

South Hadley Fire District No.2 Water Department recommends the installation of backflow prevention devices, such as low cost hose bibs and vacumm breakers, (as shown below) for all inside and outside hose connections. You can purchase these at a hardware or plumbing supply store. This is a great way for you to help protect the water in your home as well as the drinking water system in your town.

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



ANNUAL WATER QUALITY REPORT

DO NOT submerge a garden hose in buckets, pools, tubs or sinks and never attach chemical sprayers without a backflow device. A water main break or fire hydrant use, can cause a vacuum, sucking toxic chemicals into your household plumbing.



While we are fortunate to have such an abundance of excellent water, the Department is committed to the preservation ethic. This is why we joined with the District No.1 Water Department, the Town's Department of Public Works and Interstate Waste Services (the company that is managing the Town's landfill) in sponsoring an effort to encourage the consumption of local water rather than water in plastic bottles. The "Think Globally Drink Locally" campaign handed out about 300 aluminum water bottles to our citizens.



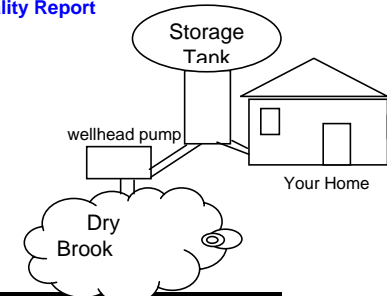
This report was prepared by:
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**BEGINNING JULY 1, 2009
ALL WATER CUSTOMERS WILL BE BILLED
EVERY TWO (2) MONTHS.**



Important Health Information
Some People may be more vulnerable to contaminants

In 2008, The South Hadley Fire District No. 2 Water Department supplied our residents and businesses with 144,236,000 gallons of water pumped from our two wells at the Dry Brook Pumping 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.



If you have any questions about this report or concerning the Water Department please contact William Selkirk, Superintendent at 413-532-9210 or by writing to:
South Hadley Fire District No. 2 Water Department
20 Woodbridge Street, South Hadley MA 01075.

BUSINESS HOURS
Monday - Friday
8:30a.m. - 2:30p.m.
Water Commissioners
Chairman: Frank DeToma
Clerk: Chuck Scott
Member: Katie Fitzgerald

All 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. All 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

South Hadley Fire District No.2 Water Dept. operates under the Source Water Protection Program, which promotes health and safety throughout the community. This program protects and preserves the resources of the Town and region from any land use that may reduce the quality of its water resources. The South Hadley Water Protection Information is on file with the Town Clerk and is overseen by the Water Supply Protection District.

The District's original source of water, the Lithia Springs reservoir, and its associated pumping station off of Amherst Road, have been out of service for many years. The pumping station has not been used since 1996, and was officially taken out of operation in 2005. The Prudential Board and the Water Commissioners have discussed what the District should do with the facility. The pumping station and some water filtration structures sit on about 60 acres of land that is protected by a state conservation restriction (Article 97); the land cannot be used for any other purpose without the approval of the Massachusetts Legislature.

District members have expressed their view that if the land is to be sold, it should be done so with conservation protection as a primary concern. There is a possibility that some or all of the land could be sold to a private entity under the condition that the conservation restriction remains on it. Accordingly, the Prudential Board and the Water Commissioners engaged the services of a consulting firm, in order to determine how best to dispose of the property within the confines of the Art. 97 restriction.

It is the hope of the District Officers that the State will purchase most if not all of the land from the District for conservation and/or recreation purposes.

KIDS KORNER:

Word Scramble Game

All living things need _____ (**tawer**) to live.
When water evaporates, it travels into the air and becomes part of a _____ (**dlocu**)
Less than 1% of all the water on the earth is _____ (**sefrh**) water.
We _____ (**ikrdn**) water in the liquid form.
Check for leaks and save hundreds of _____ (**allogns**) of water a day.
You'll save water by taking a quick _____ (**howser**).
Wash bikes and cars with a _____ (**kecbut**) and sponge instead of a running hose.
Ask your _____ (**mfaiyl**) to look for ways to save water.



