



MEREDITH WATER DEPARTMENT ANNUAL DRINKING WATER QUALITY REPORT 2008

Meredith Water Department
50 Waukegan Street
Meredith NH 03253
Phone (603) 279-3046
Fax (603) 279-5356
Office Hours 7:00am to 3:30pm

Robert Hill	Operations Manager
Charles Wade	Operator
Lee Bavis	Operator
Nick Schwarz	Operator
Donna Turner	Department Clerk

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.

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 Waukegan 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 0.04 to 0.23 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 finishing the water main replacement on the following streets: Waukegan Avenue, High Street, Stevens Avenue, Red Gate Lane, and a section of Water Street from Main Street to Red Gate Lane.

Several hundred feet of new twelve-inch water main were installed under Route 104 with new water main gates to replace the defective ten-inch water main and gates that were identified last year.

The Water Treatment Plant has been repaired and some upgrades were installed to correct the problem associated with last years water restrictions. Some of the key changes were the moving of personnel into the water treatment plant on a full time basis, replacement of valves, electrical instruments, readjusting settings, and rewriting parts of the computer-operating program. Additional improvements and upgrades are being reviewed and implemented. In 2008 a Water Committee was formed to assess the current Water Department requirements and future needs. They are currently working diligently on their tasks and will have a report submitted to the Select Board in October 2008.

The water meter upgrade has been ongoing; with the meters having the capability to detect leaks in the house hold plumbing and flag the leakage allowing us to contact the owners regarding the problem. This feature not only saves water, but also benefits the property owners to repair the leak to prevent costly water damage, and keep the property water and sewer bills at normal usage.

Water testing is ongoing with the new EPA Surface Water Monitoring Rules starting in 2008. Currently we are passing all State and EPA water quality monitoring and testing.

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	11 (Annual Average)	60	By-product of Disinfection	YES
Nitrite MG/L	Not Detected	1	By-product of fertilizer use and Leaching from Septic Systems	YES
Total Organic Carbon MG/L	2.23 raw – 1.34 finish	60% average removal	Naturally present in water	YES
Total Trihalomethanes PPB	36 (Annual Average)	80 (Annual Average)	By-product of Disinfection	YES
Turbidity (NTU)	0.06 (Annual Ave.)	< 0.30	Soil Runoff	YES
Coliform / E Coli	Not Detected	0.0	Fecal Matter	YES
MTBE PPB	Not Detected	No Standard	Gasoline Additive	N/A
Nitrate MG/L	Not Detected	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
MCL = Maximum Contaminant Level N/A=Not Applicable

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.

- 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.
- 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.

Seasonal Tiered Rate (Water Metered Rate)

Service Billing Charges

Residential

Winter Rate	0 – 15 ccf/quarter	\$1.18
	Over 15 ccf/quarter	\$2.64
Summer Rate	0 – 15 ccf/quarter	\$2.67
	Over 15 ccf/quarter	\$5.50

<u>Meter Size</u>	<u>Billing Charge</u>
5/8 x 3/4	\$ 21.08
1	\$ 33.38
1 1/2	\$ 56.54
2	\$ 76.45
3	\$102.60
Other Sizes	\$159.51

Non-Residential

Winter Rate	0 – 90 ccf/quarter	\$1.18
	Over 90 ccf/quarter	\$1.97
Summer Rate	0 – 90 ccf/quarter	\$2.67
	Over 90 ccf/quarter	\$4.27

(ccf = 100 cubic feet of water or 748 gallons)