quality and thus helps measure the effectiveness of the treatment process. High turbidity can hinder the effectiveness of disinfectants.

#### **Abbreviations**

BDL: Below Detection Limit

mg/L: milligrams per Liter

NA: Not Applicable

ND: Not Detectable at testing limits

NTU: Nephelometric Turbidity Unit

pCi/L: picoCurie per Liter

ppb: parts per billion

ppm: parts per million

RAA: Running Annual Average

TTHM: Total Trihalomethanes

UCMR: Unregulated Contaminant Monitoring Rule

ug/L: micrograms per Liter

*THE FOLLOWING APPLIES if these contaminants are present - see table for detected levels.*

#### **Drinking Water Contaminants:**

**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 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 or at <http://water.epa.gov/drink/info/lead/index.cfm>

**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.