Yarmouth Water District

ESTABLISHED, 1895. INCORPORATED, 1923.

2014 Consumer Confidence Report

Public Water System ID ME0091670

INTRODUCTION

The Yarmouth Water District (YWD) was established in 1895. YWD presently serves the municipalities of Yarmouth, North Yarmouth and a very small portion of Cumberland. YWD ensures that your water is safe through regular monitoring and testing of water quality. This Consumer Confidence Report (CCR) is one way to communicate those test results. This CCR intends to provide you, the YWD customer, with important information about your drinking water. The YWD's Trustees and employees mission is to develop and manage its water resources and infrastructure in such a way as to provide the highest quality water to all its customers.

WATER QUALITY

The YWD ensures that your water is safe through regular testing of both its source and treated water. All water quality testing is conducted by independent, state-certified laboratories. The YWD uses the Maine Drinking Water Program's Health and Environmental Testing Laboratory and Katadin Analytical Laboratory for all testing. This CCR is a comprehensive summary of the laboratory test results. YWD staff consists of distribution and water treatment operators, licensed by the State of Maine Department of Health and Human Services.

The Safe Drinking Water Act directs the state, along with the Environmental Protection Agency (EPA), to establish and enforce minimum drinking water standards. These standards set limits on certain biological, radioactive, organic, and inorganic substances sometimes found in drinking water. Two types of standards have been established. Primary drinking water standards set achievable levels of drinking water quality to protect your health. Secondary drinking water standards provide guidelines regarding the taste, odor, color, and other aesthetic aspects of drinking water, which do not present a health risk. The 2014 testing results indicate that the Yarmouth Water District's water continuously meets or exceeds all state and federal requirements.

WATER SUPPLY / SOURCE INFORMATION

The Maine Drinking Water Program, in cooperation with local public water suppliers (PWS), has conducted a statewide assessment of the risks to public water supply wells and intakes from human activities. All wells were rated on the current and future risk for contamination by both acute contaminants, like bacteria, and chronic contaminants, like petroleum hydrocarbons. While most community supplies have low to moderate risk factors based on current conditions, a large proportion have high risk for future development in their source protection areas. For the Yarmouth Water District, the well itself is rated as a Moderate risk. This is a factor that can only be changed by installing a new well. The current land use around the well results in a Low risk for bacteria and nitrates, and Moderate risk for long-term, chronic contaminants. Water quality testing and limited development in your protection area produce a lower risk ranking. The Yarmouth Water District land ownership and wellhead management planning indicate a Low risk for future bacterial contamination and Moderate risk for chronic contaminants. Land use controls exist that can be used to manage development around the source. The District will work to make sure that these controls are effective in protecting water quality. For a detailed copy of the Source Water Assessment, please contact our district office or the Maine Drinking Water Program at 1-207-287-2070. 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 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 (1-800-426-4791).

The Yarmouth Water District uses groundwater supplies from four gravel packed wells. These supplies are all located in the Town of North Yarmouth. The District also maintains a connection with the Portland Water District, which primarily serves as the source of supply for the Wyman Power Station on Cousins Island in Yarmouth. In the last 12 months, we have produced and delivered more than 262,915,000 gallons of water to the distribution system. The Yarmouth Water District actively chlorinates at the sources to provide a chlorine residual in the distribution system.

WATER SYSTEM DATA

Our water supply and distribution system includes almost 80 miles of water main and 2979 active services. The Yarmouth Water District has 3 storage tanks; one located in North Yarmouth (200,000 gallons), and two storage tanks located in Yarmouth (500,000 gallons and 1,000,000 gallons). We currently chlorinate with Sodium Hypochlorite at the production wells. The system serves approximately 8,800 customers and provides fire protection service through 387 hydrants. The District added 32 new water services, 4,130 feet of new water main and 4 new hydrants in 2014.

HIGHLIGHTS OF THE PAST YEAR

2014 was a busy year with the East Elm Bridge Project, the rehabilitation of West Elm Street distribution mains and the introduction of natural gas distribution. Approximately 3,734 feet of water main was cleaned and relined with new cement lining on West Elm Street from Main Street to McCartney Street. The McKearney Village project added 4,130 feet of new water main to our distribution system. Both projects greatly improved fire flows and water quality.

Primary Drinking Water Standards

Parameter	Maximum Contaminant Level	Maximum Contaminant Level Goal	Actual YWD Test Results	Sample Source Sample Date
Microbiological 2014 Coliform bacteria YWD samples 11 sites per month.	1 per month	0	0	Distribution 1/1/14-12/31-14
% positive for microbiological presence	0%	5%	0%	Distribution 1/1/14-12/31-14
Disinfection Byproducts-2014				
Total Trihlomethanes(TTHM)	80 ppb	0 ppb	1.76 ppb	Distribution 8/20/13
Haloacetic Acids(HAA5)	60 ppb	5.0 ppb	0 ppb	Distribution 8/20/13
Inorganic Chemicals 2014 TE-6				
Arsenic	10 ppb	0 ppb	0.87 ppb	Reinsborough Well 6/16/14
Barium	2 ppm	2 ppm	0.0065 ppm	Estabrook Well 6/16/14
Chromium	100 ppb	100 ppb	1.9 ppb	Estabrook Well 6/16/14
Copper 90^{th} %	1.3 ppm	1.3 ppm	0.185 ppm	Customers 6/28/13
Lead 90^{th} %	0.015 ppm	0 ppb	0.013 ppm	Customers 6/28/13
Nitrate Nitrogen	10 ppm	10 ppm	1.8 ppm	Reinsborough Well 6/16/14
Radioactive Contaminants				
Gross Alpha Screen	15 pCi/L	0 pCi/L	4.23 pCi/L	Stevens Well 7/6/11
Uranium-238	30 ppb	0 ppb	9.7 ppb	Estabrook Well 6/16/14

