



104 Sawmill Lane, North Conway NH, 03860

Phone: 603-356-5382

E-mail: service@ncwp.nh.gov

Web : www.ncwp.nh.gov

PWSID#: 0511030

REPORTING YEAR 2023



ANNUAL WATER QUALITY REPORT

OUR MISSION

We are once again proud to present our annual water quality report covering all testing performed between January 1 and December 31, 2023. Over the years, we have dedicated ourselves to providing clean, safe and great tasting drinking water that meets all state and federal standards. We continually strive to adopt new methods for delivering the best-quality drinking water to you. As new challenges to drinking water safety emerge, we remain vigilant in meeting the goals of source water protection, water conservation and, community education while continuing to serve the needs of all our water users. Please remember that we are always available to assist you should you ever have any questions or concerns about your water.

YOUR SOURCE WATER ASSESSMENT

The North Conway Water Precinct derives its drinking water from five gravel pack wells located in the pristine and well protected Saco River aquifer. The wells are distributed within the river floodplain from Valley View Road to the south, and the Intervale scenic overlook to the north. These wells range in depth from 77 feet to 115 feet, with yields ranging from 700 - 1,600 gallons per minute. These wells are not only some of the highest capacity wells in New Hampshire, but they are also considered to be among the most pristine and offer exceptional water quality. North Conway is extremely fortunate to have a pure, pristine, high-quality drinking water supply and the Precinct takes the responsibility of its protection very seriously. The Precinct is consistently working with organizations and surrounding municipalities to protect the source of our groundwater and we appreciate the support of all local stakeholders in that endeavor.

In 2023 the voters of the North Conway Water Precinct voted to purchase 96+/- acres of land that falls within NCWP's wellhead protection area to protect it for many years to come. In 2023, we pumped a combined total of 245,019,367 gallons from these five water supply wells.

** See NHDES Source Water Assessment and Definitions on Page 10 & 11.*

YOUR VOICE

You are invited to participate in our public forum and voice your concerns about your drinking water. We meet every other Wednesday at 10 a.m. at the Precinct office located at 104 Sawmill Lane, North Conway. In addition, for customer convenience, we hold quarterly night meetings at 7 p.m. For specific information, visit our website at www.ncwp.nh.gov

SUBSTANCES IN WATER

To ensure that tap water is safe to drink, the U.S. EPA prescribes regulations limiting the amount of certain contaminants in water provided by public water systems.

U.S. Food and Drug Administration regulations establish limits for contaminants in bottled water, which must provide the same protection for public health. Drinking water, including bottled water, may reasonably be expected to contain at least small amounts of some contaminants. *The presence of these contaminants does not necessarily indicate that the water poses a health risk.* 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, in some cases, radioactive material, and substances resulting from the presence of animal or human activity.

WHAT SUBSTANCES MAY BE PRESENT IN SOURCE WATER?

Microbial Contaminants

Viruses and bacteria may come from sewage treatment plants, septic systems, agricultural livestock operations, or wildlife.

Inorganic Contaminants

Salts and metals, which can be naturally occurring or may result from urban stormwater runoff, industrial or domestic wastewater discharges, oil and gas production, mining, or farming.

Pesticides and Herbicides

Pesticides and herbicides may come from a variety of sources such as agriculture, urban stormwater run off, and residential uses.

Organic Chemical Contaminants

Synthetic and/or volatile organic chemicals, which are byproducts of industrial processes and petroleum production may also come from gas stations, urban stormwater runoff, and septic systems.

Radioactive Contaminants

Radioactive contaminants can be naturally occurring or may be the result of oil and gas production as well as mining activities.

FOR MORE INFORMATION ABOUT CONTAMINANTS AND POTENTIAL HEALTH EFFECTS,
CALL THE U.S. EPA'S SAFE DRINKING WATER HOTLINE AT (800) 426-4791.

THE TREATMENT PROCESS

The only treatment that is performed on all of our water sources is pH control. Our addition of Sodium Hydroxide raises the natural pH of our water from 5.5-6.0 up to a target pH of 7.5 to reduce the potential for the water to corrode piping and plumbing and minimize the risk of metals like lead and copper leaching into drinking water. We do not add any chlorine to our water supply wells but we do maintain a chemical feed system in the event that we may need disinfection during emergency or in the event of contamination.



HEALTH 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 may be particularly at risk of infection. These people should seek advice about drinking water from their health care providers.