2008 Monitoring Results for Contaminants in 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.

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 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.



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.

In order to ensure that tap water is safe to drink, The DEP 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 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. 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, 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 result of oil and gas production and mining activities.

"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. 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 <http://www.epa.gov/safewater/lead>."

SOUTH HADLEY FIRE DISTRICT NO. 2 WATER DEPARTMENT MISSION STATEMENT

AS WE CONTINUE TO EDUCATE OURSELVES AND THE PUBLIC, TOGETHER WE WILL ENSURE THE FUTURE OF OUR WATER SYSTEM, PROTECT THE WATER SUPPLY, AND DELIVER THE HIGHEST QUALITY OF POTABLE WATER FOR THE LOWEST POSSIBLE RATE.

by calling the EPA's Safe Drinking Water Hotline. (1-800-426-4791).

Contaminant	Unit	MCLG Health Goal	MCL EPA's Limits	Level Detected	Range Detected	Violation (Yes/No)	Year Sampled	Potential Source of Contamination
Inorganic Contaminants								
COPPER	ppm	1.3	1.3 = AL	0.622 (90th percentile)	0.155 -.811 MG/L	NO	2008	Corrosion of household plumbing systems; Erosion of natural deposits; Leaching from wood preservatives.
				All 20 sites below AL.				
LEAD	ppm	0	15 = AL	.00525 (90th percentile)	ND - .0104 MG/L	NO	2008	Corrosion of household plumbing systems; Erosion of natural deposits
				All 20 sites below AL.				
NITRATE	ppm	10	10	N/A	0.666 - 0.677	NO	2008	Run off from fertilizer use; Leaching from septic tanks, sewage; Erosion of natural deposits.

Non-Regulated Substances: Unregulated contaminant monitoring helps EPA to determine where certain contaminants occur and whether it needs to regulate those contaminants.

Substance	Unit	Range Detected	Violation	Potential Source of Contamination
Sodium	ppm	8.38 to 9.06	No	Naturally Occurring
Sulfate	ppm	23.3 to 24.4	No	Runoff/leaching from natural deposits; industrial waste

ALL SAMPLINGS DONE IN 2008

Substance	Highest # positive in a month	MCL	MCLG	Violation	Potential Source of Contamination
Total Coliform	7	1	0	YES	Naturally present in the environment
E - Coli	1	0	0	YES	Naturally present in the environment, Human and Animal Waste.

Total coliform bacteria were detected in routine water samples collected from the water system on August 11, 2008. The incident is believed to have happened because of the construction on the Rt.47 Bridge. A temporary water main was installed and failed coliform bacteria testing twice before finally passing. It was determined the contractor used plastic pipe to make the connection that was not cleaned before being put into service. We believe coliform re-growth occurred. The samples before the bridge project were absent of coliform bacteria as well as the source. After the repeat samples were taken, one sample tested positive for E-Coli. This sample had to be taken from an outside faucet because we could not gain entry to the residence. This was the only sample to test positive for E-Coli and all additional samples were negative.

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.

The Water Department has received reduced sampling frequency waivers for volatile organic contaminants (VOC's), synthetic organic contaminants (SOC's), and inorganic contaminants (IOC's). There is also a waiver for lead and copper sampling. These waivers were granted based upon a vulnerability assessment and because the source is not at risk of contamination.

Municipal organizations like ours operate in a difficult environment. This past year we faced some emergencies that proved to be both unexpected and challenging for our staff. As always we are proud of the exemplary effort put forth by our personnel. They responded with the dedication and professionalism that we've all come to admire and resolved these difficulties in a safe and efficient manner. Drawing on the experiences gained during these situations we have instituted new procedures and made operational changes that will help us avoid these types of problems in the future.