

# Hinsdale Water & Sewer Department

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June 2, 2014

## CONSUMER CONFIDENCE REPORT

**(Hinsdale Water Department North)  
(Hinsdale Water Department Down Town)  
2013**

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 (MCL).

If there are any questions please call me at 336-5715

Sincerely,

Dennis J. Nadeau



Water & Sewer Superintendent

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Town of Hinsdale Water & Sewer Department  
112 River Road P.O. Box 72  
Hinsdale NH. 03451

# Hinsdale NH Water Quality Report CCR – 2013

**The source of drinking water** (both tap water and bottled water) include river, 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 pick up substances resulting from the presence of animal 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 system, agricultural livestock operations and wildlife. **Inorganic contaminants**, such as salts and metals, which can be naturally occurring or results from urban storm 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 results 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) regulation establish limits for contaminants in bottled water which must provide the safe production for the public health.

**What is the source of my water?** (1 gravel and 3 Gravel Packed Wells.)  
# 2 Gravel Well Installed 1956 off Meetinghouse Road. (North Hinsdale) Site 502  
# 3 Gravel Packed Well Installed 1988 off Meetinghouse Road. (North Hinsdale) Site 503  
# 4 Gravel Packed Well Installed 1988 off Glen Street. (Downtown) Site501  
# 5 Gravel Packed Well Installed 1988 off Glen Street. (Downtown) Site501

The new Gravel Packed well #5 Installed in 2012 (North Hinsdale) is know on line as the main supply well for the North Hinsdale system.

**We add to the water:**

**Chlorine at a dose of .20 to .30 ppm to keep the water free of bacteria. (Disinfection)**

**A blended Ortho/polyphosphate at a dose of 1ppm this will help to keep the water system clean.**

**Sodium Hydroxide solution to raise the PH of the water to 7 at this point the water is neutral. (Non corrosive)**

**Why are there Contaminants in my water?**

Drinking water, including bottled water, may reasonably be expected to contain at least small amount of some contaminants. The presents of contaminants dose not necessarily indicate that the 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)

**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 for infections. These people should seek advice from 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)

#### **Source Water Assessment Summary:**

The New Hampshire Department of Environmental Services has prepared a Source Assessment Report for the sources serving this public water system assessing their vulnerability to contamination. The results of the assessment, completed in 2001 using (12) Susceptibility Ranking Criteria are as follows. At the present time, DES has no plans to update this data.

For North Hinsdale well #5 EPA ID # 002, two rated high, two rated medium and eight rated low.

For North Hinsdale well #3 EPA ID # 003, two rated high, two rated medium and eight rated low.

For Downtown well # 4 EPA ID # 001, three rated high, three rated medium and six rated low.

For Downtown well # 5 EPA ID # 002, three rated high, three rated medium and six rated low.

The complete assessment report is available for inspection at the Water Department office. For more information, call Dennis Nadeau at 336-5715 or visit NH DES Drinking Water Source Assessment website at <http://des.nh.gov/organization/division/water/dwgb/dwspp/dwsap.htm>.

Copies of all water quality factors as required by the State of New Hampshire can be obtained at the Water Department office at 112 River Road or by calling 336-5715.

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

Please if you have any questions about this report, about the town water system, and for public participation opportunities, public meeting information please call Dennis Nadeau at 336-5715.

#### **Radon:**

Radon is a radioactive gas that you can't see, taste or smell. It can move up through the ground and into homes through cracks and holes in the foundations. 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 EPA is reviewing a standard for radon in water.

#### **Copper:**

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.

#### **(MTBE) Methyl tertiary-butyl ether**

The New Hampshire Bureau of Health Risk Assessment considers MTBE a possible human carcinogen.

#### **Definitions:**

**MCLG: Maximum Contaminant Level Goal:** 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. MCLs are set as close to the MCLGs as feasible using the best available treatment technology.

**AL: Action Levels:** 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.

The Hinsdale Water Department constantly monitors the water supply for various contaminants. We have detected Nitrate in the finished water supply in (2) out of (2) samples tested.

**Nitrate (as Nitrogen): Likely Source of Contamination** - Runoff from fertilizer use, leaching from septic tanks, sewage; erosion of natural deposits.

Site # 501	0.21 ppm	Sample Date 12/1/13	The MCL for Nitrate is 10 ppm <b>(ppm = parts per million)</b>
Site # 503	1.1 ppm	Sample Date 12/9/13	
Site # 505	0.82 ppm	Sample Date 2/26/13	

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**Copper: Likely Source of Contamination** - Corrosion of household plumbing system; erosion of natural deposits; leaching from wood preservatives.