RADON

LEAD

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. We are responsible for providing high-quality drinking water but, we 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.

Radon is a radioactive gas that you cannot see, taste, or smell. Radon can move up through the ground and seep into a home through cracks or holes in the foundation. Radon can get into indoor air when released from tap water while showering, washing dishes, and doing other household activities. Radon is a known human carcinogen. Breathing air containing radon can lead to lung cancer. Drinking water containing radon may also cause increased risk of stomach cancer. If you are concerned about radon in your home, test the air in your home. Testing is inexpensive and easy. You should pursue radon removal for your home if the level of radon in your air is 4 pCi/L or higher. There are simple ways to fix a radon problem that are not too costly.

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

For additional information, call your state radon program or call the U.S. EPA's Radon Hotline at (800) SOS-RADON

THE U.S. 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 AT (800) 426-4791 OR [HTTP://WATER.EPA.GOV/DRINK/HOTLINE](http://water.epa.gov/drink/hotline).

REGULATED SUBSTANCES

Recent Test Results

Substance (Unit of Measure)	Sample Year	MCL	MCLG	Amount Detected (average)	Range Low - High	Violation
Compliance Gross Alpha (pCi/L)	2023	15	0	ND	ND	NO
Asbestos (MFL)	2022	7	7	ND	ND	NO
Barium (mg/L)	2023	2	2	.002	.0025 - .0059	NO
Combined Radium 226+228 (pCi/L)	2022	5	0	1.3	ND - 1.3	NO
Fluoride (mg/L)	2023	4	4	.64	.57 - 1.1	NO
Nitrate (mg/L)	2023	10	10	.3	.23-.45	NO
Radon (pCi / L)	2009	N/A	0	3,400	2,900 - 3,400	NO
Uranium (µg/L)	2023	30	0	ND	ND	NO
Uranium (pCi/L)	2023	20	0	ND	ND	NO

DEFINITIONS

ND The contaminant was not detected in the sample.

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.

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.

pCi/L: picoCuries per liter; A unit of radioactivity corresponding to one decay every 27 seconds in a volume of one liter, or 0.037 decays per second in every liter

MFL: 1 million fibers per liter; A measure of asbestos fibers in drinking water

mg/L: milligrams per liter; 1 mg/L = 1 part per million (ppm)

µg/L: micrograms per liter; µg/L = 1 part per billion (ppb)

pH: A measure of the acidity of water. pH < 7 is acidic; pH = 7 is neutral; pH > 7 is alkaline

SOURCES AND HEALTH EFFECTS

Substance	Source	Health Effects
Compliance Gross Alpha	Erosion of natural deposits	Certain minerals are radioactive and may emit a form of radiation known as alpha radiation. Some people who drink water containing alpha emitters in excess of the MCL over many years may have an increased risk of getting cancer.
Asbestos	Decay of asbestos cement water mains; erosion of natural deposits	Some people who drink water containing asbestos in excess of the MCL over many years may have an increased risk of developing benign intestinal polyps.
Barium	Discharge of drilling wastes; discharge from metal refineries; erosion of natural deposits	Some people who drink water containing barium in excess of the MCL over many years could experience an increase in their blood pressure.
Combined Radium	Erosion of natural deposits	Some people who drink water containing radium 226 or 228 in excess of the MCL over many years may have an increased risk of getting cancer.
Fluoride	Erosion of natural deposits; water additive which promotes strong teeth; discharge from fertilizer and aluminum factories	Some people who drink water containing fluoride in excess of the MCL over many years could get bone disease, including pain and tenderness of the bones. Fluoride in drinking water at half the MCL or more may cause mottling of children's teeth, usually in children less than nine years old. Mottling also known as dental fluorosis, may include brown staining and/or pitting of the teeth, and occurs only in developing teeth before they erupt from the gums.
Nitrate	Runoff from fertilizer use; leaching from septic tanks, sewage; erosion of natural deposits	Infants below the age of six months who drink water containing nitrate in excess of the MCL could become seriously ill, and if untreated, may die. Symptoms include shortness of breath and blue baby syndrome.
Radon	Erosion of natural deposits	Radon is a radioactive gas that you can't see, taste or smell. It can move up through the ground and into a home through cracks and holes in the foundation. Radon can also get into indoor air when released from tap water showering, washing dishes, and other household activities. It is a known human carcinogen. Breathing radon can lead to lung cancer. Drinking water containing radon may cause an increased risk of stomach cancer.
Uranium	Erosion of natural deposits	Some people who drink water containing uranium in excess of the MCL over many years may have an increased risk of getting cancer and kidney toxicity.
Copper	Corrosion of household plumbing systems; erosion of natural deposits; leaching from wood preservatives	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	Corrosion of household plumbing systems, erosion of natural deposits	(15 ppb in more than 5%) 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 homes 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 (800-426-4791). (above 15 ppb) Infants and children who drink water containing lead in excess of the action level could experience delays in their physical or mental development. Children could show slight deficits in attention span and learning abilities. Adults who drink this water over many years could develop kidney problems or high blood pressure.

