



MEREDITH WATER DEPARTMENT ANNUAL DRINKING WATER QUALITY REPORT 2009

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

Brian Carroll	Superintendent
Charles Wade	Operator
Lee Bavis	Operator
Nick Schwarz	Operator
George Phinney	Operator

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 Waukewan 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 Hypochloride) for disinfection and Alum for coagulation, which removes the small particles in the water that you can't see. Sodium Hydroxide is used to raise the PH of the water to a more neutral state and Sodium Phosphate 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 0.05 to >0.3 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.

Improvements

In order to continue to supply you with dependable water service for both domestic and fire suppression use we have completed the water main replacement on the following streets: Waukewan Avenue, High Street, Stevens Avenue, Red Gate Lane, and a section of Water Street from Main Street to Red Gate Lane. The water meter upgrade, and the leak detection was completed.

Currently we are passing all State and EPA water quality monitoring and testing.

National Drinking Water Standards Meredith Water Results

Substance Detected	Amount Detected	Allowed Standard	Source of Substance	Meets Standards
Chlorine MG/L	2.2 Maximum	4	Disinfection Additive	YES
Haloacetic Acids PPB	16.4 (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	2.3 raw – 1.4 finish	61% average removal	Naturally present in water	YES
Total Trihalomethanes PPB	35.9 (Annual Average)	80 (Annual Average)	By-product of Disinfection	YES
Turbidity (NTU)	>0.50 (max)	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
MCL = Maximum Contaminant Level

NTU= Nephelometric Turbidity Units

N/A=Not Applicable

MG/L=Milligrams per liter

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.