

# 2024 Consumer Confidence Report

## North Stratford Water System

2221010

### Introduction

As a responsible public water system (PWS), our mission is to provide safe, affordable drinking water to the residents of the village of North Stratford.

Aging infrastructure presents challenges for maintaining safe quality drinking water and continuous improvements are necessary. There have been no major repairs to the water system in the past year. This year the water department will be working on the Lead Service Line Inventory (LSLI). This is a federal requirement under the Lead and Copper Rule Revisions. The inventory will require the water department to meet with homeowners to access/view their water service line where it comes into their house. The service line then will be classified as lead, non-lead, or galvanized. "The inventory is to identify the location and material of all lead service lines (LSL) within public water systems. The street address and material of each service line must be made publicly accessible. In certain instances where sampling data dictates, some systems will also be required to submit a plan for replacing the lead or galvanized lines." (des.nh.gov)

This inventory along with on-going operation and maintenance costs are supported by the water rates you pay each year, which are listed below and on the Town website:

Base Rate	\$80.00
1,000-5,000 gals	\$1.89/1,000
5,000-10,000 gals	\$2.54/1,000
10,000-20,000 gals	\$2.66/1,000
20,000-Maximum	\$3.63/1,000

When considering the high value placed on quality drinking water, it is truly a bargain to have water service that protects public health, fights fires, supports businesses and the economy, and ensures high-quality drinking water is always available at your tap.

**What is a Consumer Confidence Report?** The Consumer Confidence Report (CCR) details the quality of your drinking water, where it comes from, and how to get more information. This annual report documents all detected primary and secondary drinking water contaminants and their respective standards known as Maximum Contaminant Levels (MCLs).

**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 per- and polyfluoroalkyl substances, 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.

NOW IT COMES WITH A LIST OF INGREDIENTS.



- **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 prescribe 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?

*Our drinking water comes from 2 Gravel packed wells located off Baldwin Street, Well #1 produces 175 gallons per minute and Well # 2 produces 95 gallons per minute. The water is treated with Sodium Hydroxide and Sodium Bicarbonate to raise the PH and Alkalinity. It is also chlorinated to maintain a chlorine residual between .02 ppm and .06 ppm and is then pumped up to a 158,000 gallon storage tank and gravity fed to the system.*

### 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

NHDES 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 are noted below.

- (0) GPW#1 susceptibility factors were rated high, (3) were rated medium, and (9) were rated low.
- (0) GPW#2 susceptibility factors were rated high, (3) were rated medium, and (9) were rated low.

Note: This information is over (22) years old. Due to the time when the assessments were completed, some of the ratings might be different if updated to reflect current information.

The complete Assessment Report is available for review at Stratford Town Office. For more information, call Town of Stratford at (603) 922-5533 or Erik Lynch, Primary Operator at (603) 922-3357. You can also visit the NHDES Drinking Water Source Assessment website: <https://www.des.nh.gov/sites/g/files/ehbemt341/files/documents/stratford.pdf>.

### How can I get involved?

For more information call the Stratford Town Office at (603) 922-5533 or Erik Lynch, Primary Operator at (603) 922-3357. Although we do not have specific dates for public participation events or meetings, feel free to contact us with any questions you may have. Selectmen meetings are held every other Monday at 3:30 pm in the Fuller Town Hall.

**Violations and Other information:** *No violations were reported for 2023.*

### 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.

**Level I Assessment:** A study of the water system to identify potential problems and determine, if possible, why total coliform bacteria have been found in our water system

**Level II Assessment:** A very detailed study of the water system to identify potential problems and determine, if possible, why an E. coli MCL violation has occurred and/or why total coliform bacteria have been found in our water system on multiple occasions.

