



Water Quality Report

March 2015 - March 2016

SPECIAL POINTS OF INTEREST:

- Introduction
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To Our Valued Customers

This report represents an Annual Consumer Confidence Report that we are required to provide to our customers regarding the quality of your water. We hope that through this process we may help you better understand your water system and the quality of water that we provide to our customers.

We will continue our efforts to ensure and to inform you of our results through this annual water quality report. As of November 2000 Portland became interconnected with the Metropolitan District Commission (MDC). This interconnection allows filtered water to flow into Portland's pipes and is mixed with our Glastonbury Turnpike Well water.



The Portland Water Division encourages public participation and input into decisions that may affect the quality of the water. Meetings of the Water & Sewer Commission are scheduled the first Monday of the month at the Town Hall on 33 East Main Street. Meetings are normally scheduled to start at 7:00 PM.

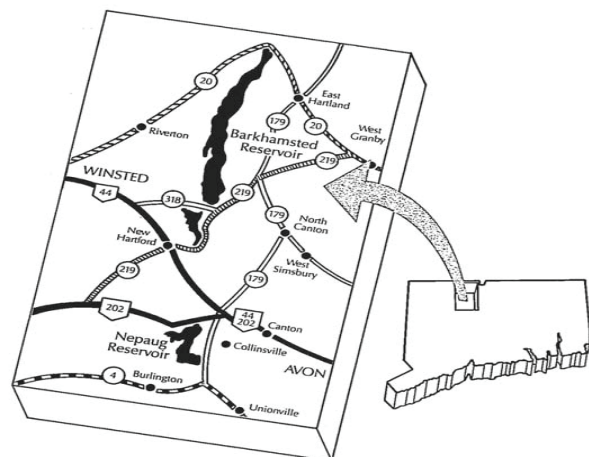
Meeting agendas and minutes are available at the Town Clerk's office in the Town Hall or on the Portland website at www.portlandct.org.

Health Effects Information

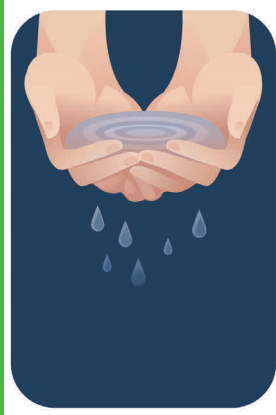
Some people may be more vulnerable to contaminants in drinking water than the general population. Immunocompromised persons such as persons with cancer undergoing chemotherapy, persons who have undergone organ transplants, people with HIV/AIDS or other immune system disorders, some elderly and infants can be particularly at risk from infections. These people should seek advice about drinking water from their health care providers. EPA and the Center of Disease Control (CDC) also offers guidelines as well as the Safe Drinking Water Hotline at 800-426-4791.

Where Does Your Water Come From?

On November 14, 2000 we completed our interconnection with the MDC. MDC's water comes from the Barkhamsted Reservoir located in New Hartford and the Nepaug Reservoir located in Collinsville. MDC uses slow sand filtration to filter the water which is mixed with our Glastonbury Turnpike Well as it flows to our distribution system and storage tanks located on Old Marlborough Turnpike.



Water Quality Monitoring



“For many of us, water simply flows from a faucet and we think little about it beyond this point of contact. We have lost a sense of respect for the wild river, for the complex workings of a wetland, for the intricate web of life that water supports.”
 - Daniel Webster, (1782-1852) remarks in the US Senate, March 12, 1838

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 animal or human activity. Treatment processes such as filtration and chlorination, minimize the levels of dissolved minerals and other foreign materials.

Contaminants that may be present in source water include **microbial contaminants**, such as viruses and bacteria, which may come from 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: **pesticides and herbicides**, which come from sources such as agriculture, urban storm water runoff, and residential uses; **organic chemical contaminants**, including synthetic and volatile organic chemicals, are by-products of industrial processes, petroleum production, gas station, urban storm water runoff, and septic systems; radioactive contaminants, which can be naturally occurring.

In order to ensure that tap water is safe to drink, the Environmental Protection Agency (EPA) prescribes regulations, which limit the concentrations of certain contaminants and requirements for monitoring of water provided by public water systems.

Each year the Portland Water Supply Division performs approximately 2,500 water quality analysis for approximately

90 possible contaminants in order to verify the safety and quality of your drinking water. MDC performs over 100,000 physical, chemical and bacteriological tests. These analysis include samples collected from our “raw” water sources and “finished” water within both distribution systems and are performed on a daily basis and verified by a certified laboratory weekly.

