



MEREDITH WATER DEPARTMENT ANNUAL DRINKING WATER QUALITY REPORT 2007

Meredith Water Department
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MISSION STATEMENT

To provide products and services of uncompromising value to the community by operating a public utility system that is economically sound, environmentally responsible, operationally reliable, and customer responsive.

VISION STATEMENT

To meet or exceed customer expectation in fiscal responsibility, customer service, water quality, and environmental protection

VALUE STATEMENT

Community commitment to enhance the quality of life for Meredith Residents.

This handout is based on the Consumer Confidence Report (CCR) regulations were published by the US Environmental Protection Agency (USEPA).
The CCR rule is the first EPA rule that addresses the public's right-to-know provisions of the 1996 SDWA Amendments.

Introduction

The 1996 amendment to the Safe Drinking Water Act requires an annual compliance report summarizing violations issued to Public Water Systems. The annual compliance report is submitted to the Environmental Protection Agency and is also made available to the public.

The WSEB (Water Supply Engineering Bureau) has completed a source water assessment for Meredith Municipal Water System, and community. The complete assessment report is available for inspection at the Meredith Water Department, or visit NH DES Drinking Water Assessment Program Web Site at WWW.DES.STATE.NH.US/DWSPP.

The purpose of this is to summarize the number and type of violations that public water systems receive as a result of failing to meet various requirements of the Safe Drinking Water Act. Meredith Water Department vigilantly safeguards its water supply and quality. Last year your tap water met all Environmental protection Agency and State drinking water health standards. In the past 26 years the Safe Drinking Water Act (SDWA) has been highly effective in protecting public health, and has also evolved to respond to new and emerging threats to safe drinking water. Disinfecting of drinking water is one of the major public health advances in the 20th century. However the disinfectants themselves can react with naturally occurring materials in the water to form unintended by-products, which could pose a health risk. While disinfectants are effective in controlling many microorganisms they react with natural organic and inorganic matter in source water and distributed systems to form DBP (Disinfectants By-Products).

Dear Customer

The Town of Meredith NH is fortunate in having Lake Waukevan as natural surface water supply located close to the center of town. We are proud to be your water supplier and will continue to inform you of our on-going efforts to provide you with the safest highest quality water we can.

Meredith drinking water is treated with Chlorine (Calcium Hypo chloride) for disinfection and Alum for coagulation, which removes the small particles in the water that you can't see. Sodium Phosphate is used to raise the PH of the water to a more neutral state and Zinc Orthophosphate is added to the distribution system for corrosion control.

Turbidity is naturally occurring soil run off, which includes leaves, soil and other matter. Turbidity is a measure of cloudiness of the water. Turbidity values are used because it is the most ideal indicator of water quality; furthermore, turbidity values are used to measure the potential for interference with respect to the filtration system's ability to disinfect the water supply. The Turbidity of Meredith's drinking water ranges from 0.08 to 0.20 NTU'S (Nephelometric Turbidity). State of NH Department Environmental Services allowance is 0.30 NTU. We continually verify high quality by performing daily, monthly and yearly tests. These tests allow the Meredith Water Department, the New Hampshire Department of Environmental Services, and the Federal EPA to monitor for contaminants. This is to insure that the water that you receive is meeting all quality standards under the Safe Drinking Water Act.

Treated water is distributed via a system of pipes that are flushed twice a year. Flushing not only removes naturally occurring sediments, it also lets us find out ahead of time if anything in the system needs maintenance. We also do flow testing to determine what the pipe capabilities are for fire suppression.

Water mains and hydrants flow capabilities impact decisions as to what fire protection needs are required and where priorities should be placed with respect to upgrading substandard water mains. We will continue to inform you of our on going efforts to provide you with the safest highest quality water we can.

Improvements

In order to continue to supply you with dependable water service for both domestic and fire suppression use we are in the process of replacing water mains in 2007 on the following streets:

Waukevan Avenue - High Street - Stevens Avenue – Section of Oak Street –
Red Gate Lane - Section of Water Street from Main to Red Gate Lane

Please refer to the Capital Improvement Plan on the Meredith Web Page (www.meredithnh.org) for further details as well as other projects that have been discussed for the future.

How you could be affected if future projects are not accomplished

- Restrictions on water use
- Possible shortages
- Possible shutoffs
- Expansions needed (i.e. infrastructure replacement, water facility expansion, water storage tower construction) which will cost an estimated \$ 4 million dollars over time.
- Unavoidable restrictions on community development

In order to stay informed with the water main replacement project and other important items please visit www.meredithnh.org for meetings, project updates, Capital Improvements, Selectmen’s meetings, or call the Meredith Water and Sewer Department office.

New radio controlled water meters are continuing to be installed this year that allow us to read and bill in the most effective way possible. While we regret needing to raise the rates, the obligation of the Department is to supply the Town with the highest quality service we can, and therefore revenue is needed to complete projects including water main replacements and facility upgrades.