**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.

**Treatment Technique or TT:** A required process intended to reduce the level of a contaminant in drinking water.

### 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 cannot 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 at 1-800-426-4791 or at [US EPA Basic Information about Lead in Drinking Water](#)

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**System Name: North Stratford Water System PWS ID: 2221010**

**2024 Report (2023 Data)**

**LEAD AND COPPER**

Contaminant (Units)	Action Level (AL)	90 <sup>th</sup> percentile sample value *	Date	# of sites above AL	Violation Yes/No	Likely Source of Contamination	Health Effects of Contaminant
Copper (ppm)	1.3	1 ppm	10/20/2021	None	No	Corrosion of household plumbing systems; erosion of natural deposits; leaching from wood preservatives	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.
Lead (ppb)	15	4 ppb	10/20/2021	None	No	Corrosion of household plumbing systems, erosion of natural deposits	(15 ppb in more than 5%) Infants and young children are typically more vulnerable to lead in drinking water than the general population. It is possible that lead levels at your home may be higher than at other homes in the community as a result of materials used in your home's plumbing. If you are concerned about elevated lead levels in your home's water, you may wish to have your water tested and flush your tap for 30 seconds to 2 minutes before using tap water. Additional information is available from the Safe Drinking Water Hotline (800-426-4791). (Above 15 ppb) Infants and children who drink water containing lead in excess of the action level could experience delays in their physical or mental development. Children could show slight deficits in attention span and learning abilities. Adults who drink this water over many years could develop kidney problems or high blood pressure.

**Radioactive Contaminants**

Contaminant (Units)	Level Detected*	Date	MCL	MCLG	Violation YES/NO	Likely Source of Contamination	Health Effects of Contaminant
Compliance Gross Alpha (pCi/L)	1	2/6/2023	15	0	No	Erosion of natural deposits	Certain minerals are radioactive and may emit a form of radiation know as alpha radiation. Some people who drink water containing alpha emitters in excess of the MCL over many years may have an increased risk of getting cancer.
Uranium (ug/L)	AVG: 0 MG/L  Range: .26-.30 MG/L	2/6/2023	30	0	No	Erosion of natural deposits	Some people who drink water containing uranium in excess of the MCL over many years may have an increased risk of getting cancer and kidney toxicity.

Combined Radium 226 + 228 (pCi/L)	AVG: 0 MG/L  Range: .3-.4 MG/L	2/6/2023	5	0	No	Erosion of natural deposits	Some people who drink water containing radium 226 or 228 in excess of the MCL over many years may have an increased risk of getting cancer.
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**Inorganic Contaminants**

Contaminant (Units)	Level Detected*	Date	MCL	MCLG	Violation YES/NO	Likely Source of Contamination	Health Effects of Contaminant
Barium (ppm)	AVG: 0 MG/L  Range: .001-.0027 MG/L	2/6/2023	2	2	No	Discharge of drilling wastes; discharge from metal refineries; erosion of natural deposits	Some people who drink water containing barium in excess of the MCL over many years could experience an increase in their blood pressure.
Chlorine (ppm)	Avg.: 0 MG/L  Range: 0.20-0.39 MG/L	1/10/23- 12/12/23	MRDL= 4	MRDLG= 4	NO	Water additive used to control microbes	Some people who use water containing chlorine well in excess of the MRDL could experience irritating effects to their eyes and nose. Some people who drink water containing chlorine well in excess of the MRDL could experience stomach discomfort.

**SECONDARY CONTAMINANTS**

Secondary MCLs (SMCL)	Level Detected	Date	Treatment technique (if any)	SMCL	50 % AGQS (Ambient groundwater quality standard)	AGQS (Ambient groundwater quality standard)	Specific contaminant criteria and reason for monitoring
Iron (ppm)	0	2/6/2023	N/A	0.3	N/A	N/A	Geological
Sodium (ppm)	Avg.: 7 MG/L  Range: 5.4-8.4 MG/L	2/6/2023	N/A	100-250	N/A	N/A	We are required to regularly sample for sodium
Sulfate (ppm)	Avg.: 5 MG/L  Range: 4.7-4.8 MG/L	2/6/2023	N/A	250	250	500	Naturally occurring
Zinc (ppm)	0	2/6/2023	N/A	5	N/A	N/A	Galvanized pipes