

In 2011, The South Hadley Fire District No.2 Water Department supplied our residents and businesses with 143,483,000 gallons of water pumped from our two wells at the Dry Brook Station. Back-up water supplies would come from South Hadley Fire District No.1 in case of emergency. We have seven (7) interconnections between the two systems.

District members are encouraged to attend regular meetings held by the Water Commissioners at District No.2 Headquarters, on the second Thursday of every month unless otherwise posted. Meetings are held at South Hadley Fire Dist. No.2, 20 Woodbridge Street, South Hadley.

The Massachusetts Department of Environmental Protection (DEP) has completed a Source Water Assessment Program (SWAP) report for the South Hadley Fire District No.2 Water Department. We use this report to assess and improve our water supply. Copies of this report are available upon request, or by logging on to: www.mass.gov/dep/water/drinking/swapreps.htm.

“If present, elevated levels of lead can cause serious health problems, especially for pregnant woman and young children. Lead in drinking water is primarily from materials and components associated with service lines and home plumbing. The South Hadley Fire District No. 2 Water Department is responsible for providing high quality drinking water, but cannot control the variety of materials used in plumbing components. When your water has been sitting for several hours, you can minimize the potential for lead exposure by flushing your tap for 30 seconds to 2 minutes before using water for drinking or 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: www.epa.gov/safewater/lead.”

In order to maintain water quality within your home, it is suggested by the South Hadley Fire District No.2 Water Department that you remove and clean each faucet aerator twice annually. Aerators are the screens that screw into the end of the faucet. In addition, it is also recommended that you annually flush out the water heater and that you regularly maintain any in-home treatment equipment, such as water filters.

If you have any questions about this report or concerning the Water Department please contact the Superintendent, Mark Aiken at:

413-532-9210 or by writing to:
South Hadley Fire District No. 2
Water Department
20 Woodbridge Street
South Hadley MA 01075

CROSS CONNECTION CONTAMINATION MAY OCCUR WHENEVER CONTAMINATED OR NON-POTABLE WATER FLOWS BACKWARDS INTO A DRINKING WATER SUPPLY LINE. A DANGEROUS SITUATION MAY OCCUR IF A CONNECTION EXISTS TO A HARMFUL LIQUID AND THE PRESSURE IN YOUR WATER LINE DROPS (DUE TO A FIRE, WATER MAIN BREAK, ETC.), CAUSING THAT HARMFUL SUBSTANCE TO BE DRAWN BACK INTO YOUR DRINKING WATER SUPPLY. SUCH HARMFUL HOUSEHOLD SUBSTANCES MAY INCLUDE CHEMICALS USED TO FERTILIZE GRASS OR KILL WEEDS AND BACTERIA IN THE WATER FROM A WADING OR SWIMMING POOL.

PREVENTION:

To prevent a cross connection, never submerge hoses in buckets, pools, tubs, or sinks and do not use spray attachments without a backflow prevention device installed on the faucet. These devices are inexpensive and available at most hardware stores and home improvement centers. They should be installed on all threaded faucets around your home, both inside and out, anywhere you may want to connect a hose.

For those of you with irrigation systems, make sure you have proper backflow prevention and have your backflow preventer tested yearly.

If you are the owner of an industrial, commercial, or institutional property, you must have your facility’s plumbing surveyed for and protected against cross connections.

Additional copies of this year’s report are available from the Water Department at 20 Woodbridge St. or on the Town’s website. Very limited supplies of the previous years’ reports are also available.

BUSINESS HOURS

Monday thru Friday – 8:30 a.m. – 2:30 p.m.

WATER COMMISSIONERS

Chairman: Frank DeToma
Clerk: Kate Bedard
Member: Donna Russell

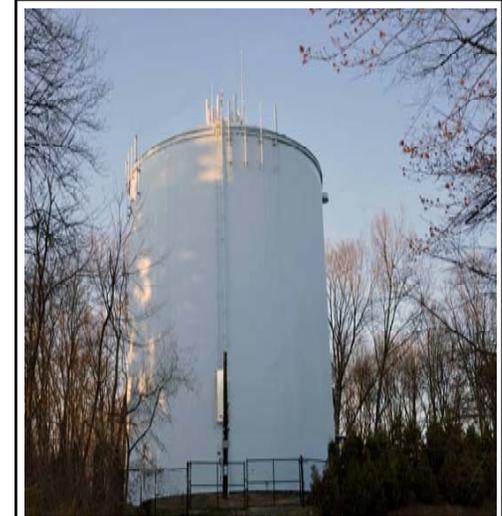
Our goal is to provide you with a continuous supply of quality drinking water. We welcome comments and suggestions you may have to help us reach and maintain that goal.