In addition to the required testing, we are also taking a proactive approach to assuring a safe drinking water supply for the future. This is assured by monitoring for a variety of regulated contaminants in addition to those required by the State and Federal government. Other programs administrated by Portland Water Division to protect water quality include Level A Mapping, aquifer inspections and a vigorous cross-connection inspection and testing program.

Water Sources

The Portland Water Division utilizes two sources of water distributed to its customers. These include an interconnected water supply and a groundwater source as listed below.

<u>Common Name</u>	<u>Location</u>	<u>Type</u>	<u>% Supply</u>
MDC Water System		Surface	70+-
Well Glastonbury Turnpike		Groundwater	30+-

A Source Water Assessment Program is part of the Federal Safe Drinking Water Act, which requires the State Department of Public Health to perform assessments of all public drinking water sources. A source water assessment has been completed by the Connecticut Department of Public Health for our Glastonbury Turnpike Well. The report may be reviewed in the Public Works Office. The results of Source Water Assessment Report indicates that our well has a low environmental sensitivity susceptibility rating, a moderate potential risk factor susceptibility rating and a high source protection needs susceptibility rating.



Treated Water Quality Results

Regulated Contaminant	Portland Water System	MCLG	MCL	Major Sources
Total Coliform Bacteria Number is highest monthly % of positive samples	0%	0%	0	Naturally present in the environment
Turbidity (NTU) Number is highest single measurement (% of samples meeting limit)	0.82 (100%)	0	5 units	Soil runoff
Barium (ppm)	0.34	2.0	2.0	Erosion of natural deposits
Copper (ppm) Number is 90th % value (# of sites sampled)	.11	1.3	AL=1.3	Corrosion of household plumbing systems
Lead (mg/L) 20 sites sampled Number is highest reading	.016	0	AL=1.5	Corrosion of household plumbing systems
Nitrate (as nitrogen)(mg/L.)	3.84	10	10	Runoff from fertilizer use, leaching from septic tanks, sewage, erosion of natural deposits
Total Trihalomethanes (THM's) (mg/L)	.0496	10	1.0	By-products of drinking water chlorination
Carbon Tetrachloride (mg/L)	N.D.	0	.005	Chemical plant discharge & other industrial activities
Trichlorethylene (mg/L)	N.D.	0	.005	Discharge from degreasing sites & other factories
1,2-Dichloropropane (mg/L)	N.D.	0	.005	Discharge from chemical factories
Fluoride (ppm) Test results taken in our system indicate that concentrations in the northern section of Town are approximately 0.8-0.9 ppm, and concentrations in the southerly sections of Town are 0.4-0.5 ppm.	0.4-0.9	4	4	
Radioactive Contaminants				
Net Gross Alpha	N.D.	0	15	
Uranium	N.D.	0	30 (w/l)	
Radium Combined	N.D.	0	5	
Man-Made Beta	N.D.	0	4	
Tritium	N.D.	0		
Strontium	N.D.	0		

Treated Water Quality Results

Non-Regulated Contaminant	Portland Water System	MCLG	MCL	Major Sources
Chloride (MG/L)	57		250	Erosion from natural deposits
Nickel (ppm)	ND		0.1	
Sodium (ppm) (MDC— 6± Well 39+- Mixing water reduces sodium content below notification level)	<28		28 Notification Level	
Sulfate	4.15	250		Erosion from natural deposits
Color	5	15 color units		Organic materials
Chlorine	0.76	4 Proposed		Added as a disinfection agent
Orthophosphate (ppm)	N.R.	Not Regulated		Added to reduce corrosion of pipes & plumbing systems
2-2 Dichloropropane (ppb)	N.D.	N.D.		Discharge from chemical factories
Haloacetic Acids (mg/L)	.04	N.D.		By product of drinking water chlorination

Definitions & Abbreviations Used in This Chart

Maximum Contaminant Level Goal—MCLG - The level of a contaminant in drinking water below which there is no known or expected risk to health. MCLG's allow for a margin of safety.

Maximum Contaminant Level—MCL - The highest level of a contaminant that is allowed in drinking water. MCL's are set as close to the MCLG's as feasible using the best available treatment technology.

Action Level - The concentration of a contaminant, which if exceeded, triggers treatment or other requirement, which a water system must follow.

ppm - parts per million
 ppb - parts per billion
 N.D.- Not Detected
 A.L.- Action Level
 N.R.- Not Required
 MCLG - Maximum Contaminant Level Goal
 MCL - Maximum Contaminant Level
 mg/L—milligrams/liter

The Portland Water Division also offers a variety of programs to its customers. These include helping to find leaks within their residence and also helping to show how to install water conservation devices. For further assistance please call:



Billing Information - 342-6735
 Water Quality Information - 342-6733
 Water Operations - 342-6733
 Emergency Service (after hours) - 347-2541