Secondary Drinking Water Standards

Non-regulated Aesthetic Standards for Finished Water

Chemical Parameters 2014 TE-6	**Other**	**Secondary Maximum Contaminant Level**	**Actual YWD Test Results**	**Sample Location Date**
Chloride		250 ppm	45 ppm	Hayes Well 5/12/14
Color		15 PCU	<5 PCU	All Sources 2014
Copper		1.0 ppm	0.026 ppm	Reinsborough Well 6/16/14
Iron		0.30 ppm	0.093 ppm	Estabrook Well 6/16/14
Magnesium		No Standard	6.0 ppm	Estabrook Well 6/16/14
Manganese		0.05 ppm	<.0005 ppm	BDL 2014
pH		6.5-8.5	6.7	Estabrook Well 6/16/14
Sodium	Guidance Level 20 ppm	No Standard **	21 ppm	Hayes Well 5/12/14
Sulfate		250 ppm	13 ppm	Estabrook Well 6/16/14
Zinc		2.0 ppm	0.088 ppm	Hayes Well 5/12/14
Calcium		No Standard	25 ppm	Estabrook Well 6/16/14
Hardness		No Standard	87.2 ppm	Estabrook Well 6/16/14
Chlorine Residual Avg.	Range 0.19-0.35 ppm	4.0 ppm	RAA 0.28 ppm	Distribution System 1/1/14-12/31/14

Definitions

Guidance Level: Drinking Water Equivalency Level.

Maximum Contaminant Level (MCL): Highest level of a contaminant allowed in drinking water.

Maximum Contaminant Level Goal (MCLG): Level of a contaminant in drinking water below which there is no known or expected health risk.

Secondary Maximum Contaminant Levels (SMCL): Target for aesthetic quality without posing risk to human health.

Running Annual Average (RAA): The average of all monthly or quarterly samples for the last year at all sample locations.

Action Level (AL): Concentration of a contaminant that, if exceeded, triggers treatment or other requirements which a water system must follow.

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

ppb = parts per billion or micrograms per liter (ug/L)

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

NTU = nephelometric turbidity units

BDL= Below Detection Limit

Notes:

1) Total Coliform Bacteria: Reported as the highest monthly number of positive samples, for water systems that take < 40 samples per month.

2) Lead/Copper: Action levels (AL) are measured at consumer's tap. 90% of the tests must be equal to or below the action level.

3) Nitrate: 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 advice from your health provider.

4) Gross Alpha: Action level over 5 pCi/L requires testing for Radium. Action level over 15 pCi/L requires testing for Radon and Uranium.

5) Sodium: Current drinking water standard for sodium is 20 milligrams per liter. Individuals on a low sodium diet due to high blood pressure, or other health problems, should consult their physician about drinking water on a daily basis which exceeds that level. Most Americans consume as much as ten times more salt than the body requires. Excess sodium from salt in the diet increases the risk of high blood pressure and cardiovascular disease. For most healthy people, a sodium level of 100 milligrams per liter of water will not substantially increase risk.

**** For sodium, EPA believes this guidance level for sodium needs updating, and is probably low. If a health benchmark for drinking water were established using current information and current drinking water health assessment procedures, it would likely be higher.

6) TTHM/HAA5: Total Trihalomethanes and Haloacetic Acids are formed as a by-product of drinking water chlorination. This chemical reaction occurs when chlorine combines with naturally occurring organic matter in water.

Health Information

Drinking water, including bottled water, may be reasonably expected to contain at least small amounts of some contaminants, some of which occur naturally. The presence of contaminants does not necessarily indicate that the water poses a health risk. Contaminants that may be present in source water include: **(1)** Microbial contaminants, such as viruses and bacteria, which may come from sewage treatment plants, septic systems, agricultural livestock operations, and wildlife. **(2)** 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. **(3)** Pesticides and herbicides, which may come from a variety of sources such as agriculture, urban storm water runoff, and residential uses. **(4)** 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 runoff, and septic systems. **(5)** Radioactive contaminants, which can be naturally occurring or be the result of oil and gas production and mining activities.

However, 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. The EPA and CDC have guidelines on the appropriate means to lessen the risk of infection by cryptosporidium and other microbial contaminants. More information about waterborne contaminants and potential health effects can be obtained by calling the Safe Drinking Water Hotline at 1-800-426-4791.

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. Yarmouth Water District 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 lead exposure by flushing your tap for 30 seconds to 2 minutes before using the 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 (1-800-426-4791) or at http:// www.epa.gov.safewater/lead

Violations

The Yarmouth Water District has no reportable violations in 2014 for water quality.

Waiver Information

YWD received full Synthetic Organic Contaminants waivers at the Stevens, Estabrook and Reinsborough well for the 2014-2016 compliance period.

OTHER IMPORTANT INFORMATION

This CCR is only a summary report. If you have any questions about this report, your water quality, your water service please contact the Yarmouth Water District's office at (207-846-5821) during normal business hours (Monday through Friday between 7:30 am and 4:30 pm).

YARMOUTH WATER DISTRICT

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BOARD OF TRUSTEES

The Yarmouth Water District Board of Trustees generally meets the first Tuesday of every month at 7:00 PM at the Yarmouth Water District office on 181 Sligo Road, Yarmouth. Meeting notices are listed in ***The Notes*** and are open to the public.