

Consumer Confidence Report

Emerald Lake Village District

2012

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 stormwater 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 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 water supplied by the District is from groundwater sources. It is pumped from eight bedrock wells, all located within the District. The water is pumped from the wells to a 150,000 gallon atmospheric storage tank. The water from well 004 and well 011 is treated to remove fluoride and arsenic. The remaining wells are untreated.

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 potential 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 results of the assessment, prepared 2002, are noted below.

Well	High	Medium	Low
001	2	1	9
004	2	1	9
006	1	3	8
007	1	2	9
008	1	2	9
009	1	2	9
011		not rated	
012		not rated	

Note: This information is over 10 years old and includes information that was current at the time the report was completed. Therefore, some of the ratings might be different if updated to reflect current information. At the present time, DES has no plans to update this data but we are required to present it in this report.

The complete Assessment Report is available for review at Water System Operators, Inc. For more information, call Keith Gilbert at 428-3525 or visit

the DES Drinking Water Source Assessment website at <http://des.nh.gov/organization/divisions/water/dwgb/dwspp/dwsap.htm>.

How can I get involved?

The Emerald Lake Village District Commissioners meet on the first Monday of every month. An annual election is held for officers. Warrant articles and budgets are voted on at the annual meeting. Meeting dates and times are posted on the bulletin board on the front of the former Meeting House. The District has contracted Water System Operators, Inc. to provide trained and certified professional operators. Water System Operators, Inc. can be reached at 428-3525.

Violations and Other information: The District had seven violations during 2011. Two were for bacteria problems during August and September. Three were for failing to deliver public notices as quickly as is required. Two were for high fluoride levels. There was only one fluoride sample that was in violation, but because compliance is calculated using a running annual average, that high sample caused a violation for subsequent periods even though the fluoride levels during those periods was acceptable. See the violation list in table below for more details.

Definitions:

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

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 can not 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.

Sample Dates: The results for detected contaminants listed below are from the most recent monitoring done in compliance with regulations ending with the year 2011. Results The State of New Hampshire allows water systems to monitor for some contaminants less than once per year because the concentrations of these contaminants do not change frequently. Thus some of the data present, though representative, may be more than one year old.

System Name: Emerald Lake Village District

EPA ID: 1141020

2012

ADDITIONAL TESTING

Additional tests (no Primary MCL)	Results	Date	Treatment Technique (if any)	AL (Action Level) or AGQS (Ambient groundwater quality standard)	Specific contaminant criteria
Sodium (ppm)	Range 7 - 21 Average 12	Sampled 2008			
Radon (pCi/L)	Range 150 - 1400 Average 743	Sampled 2002, 2003 & 2008			See radon statement above.

VIOLATIONS

VIOLATIONS	Date of violation	Explain violation	Length of violation	Action taken to resolve	Health Effects (Env-Dw 811.21)
Public notice	9/27/2011	Failure to provide public notice Q3 Fluoride	6 days	sent public notice	
Public notice	10/3/2011	Failure to provide public notice TCR Aug 2011		sent public notice	
Public notice	12/30/2011	Failure to provide public notice TCR MCL November 2011	Notice provided in December	Notice provided	
MCL	8/9/2011	MCL Fluoride Q3 2011	3 months	The sample collected for Q3 2011 on 8/9/11 tested very high. Tests taken after that were safely below the MCL.	Some people who drink water containing fluoride in excess of the MCL over many years could get bone disease, including pain and tenderness of the bones. Fluoride in drinking water at half the MCL or more may cause mottling of children's teeth, usually in children less than nine years old. Mottling also known as dental fluorosis, may include brown staining and/or pitting of the teeth, and occurs only in developing teeth before they erupt from the gums.
MCL	8/17/11	MCL Total Coliform Aug 2011		chlorinated tank, public notice	Coliforms are bacteria that are naturally present in the environment and are used as an indicator that other, potentially-harmful, bacteria may be present. Coliforms were found in more samples than allowed and this was a warning of potential problems.
MCL	11/14/2011	MCL Total Coliform for November 2011		chlorinated tank, public notice	Coliforms are bacteria that are naturally present in the environment and are used as an indicator that other, potentially-harmful, bacteria may be present. Coliforms were found in more samples than allowed and this was a warning of potential problems.