ADDITIONAL TESTS, SECONDARY MCL'S & UNREGULATED SUBSTANCES

Substance (Unit of Measure)	Sample Year	SMCL	MCLG	Amount Detected	Range Low - High	Violation
Aluminum (ppb)	2012	200	N/A	60	0 - 60	NO
Chloride (mg/L)	2023	250	N/A	15	0 - 22	NO
Copper (mg/L)	2023	1.0	N/A	.0107	0 - .0107	NO
Manganese (mg/L)	2023	50	N/A	.0044	ND - .0044	NO
pH (Units)	2023	6.5-8.5	N/A	7.18	6.93 - 7.42	NO
Sulfate (mg/L)	2023	250	N/A	3	0 - 4	NO
Zinc (mg/L)	2023	5	N/A	.0102	0 - .0102	NO
Nickel (mg/L)	2023	N/A	N/A	.0025	ND-0.0056	NO
Sodium (mg/L)	2023	30-60	N/A	20.6	20.6-20.6	NO

TAP WATER SAMPLES

Collected For Lead And Copper Analyses From Sample Sites Throughout The Community.
Only test results exceeding lab detection limits recorded.

Substance (Unit of Measure)	Sample Year	Action Level	MCLG [MRDLG]	Amount Detected [90th percentile]	Sites above action level/ total sites	Violation
Copper (mg/L)	2023	1.3	1.3	.0225	0/40	NO
Lead (mg/L)	2023	.015	0	<.001	0/40	NO

SOURCES AND MONITORING

Substance	Typical Source	Specific Criteria and Reason for Monitoring
Aluminum	Erosion of natural deposits; residual from some surface water treatment processes	Aluminum may impart some color to water. May pose a risk for those on dialysis.
Chloride	Runoff from winter storm deicing salt; erosion of natural deposits	Chloride may impart a salty taste to water.
Copper	Corrosion of household plumbing systems; erosion of natural deposits	Copper may cause blue-green staining of plumbing fixtures. 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.
Manganese	Leaching/erosion from natural deposits	Manganese may cause black staining of plumbing fixtures or impart a bitter, metallic taste to water. Manganese is an essential nutrient, but some people drinking water containing manganese in excess of the action level could suffer neurological problems, including effecting learning and behaviour in infants.
pH	Naturally occurring	Low pH may cause a bitter metallic taste and the corrosion of metal pipes/fixtures. High pH may cause water to have a slippery feel, soda taste, and leave mineral deposits.
Sulfate	Runoff/leaching from natural deposits; industrial waste	Sulfate may impart a salty taste to water. May have a laxative effect on people unaccustomed to drinking water with sulfate present in high levels.
Zinc	Runoff/leaching from natural deposits; industrial wastes	Zinc may impart a metallic taste to the water
Nickel	Naturally occurring	Long-term exposure to nickel has been linked to decreased body weight, heart & liver damage and dermatitis.
Sodium	Runoff from winter storm de-icing; erosion of natural deposits	May impart a salty taste to water.

SOURCE WATER ASSESSMENT

Assessments of Public Water Supply Sources - CONWAY

This report is a summary of NH Department of Environmental Services' assessments of the vulnerability of each source used by the public water system(s) located in this municipality. The sources listed here are grouped first by the type of public water system and then by the system itself. Each source was ranked according to a number of criteria; a vulnerability ranking is given for each criterion that applies to the source. *An explanation of each column in the report can be found on the last page.*

