

# Hill Water Works System

Hill EPA # 1131010

Consumer Confidence Report

2010

In 1996, Congress amended the Safe Drinking Water Act. It added a provision requiring that all community water systems deliver a brief annual water quality report.

## What is the quality of my drinking water?

We are pleased to report that the Hill water system completed all Federal and State testing for drinking water during 2009. Your water system continuously monitors water quality in order to provide you with the best drinking water possible.

## What is the source of my water?

Hill Water works obtains its water from two sources: (1) gravel packed well (GPW). Well #1 is 40 feet deep and located inside the 1940 pump house. (2) gravel packed well (GPW). Well #2 is 41 feet deep and is located 25 feet from the 2006 pump house.

The year 2009 saw significant improvements and repairs to the water system.

Approximately 1,900 feet of 8" water main was installed along New Chester Road replacing the break prone 6" main that was installed in 1940. The access road to the water tank was improved and 575 feet of 8" water main was replaced under the lower

portion of the access road. The water storage tank was shot blasted and re-coated inside and outside including the removal and disposal of all lead paint on the exterior of the tank. Several other repairs and upgrades to the tank were also completed. Finally, water meters were installed for each account. The work was funded by a 30 year loan, and a grant from USDA Rural Development.

## Why are contaminants in my water?

Drinking water, including bottled water, may reasonably be expected to contain at least a small amount of 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 USEPA safe drinking water hotline (1-800-426-4791).

## How can I get involved?

Should you have any questions regarding this report, or would like to attend a monthly meeting, please contact Hill Water Works Commissioners at 934-3951.

Within this report the following are the common definitions that will be used:

## 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. MCLG allow for a margin of safety.

## Maximum Contaminant Level or MCL:

The highest level of a contaminant that is allowed in drinking water. MCL are set close to the MCLG as feasible using the best available treatment technology.

## Treatment Technique:

A required process intending to reduce the level of a contaminant in drinking water. The water is treated with chlorine for disinfection and caustic soda for corrosion control.

## Action Level:

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

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Contaminant (units)	Violation Y/N	Level Detected Range of Detection	UNITS Meas.	MCLG	MCL	Likely Source Of Contamination
VOC (Volatile Organic Compounds) (Q2&Q4)	N	ND	mg/L		various	A collection of volatile chemicals generally found at higher concentrations in ground water than in surface water.
Nitrates (Q2&Q4)	N	ND	mg/L		10	Runoff from fertilizer use; leaching from septic tanks, sewage; erosion of natural deposits.
Lead (Q1 2008)	N	ND	mg/L	0	.015	Corrosion of household plumbing, erosion
Copper (Q1 2008)	N	0.126	mg/L	0	1.3	Corrosion of household plumbing, erosion

### Keys :

**ND** = Not Detected

**AL** = Action Level

**MCL** = Maximum Contaminant Level per liter (mg/L)

**MCLG** = Maximum Contaminant Level Goal

**MFL** = Million Fibers per Liter

**NTU** = Nephelometric Turbidity Units

**pCi/L** = picocuries per liter (a measure of radioactivity)

**TT** = Treatment Technique

**ppm** = parts per million, or milligrams per liter (mg/L)

**ppb** = parts per billion, or micrograms per liter (mg/L)

**ug/L** = micrograms per liter

**mg/L** = milligrams per liter

**mrem/year** = millirems per year (a measure of radiation absorbed by the body)

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Some people may be more vulnerable to contaminants in drinking water than the general population. Immune-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 (1-800-426-4791).

The sources of drinking water (both tap water and bottled water) include rivers, lakes, streams, ponds, reservoirs, spring, 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 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, and residential uses.
- Organic chemical contaminants, including synthetic and volatile organic chemicals, which are byproducts of industrial processes and petroleum production, and can also come from gas stations, 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. Food and Drug Administration regulations established limits for contaminants in bottled water, which must provide the same protection for public health.

### Radon

The United States Environmental Protection Agency (EPA) sets drinking water standards and has determined that radon is a health concern at certain levels of exposure. Radon is a naturally occurring radioactive contaminant that occurs in ground water. It is a gas and is released from water into household air during water use. Radon has been found in epidemiological studies to cause lung cancer in humans at high exposure levels. At lower exposure the risk of lung cancer is reduced. EPA has proposed setting the MCL for radon in drinking water at 300 Pico curies per liter to reduce the risk of cancer. However, the 300 Pico curies level is presently under review by the EPA.

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### Copper

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

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 maybe 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).

### Arsenic

The EPA reviewed the drinking water standard for arsenic because of special concerns that it may not be stringent enough. The new MCL for arsenic is now set at .010mg/L as of 1/23/06. Arsenic is a naturally occurring mineral known to cause cancer in humans at high concentrations.

### Nitrates

Nitrate in drinking water at levels above 10 ppm is a health risk for infants of less than six months of age. High nitrate levels in drinking water can cause blue baby syndrome. Nitrate levels may rise quickly for short periods of time because of rainfall or agricultural activity. If you are caring for an infant, you should ask for advice from your health care provider.

### Source Assessment Report:

NH Department of Environmental Services has prepared a Source Assessment Report for the sources serving this public water system. The results of the assessments are as follows. GRW #1 and GRW #2 rated the same at; (0) of the susceptibility factors were rated high, (4) were rated medium, and (8) were rated low. The complete Assessment Report is available for inspection at the Hill town office. For more information, visit NHDES Drinking Water Source Assessment Program web site at [WWW.des.nh.gov/dwgb](http://WWW.des.nh.gov/dwgb).