MCL	12/2/2011	MCL Fluoride Q4 2011	RAA over-current sample result below MCL	public notice The sample collected for Q3 2011 on 8/9/11 tested very high. Tests taken after that were safely below the MCL.	Some people who drink water containing fluoride in excess of the MCL over many years could get bone disease, including pain and tenderness of the bones. Fluoride in drinking water at half the MCL or more may cause mottling of children's teeth, usually in children less than nine years old. Mottling also known as dental fluorosis, may include brown staining and/or pitting of the teeth, and occurs only in developing teeth before they erupt from the gums.
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DETECTED WATER QUALITY RESULTS

Contaminant (Units)	Level Detected	MCL	MCLG	Violation YES/NO	Likely Source of Contamination	Health Effects of Contaminant
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Microbiological Contaminants

Total Coliform Bacteria	5 Positive samples in August of 24 collected	No more than 1 positive sample per month	0	Yes	Naturally present in the environment	Coliforms are bacteria that are naturally present in the environment and are used as an indicator that other, potentially-harmful, bacteria may be present. Coliforms were found in more samples than allowed and this was a warning of potential problems.
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Radioactive Contaminants

Compliance Gross Alpha (pCi/L)	Range ND – 1.6 Average 0.5 Sampled 2005 & 2008	15	0	No	Erosion of natural deposits	
Uranium (ug/L)	Range ND – 7.6 Average 1.1 Sampled 2005 & 2008	30	0	No	Erosion of natural deposits	
Combined Radium 226 + 228 (pCi/L)	Range ND – 2.1 Average 0.4 Sampled 2005 & 2008	5	0	No	Erosion of natural deposits	

Inorganic Contaminants

Arsenic (ppb)	Range ND – 8 Highest RAA 5 Sampled 2011	10	0	No	Erosion of natural deposits; runoff from orchards; runoff from glass and electronics production wastes	While your drinking water meets EPA's standard for arsenic, it does contain low levels of arsenic. EPA's standard balances the current understanding of arsenic's possible health effects against the costs of removing arsenic from drinking water. EPA continues to research the health effects of low levels of arsenic, which is a mineral known to cause cancer in humans at high concentrations and is linked to other health effects such as skin damage and circulatory problems.
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Barium (ppm)	Range ND – 0.006 Average 0.003 Sampled 2010 & 2011	2	2	No	Discharge of drilling wastes; discharge from metal refineries; erosion of natural deposits	
Chlorine (ppm)	Range 0.01 – 0.3 Average 0.08 Sampled 2011	MRDL = 4	MRDLG = 4	No	Water additive used to control microbes	
Copper (ppm)	90th percentile 0.39 Sampled 2009	AL=1.3	1.3	No	Corrosion of household plumbing systems; erosion of natural deposits; leaching from wood preservatives	
Fluoride (ppm)	Range 0.4 – 7.0 Highest RAA 4.1	4	4	Yes	Erosion of natural deposits; water additive which promotes strong teeth; discharge from fertilizer and aluminum factories	Some people who drink water containing fluoride in excess of the MCL over many years could get bone disease, including pain and tenderness of the bones. Fluoride in drinking water at half the MCL or more may cause mottling of children's teeth, usually in children less than nine years old. Mottling also known as dental fluorosis, may include brown staining and/or pitting of the teeth, and occurs only in developing teeth before they erupt from the gums.
Lead (ppb)	90th percentile 1 Sampled 2009	AL=15	0	No	Corrosion of household plumbing systems, erosion of natural deposits	

Volatile Organic Contaminants

Methyl tertiary-butyl ether (MtBE) (ppb)	Range ND – 1.0 Average 0.2 Sampled 2009 - 2011	13	13	No	A gasoline additive	
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