20 samples taken in December of 2013 Samples ranged from < 0.020 ppm to 0.63 ppm  
**(ppm = parts per million) The AL: and MCLG: for copper is 1.3**

**Lead: Likely Source of Contamination** - Corrosion of household plumbing; erosion of natural deposits.

20 samples taken in December of 2013 Sample ranged from <0.001ppm to 0.002 ppm  
**Action level for Lead is 0.015 ppm The MCLG is 0**

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**MTBE: Likely Source of Contamination** - A gasoline additive

Site # 501	<0.5 ug/L	Sample Date	12/9/13	
Site # 503	<0.5 ug/L	Sample Date	12/9/13	
Sample Dates	2/26/13	5/15/13	9/23/13	12/10/13
Site # 505	<0.5 ug/L	<0.5 ug/L	<0.5 ug/L	<0.5 ug/L

**(ug/L = one millionth of a gram per liter)**

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The Hinsdale Water Department is pleased to inform our water users that our drinking water is safe and meets all State and Federal requirements.

Sincerely,



Dennis J. Nadeau

# Is Gasoline Contaminating Your Drinking Water?

Gasoline is one of the most dangerous products commonly found around the home, yet people often store and use it with little care. Some of the chemicals in gasoline have been found in drinking water with increasing frequency, including benzene, toluene, and MtBE (methyl t-butyl ether), which is *easily dissolved in water* and is a possible carcinogen. Even gasoline spills as small as a gallon can contaminate your drinking water wells or a public water supply.

## To Protect Your Drinking Water from Gasoline

### 1. Avoid Spilling Gasoline on the Ground, Especially Near Wells

- Don't drain gasoline from lawn mowers, snow blowers, etc. onto the ground.
- Don't burn brush with gasoline.
- Don't top off your fuel tank.
- Keep refueling and engine work away from water supply wells, if possible over a concrete floor or similar barrier, and immediately clean up any gas or oil spills.

### 2. Avoid Spilling Gasoline in Lakes, Ponds, and Rivers

- Refuel snowmobiles and ice augers on shore; do not take gasoline storage tanks onto ice-covered ponds.
- Fill portable tanks from outboard boat engines on shore.
- If you own a larger boat, make sure it has no-spill tank vents.
- Keep special gasoline-absorbing pads on your gas-powered boat; know how to use them.

### 3. Store Gasoline Properly

- Use a clearly labeled container made for gasoline, with a spout to avoid spills.
- Keep gasoline containers in a dry, well-ventilated shed or detached garage away from water supply wells. Don't keep metal gasoline cans on a dirt floor for extended periods.

### 4. Dispose of Waste Gasoline Properly

- Handle old or dirty gasoline as hazardous waste. Bring it to a household hazardous waste collection center in a proper gasoline container.

## If a Spill Occurs

For *any size* spill that is not immediately cleaned up, call the NH Department of Environmental Services (DES) emergency petroleum spill number (271-3644) *immediately* for instructions. The DES line is answered weekdays from 8:00 A.M. to 4:00 P.M.; at other times talk to DES's on-call spill response specialist by dialing the NH State Police at 1-800-346-4009. For more gasoline safety tips or information about testing your well water, call DES at 271-2975.



# Clean Drinking Water Is Up To You!

**W**here does your drinking water come from?

Your drinking water comes from groundwater. Groundwater is the water that flows through the spaces between soil particles and through fractures in rock. It comes from rain and snowmelt percolating through the ground.

**W**hy should you be concerned?

While some pollutants (such as bacteria, viruses, and phosphorus) can be reduced by passing through soil under certain conditions, groundwater can be easily contaminated by chemicals and oils. Surface water is also affected by soil and pollutants picked up as water flows over land.

## Household Hazardous Chemicals

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Automotive fluids  
Auto batteries  
Used motor oil  
Paint  
Paint thinner  
Other solvents  
Pesticides  
Cleaning products

**W**hat can you do to protect your drinking water?

**Do** use non-toxic and less-toxic alternatives to household chemicals such as cleaners, oil-based paints, and insecticides.

**Do** take leftover household chemicals to your town's household hazardous waste collection day.

**Do** follow package directions on pesticides, fertilizers, and other household chemicals.

**Do** check your underground fuel storage tank (USTs) frequently for leaks. Have an UST removed if it is more than 20 years old; replace it with aboveground storage that has a concrete slab underneath it and a cover over it.

**Do** take care of your septic system.

- Inspect the septic tank every year and have it pumped out every three years or when the combined thickness of sludge and scum equals 1/3 or more of the tank depth.

**Do** avoid damage to your leach field and distribution lines by keeping vehicles, livestock, and other heavy objects off the leach field.

**Don't** buy more hazardous chemicals than you need.

**Don't** dispose of hazardous chemicals by pouring them down the drain or onto the ground.

**Don't** over-use household chemicals. More is not better.

**Don't** have your underground fuel storage tank removed by a contractor who is not familiar with new State guidelines for UST removal.

**Don't** overload your septic system with solids by using a garbage grinder (unless the system was specifically designed for a grinder).

**Don't** pour chemicals down the sink or toilet.

**Don't** use septic system cleaners or additives containing acids or chemical solvents such as trichloroethylene (TCE).

**Reduce - Reuse - Recycle**

For more information about what you can do, call the Drinking Water Source Protection Program at 271-1168 or see our website at [www.des.state.nh.us/dwspp/swpp.htm](http://www.des.state.nh.us/dwspp/swpp.htm)