Source Number	Source Description	Source Type	Date Assessment Completed	Number of Vulnerability Rankings			Susceptibility Ranking Criteria												
				Highs	Mediums	Lows	Detects	Well/Intake	KCSs	PCSS	Highways/RRs	Pesticides	Septics	Urban Land Cover	Ag Land Cover	Animals	Lagoons	Dry discharges	Sanitary radius
System Type		C	C=Community; P=Non-Transient, Non-Community; N=Transient																
EPAID	0511030	System Name:		NORTH CONWAY WATER PRECINCT															
002	GPW	G	4/24/2000	2	1	9	L	L	L	L	M	L	H	L	H	L	L	L	L
003	GPW	G	4/24/2000	1	3	8	L	L	L	L	M	M	H	L	M	L	L	L	L
008	GPW	G	4/20/2000	1	2	9	L	L	L	L	M	M	L	L	H	L	L	L	L
009	GPW	G	4/20/2000	1	2	9	L	L	L	L	M	M	L	L	H	L	L	L	L

Explanatory Notes

Abbreviations used in the following notes:

HAC = hydrologic area of concern for a surface water source. For small or undeveloped watersheds, the HAC includes the entire watershed. For all other surface sources, the HAC includes only a portion of the watershed close to the water system intake.

WHPA = wellhead protection area for a groundwater source. For community and non-transient systems, the WHPA is the area from which water is expected to flow to the well under extremely dry conditions. For transient systems, the WHPA is the area within 500 ft of the well.

EPAID: Each public water system is identified by a 7-digit federal ID number.

Source number: Each source is further identified by a 3-digit number.

Source description: An abbreviated description of the source from NHDES's database. (Some common abbreviations: BRW=bedrock well; GPW=gravel-pack well; GRW=gravel well; DUG=dug well; PTW=point well; SPR=spring; ART=artesian well; INF=infiltration well.)

Source type: G=groundwater (well or spring); S=surface water (lakes, reservoirs, ponds, rivers); E = water purchased from another system (*Purchased sources are not assessed per se, but the original sources used by the seller are assessed.*)

Date Assessment Completed: The date NHDES completed the process of reviewing available data, collecting new data, and entered the assessment information into its database.

Number of Vulnerability Rankings: The number of High, Medium, and Low rankings for that source listed in the columns to the right. Each criterion is explained below. Some criteria do not apply to all types of sources or systems.

Detects: Confirmed detections of certain contaminants (after treatment) of suspected human origin, not including disinfection byproducts. L = none detected at or above trigger levels in the most recent round of sampling. There is no M ranking for this criterion. H = contaminants were detected at or above trigger levels.

Well/Intake: The integrity of the well (if a groundwater source) or the intake (if a surface water source). L = no unresolved deficiencies with the well or intake identified in the most recent sanitary survey. There is no M ranking for this criterion. H = there are unresolved deficiencies.

KCSs: Known contamination sources in the vicinity of the source. This includes any site known to DES where contaminants are known or very likely to have been released to the ground, and where remediation is not complete. L = none present in the WHPA (for groundwater sources) or in the HAC (for surface water sources). M (for community and non-transient systems) = one or more KCSs in the WHPA or HAC but not within 1,000 ft of the well or intake. *There is no M ranking for transient systems.* H = one or more KCSs within the WHPA or HAC within 1,000 ft of the well or intake.

SOURCE WATER ASSESSMENT

PCSS: Potential contamination sources in the vicinity of the source. This includes any site known to DES where contaminants are known or very likely to be used in significant quantities, but where there are no known releases to the ground. L (for community and non-transient systems) = no PCSSs within 1,000 ft of the well in the WHPA (for groundwater sources) or none present in the HAC (for surface water sources). L (for transient systems) = none present in the WHPA. M (for groundwater sources serving community and non-transient systems) = 10 or fewer PCSSs within 1,000 ft of the well in the WHPA. M (for surface water sources) = one or more PCSSs in the HAC but not within 1,000 ft of the intake. *There is no M ranking for transient systems.* H (for groundwater sources serving community and non-transient systems) = more than 10 PCSSs within 1,000 ft of the well in the WHPA. H (for transient sources) = one or more PCSSs in the WHPA. H (for surface water sources) = one or more within 1,000 ft of the intake in the HAC.

Highways/RRs: The presence of numbered state highways or active railroads in the vicinity of the source. L = none present in the WHPA or HAC. M (for community and non-transient groundwater sources) = one or more in the WHPA but not within 1,000 ft of the well. M (for surface sources) = one or more in the HAC but not within 300 ft of the source water. *There is no M ranking for transient systems.* H (for transient sources) = one or more in the WHPA. H (for community and non-transient groundwater sources) = one or more in the WHPA within 1,000 ft of the well. H (for surface sources) = one or more in the HAC within 300 ft of the source water.