Respectfully,

Mark Aiken, Water Superintendent

**SOUTH HADLEY
FIRE DISTRICT NO.2
WATER DEPARTMENT
PWS ID #1275001**

ANNUAL WATER QUALITY REPORT 2011



Skinner Lane Water Tank

Photo by G. Curtis

Water Customer:

This is your Annual Drinking Water Quality Report for 2011. It contains important information about your water that is supplied by South Hadley Fire District No. 2 Water Department.

Landlords: Please make this report available to your tenants.

Businesses: Please post this report where your employees and customers may read it.

Public Buildings: Please post this report where it may be read by people who may drink this water.

South Hadley Fire District No.2 Water Quality Report – Monitoring Results for Drinking 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 EPA's Safe Drinking Water Hotline. (1-800-426-4791).

The State allows us to monitor for some contaminants less than once per year because the concentrations of these contaminants do not change frequently. Some of our data (though) accurate are more than one year old.

CONTAMINANT	UNIT	MCL EPA'S LIMITS	MCLG Health Goals	LEVEL Detected	VIOLATION (yes/no)	Year Sampled	Potential Source of Contamination
COPPER	ppm	1.3 = AL	1.3	0.45 90 th percentile	NO	2011	Corrosion of household plumbing systems; erosion of natural deposits; Leaching from wood preservatives.
LEAD	ppb	15 = AL	0	6 90 th percentile	NO	2011	Corrosion of household plumbing systems; Erosion of natural deposits.
NITRATE	Ppm	10	10	0.512	NO	2011	Run off from fertilizer use; Leaching from septic tanks, sewage; Erosion of natural deposits.
BARIUM	ppm	2	2	0.03	NO	2011	Erosion of Natural Deposits
Chromium	ppb	100	100	3.89	NO	2011	Erosion of Natural Deposits
Selenium	ppb	50	50	1.07	NO	2011	Erosion of Natural Deposits
Trihalomethanes	ppb	80	N/A	2.24	NO	2011	By-Product of Disinfection
Perchlorate	ppb	2	N/A	0.09	NO	2011	Rocket propellants, fireworks, munitions, flares, blasting agents
Sodium	PPM	N/A	N/A	7.51	NO	2011	Naturally Occurring
Sulfate	PPM	N/A	N/A	19.0	NO	2011	Naturally present in the environment.
Total Coliform	August	1	N/A	2	YES	2011	Naturally present in the environment.
Total Coliform	December	1	N/A	4	YES	2011	Naturally present in the environment.



Definitions

1. Maximum Contaminant Level (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.
2. Maximum Contaminant Level Goal (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.
3. Action Level (or AL): the concentration of a contaminant, which, if exceeded, triggers treatment or other requirements, which a water system must follow.
4. 90th Percentile: 90% of samples are equal to or less than the number in the chart.
5. NA: Not Applicable.
6. PPB (or parts per billion): micrograms per liter (ug/l)
7. PPM (or parts per million): milligrams per liter (mg/l).
8. pCi/L (or picocuries per liter): a measure of radioactivity.
9. ND: Not Detectable.

Total coliform bacteria were detected in a routine water sample collected from the Park Street Tank sampling tap on August 15th. Three repeat samples were taken on August 16th. The repeat sample collected at the tank tested positive for total coliform bacteria, however, the distribution samples collected upstream and downstream of the tank did not contain any total coliform bacteria. Since the coliform-positive sample was isolated to the tank's sampling tap, we believe that the tap was the source of the bacteria problem. The sample tap has been replaced.

Total coliform bacteria were detected in a routine water sample collected from the Southern end of the District on December 15th. Three repeat samples were taken on December 16th; the repeat sample tested negative for total coliform bacteria, however, the distribution sample collected upstream tested positive. We then took seven (7) additional diagnostic samples around the area. One sample came back positive. At another site, duplicate samples were taken, and one sample was positive while the other sample was negative. Low levels of disinfection are being added to the system, as a precaution. We are also considering the replacement of some water mains. We will inform you when we have stopped chlorinating and the problem has been resolved.

Important Health Information: 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 may be particularly at risk from infections. These people should seek advice about drinking water from their health care providers. The U.S. EPA/CDC (center for disease control and prevention) guidelines on appropriate means to lessen the risk of infection by Cryptosporidium and other micro contaminants are available from the Safe Drinking Water Hotline at (800) 426-4791.

In order to ensure that tap water is safe to drink, The MassDEP and EPA prescribe regulations that limit the amount of certain contaminants in water provided by public water systems. The Food and Drug Administration (FDA) and the Massachusetts Department of Public Health (DPH) regulations establish limits for contaminants in bottled water that must provide the same protection for public health.

The U.S. Environmental Protection Agency (EPA) wants you to know: The sources of drinking water (both tap 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 maybe 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 and farming. **Pesticides and Herbicides**, which may come from a variety of sources such as agriculture, urban storm water 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 rest of oil and gas production and mining activities.