<u>Adopted Service</u>		<u>Billing Charges</u>		<u>Metered Rate (ccf = 100 cubic feet of water or 748 gallons)</u>	
<u>Meter Size</u>		<u>Quarterly</u>		<u>Seasonal Tiered Rate</u>	
3/4 & 5/8	\$	21.08			
1	\$	33.38	<u>Residential</u>		
1 1/2	\$	56.45	<u>Winter</u>	0 - 15 ccf/quarter *	\$ 1.18
2	\$	76.45		Over 15 ccf/quarter *	\$ 2.64
3	\$	102.60	<u>Summer</u>	0 - 15 ccf/ quarter *	\$ 2.67
other	\$	159.51		Over 15 ccf/ quarter *	\$ 5.50
			<u>Non-Residential</u>		
			<u>Winter</u>	0 - 90 ccf/ quarter *	\$ 1.18
				Over 90 ccf/ quarter *	\$ 1.97
			<u>Summer</u>	0 - 90 ccf/ quarter *	\$ 2.67
				Over 90 ccf/ quarter *	\$ 4.27

Your part is to conserve when possible to keep your water bills tolerable and possibly postpone costly expansion projects. When you conserve water, you also save on other services. When you use less hot water, there is less energy needed to heat that water, thereby reducing your gas, oil, or electric bill. When you use less water, you also put less water down your sewer drains, thereby reducing your sewer bill. So you can see, by implementing a simple conservation program, you are helping the environment by helping ease the burden on water storage, purification, distribution system, and treatment facilities.

In 2006 lead and copper contaminate levels were tested in the water system at the ten required locations. The lead and the copper tests passed the EPA regulations as being below the allowable limits. The allowable limits for copper are 1.3 mg/l and 0.015mg/l for lead. We are able to meet the required standards because of corrosion control and line replacements. The next round for testing of lead and copper testing will be in 2009.

National Drinking Water Standards Meredith Water Results

Substance Detected	Amount Detected	Allowed Standard	Source of Substance	Meets Standards
Chlorine MG/L	1.5 Maximum	4	Disinfection Additive	YES
Haloacetic Acids PPB	23	60	By-product of Disinfection	YES
Nitrite MG/L	<0.05	1	By-product of fertilizer use and Leaching from Septic Systems	YES
Total Organic Carbon MG/L	2.68 raw – 1.70 finish	=> 25% average removal	Naturally present in water	YES
Total Trihalomethanes PPB	32.5 (Annual Average)	80 (Annual Average)	By-product of Disinfection	YES
Turbidity (NTU)	0.11 (Annual Ave.)	< 0.30	Soil Runoff	YES
Coliform / E Coli	0.0	0.0	Fecal Matter	YES
MTBE PPB	0.0	No Standard	Gasoline Additive	N/A
Nitrate MG/L	<0.05	10	By-product of fertilizer use and Leaching from Septic Systems	YES

ABBREVIATIONS

PPB= Parts Per Billion NTU= Nephelometric Turbidity Units
 MG/L=Milligrams per liter N/A= Not Applicable
 MCL = Maximum Contaminant Level

Health effects information

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 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 advise about drinking water with 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 (1-800-426-4791).

The source of drinking water (both tap water and bottled water) includes 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 materials, 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 chemicals contaminants, including synthetic and volatile organic chemicals, which are by-products of industrial processes and petroleum production, which includes possible contamination 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.

Safe Drinking Water Act

Congress originally passed the Safe Drinking Water Act (SDWA) in 1974 to protect public health by regulating the nation's public drinking water supply.

- Millions of Americans receive high quality drinking water every day from their public water systems, (which may be publicly or privately owned). Nonetheless, drinking water safety cannot be taken for granted.
- There are a number of threats to drinking water: improperly disposed of chemicals; animal wastes; pesticides; human wastes; wastes injected deep underground; and naturally occurring substances can all contaminate drinking water. Likewise, drinking water that is not properly treated or disinfected, or which travels through an improperly maintained distribution system, may also pose a health risk.

Tips for Water Conservation

- When you are washing your hands, don't let the water run while you lather.
- Turn off the water while you brush your teeth and save 4 gallons a minute. That's 200 gallons a week for a family of four.
- Turn off the water while you shave and you can save more than 100 gallons a week.
- Turn the water off while you shampoo and condition your hair and you can save more than 50 gallons a week.
- Before you lather up, install a low-flow showerhead. They're inexpensive, easy to install, and can save your family more than 500 gallons a week
- Time your shower to keep it under 5 minutes. You'll save up to 1000 gallons a month.
- If your shower can fill a one-gallon bucket in less than 20 seconds, then replace it with a water-efficient showerhead.
- Choose new water-saving appliances, like washing machines that save up to 20 gallons per load.
- Run your washing machine and dishwasher only when they are full and you could save 1000 gallons a month.
- Listen for dripping faucets and toilets that flush themselves. Fixing a leak can save 500 gallons each month.
- Put food coloring in your toilet tank. If it seeps into the toilet bowl, you have a leak. It's easy to fix, and you can save more than 600 gallons a month.
- Don't buy recreational water toys that require a constant flow of water.
- More plants die from over-watering than from under-watering. Be sure only to water plants when necessary.

Other Information and Resources

New Hampshire Department of Environmental Services -
www.des.state.nh.us/h2o_conservation.htm
Water Conservation News & Information Portal and Archive -
www.waterconserve.info
American Water Works Association - www.waterwiser.org and
www.awwa.org/advocacy/learn/conserve
Department of Land and Water Conservation -
www.dlwc.nsw.gov.au
Water - Use It Wisely: Water Saving Tips -
www.wateruseitwisely.com/
Water Conservation Tips -
www.monolake.org/socalwater/wctips.htm
Water Conservation for Kids - www.swfwmd.state.fl.us/waterkids
Industrial Water Conservation - www.p2pays.org/water

**PLEASE CONSERVE WHEN YOU CAN
WASTING WATER COSTS US ALL MONEY**

