(2025) Consumer Confidence Report

North Stratford Water System

PWS ID# 2221010

Introduction

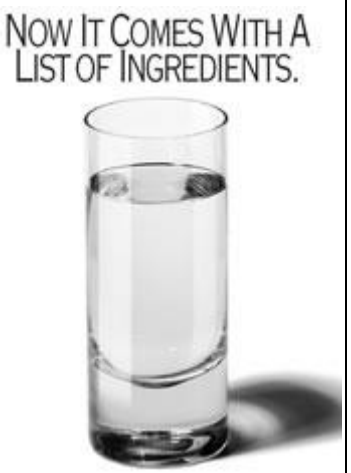
As a responsible public water system (PWS), our mission is to provide safe, affordable drinking water to the residents of the village of North Stratford.
Aging infrastructure presents challenges for maintaining safe quality drinking water and continuous improvements are necessary. There have been no major repairs to the water system in the past year. The selectmen are working on the Lead Service Line Inventory (LSLI). This is a federal requirement under the Lead and Copper Rule Revisions. "The inventory is to identify the location and material of all lead service lines (LSL) within public water systems."

The current water rates have not changed and are listed on the town's website.

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:

- **Contaminant**, any physical, chemical, biological, or radiological substance or matter in water.
- **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**, generally, any substance or mixture of substances intended for preventing, destroying, repelling, or mitigating any pest.
- **Herbicides**, any chemical(s) used to control undesirable vegetation.
- **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.
- **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 mean that water poses a health risk. More information about contaminants and potential health effects can be obtained by contacting the Environmental Protection Agency by calling the Safe Drinking Water Hotline (800-426-4791) or visit the website epa.gov/safewater.

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.

Lead Service Line Inventory

A service line inventory has been prepared and can be accessed by contacting the Selectmen's Office at (603) 922-5533. Corrosion control efforts consist of adding sodium bicarbonate and sodium hydroxide to the water to maintain a non-corrosive alkalinity and pH level.

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:

See violation list in table attached.

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.

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.

Drinking Water Contaminants:

Lead: Lead can cause serious health effects in people of all ages, especially pregnant people, infants (both formula-fed and breastfed), and young children. Lead in drinking water is primarily from materials and parts used in service lines and in home plumbing. The North Stratford Water System is responsible for providing high quality drinking water and removing lead pipes but cannot control the variety of materials used in the plumbing in your home. Because lead levels may vary over time, lead exposure is possible even when your tap sampling results do not detect lead at one point in time. You can help protect yourself and your family by identifying and removing lead materials within your home plumbing and taking steps to reduce your family's risk. Using a filter, certified by an American National Standards Institute accredited certifier to reduce lead, is effective in reducing lead exposures. Follow the instructions provided with the filter to ensure the filter is used properly. Use only cold water for drinking, cooking, and making baby formula. Boiling water does not remove lead from water. Before using tap water for drinking, cooking, or making baby formula, flush your pipes for several minutes. You can do this by running your tap, taking a shower, doing laundry or a load of dishes. If you have a lead service line or galvanized requiring replacement service line, you may need to flush your pipes for a longer period. If you are concerned about lead in your water and wish to have your water tested, contact the Town Office at (603) 922-5533. Information on lead in drinking water, testing methods, and steps you can take to minimize exposure is available at https://www.epa.gov/safewater/lead.

Health Effects of Lead Exposure to lead in drinking water can cause serious health effects in all age groups. Infants and children can have decreases in IQ and attention span. Lead exposure can lead to new learning and behavior problems or exacerbate existing learning and behavior problems. The children of women who are exposed to lead before or during pregnancy can have increased risk of these adverse health effects. Adults can have increased risks of heart disease, high blood pressure, kidney or nervous system problems.

Abbreviations:

BDL: Below Detection Limit
NA: Not Applicable
ND: Not Detectable at testing limits
NTU: Nephelometric Turbidity Unit
pCi/L: picoCurie per Liter
ppb: parts per billion OR ug/L: micrograms per Liter
ppm: parts per million OR mg/L: milligrams per Liter
ppq: parts per quadrillion
RAA: Running Annual Average
TTHM: Total Trihalomethanes
UCMR: Unregulated Contaminant Monitoring Rule

System Name: North Stratford Water System PWS ID: 2221010

2025 Report (2024 Data)

VIOLATIONS					
VIOLATIONS	**Date of Violation**	**Explain Violation**	**Length of Violation**	**Action taken to resolve**	**Health Effects (Env-DW-804-810)**
Monitoring and Reporting (M/R)	8/16/2024	Error in reporting.	13 days	Re-submitted	N/A

LEAD AND COPPER							
Contaminant (Units)	**Action Level (AL)**	**90th percentile sample value ***	**Date**	**# of sites above AL**	**Violation Yes/No**	**Likely Source of Contamination**	**Health Effects of Contaminant**
Copper (ppm)	1.3	.125	9/05/2024	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	.001	9/05/2024	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.

Inorganic Contaminants							
Contaminant (Units)	**Level Detected***	**Date**	**MCL**	**MCLG**	**Violation YES/NO**	**Likely Source of Contamination**	**Health Effects of Contaminant**
Chlorine (ppm)	Avg.: 0 MG/L Range: 0.20-0.25 MG/L	1/09/24-12/04/24	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.

Volatile Organic Contaminants							
Contaminant (Units)	**Level Detected***	**Date**	**MCL**	**MCLG**	**Violation YES/NO**	**Likely Source of Contamination**	**Health Effects of Contaminant**
Total Trihalomethanes (TTHM) (Bromodichloro-methane Bromoform Dibromochloro-methane Chloroform) (ppb)	3.27	9/17/2024	80	N/A	NO	By-product of drinking water chlorination	Some people who drink water containing trihalomethanes in excess of the MCL over many years may experience problems with their liver, kidneys, or central nervous systems, and may have an increased risk of getting cancer.