Pesticides: Whether or not pesticides have been routinely applied in the vicinity of the source. This is based on the presence of land parcels owned by registered pesticide applicators. L = no application areas in WHPA or HAC. M (for community and non-transient sources) = application site(s) in WHPA or HAC but not within 500 ft of the well or within 300 ft of the intake. *There is no M ranking for transient systems.* H = application site(s) within 500 ft of the well or within 300 ft of the intake.

Septics: The presence or density of septic systems and sewer lines in the vicinity of the source. L (for community and non-transient groundwater sources) = no septic systems or sewer lines located within 500 ft of the well, and fewer than 30 septic systems in the remainder of the WHPA. L (for surface sources) = no septic systems within 500 ft of surface water. L (for transient sources) = no septic systems or sewer lines within 75 ft of the well. M (for community and non-transient groundwater sources) = fewer than 10 septic systems and no sewer line located within 500 ft of well, and fewer than 30 septic systems in remainder of the WHPA. M (for surface sources) = low density of septic systems (lots averaging 2 acres or more) within 500 ft of surface water in the HAC. *There is no M ranking for transient systems.* H (for community and non-transient groundwater sources) = 10 or more septic systems or any sewer line within 500 ft of the well and/or high density of septic systems (more than 30) in the WHPA. H (for surface sources) = densely developed shoreline (lots averaging less than 2 acres) within 500 ft of surface water in the HAC. H (for transient sources) = one or more septic systems or sewer lines within 75 ft of the well.

Urban Land Cover: The percentage of urban land cover in the vicinity of the source, based primarily on satellite images. *This criterion does not apply to sources serving transient systems.* L = less than 10% of the WHPA or HAC is urban, and less than 10% of the WHPA within 1,000 ft of the well is urban. M (for community and non-transient groundwater sources) = less than 10% of WHPA is urban but 10% or more of the WHPA within 1,000 ft of the well is urban. M (for surface sources) = between 10% and 20% of HAC is urban. H (for community and non-transient groundwater sources) = 10% or more of WHPA is urban. H (for surface sources) = 20% or more of HAC is urban.

Ag Land Cover: The percentage of agricultural land cover in the vicinity of the source (in the WHPA or within 300 ft of surface water in the HAC), based primarily on satellite images. *This criterion does not apply to sources serving transient systems.* L = no ag land. M = less than 10% ag land. H = 10% or more ag land.

Animals: The presence of concentrations of 10 or more animal units in the vicinity of the source. L = none in the WHPA or (for a surface source) within 300 ft of surface water in the watershed. M (for community and non-transient groundwater sources) = one or more such farms in the WHPA but not within 1,000 ft of the well. M (for a surface source) = none within 300 ft of surface water in the HAC, but one or more within 300 ft of surface water in the watershed. *There is no M ranking for transient systems.* H = one or more in the WHPA within 1,000 ft of the well or (for a surface source) within 300 ft of surface water in the HAC.

Lagoons: The presence of wastewater treatment lagoons or spray irrigation sites in the vicinity of the source. L = none in the WHPA or (for a surface source) in the entire watershed. M (for community and non-transient groundwater sources) = one or more in the WHPA but not within 1,000 ft of the well. M (for a surface source) = none within 300 ft of surface water in the HAC, but one or more in the watershed. *There is no M ranking for transient systems.* H = one or more in the WHPA within 1,000 ft of the well or (for a surface source) within 300 ft of surface water in the HAC.

Dry Discharge: The presence of dry-weather stormwater discharge sites in the vicinity of the source. *Only a handful of surface sources were evaluated for such discharges; no discharges were found.*

Sanitary Radius: The presence of development not associated with the well within the sanitary radius (within 75 to 400 ft of the well). *Applies only to groundwater sources serving community and non-transient systems.* Of particular concern are sewer lines, septic systems, or storage of regulated substances in this area. L = no inappropriate land uses or practices. No medium ranking. H = inappropriate land uses or practices were discovered during the most recent sanitary survey, and have not been corrected.

Trophic status: The projected trophic (nutrient) status of the source as predicted by a computer model using a future land development scenario for the watershed. *This criterion applies only to 24 lakes, ponds, and reservoirs included in the phosphorus loading study.* L = oligotrophic (relatively good clarity and water quality with low algae population). M = mesotrophic (intermediate clarity, quality, and algae population). H = eutrophic

"We take great pride not only in providing a reliable supply of clean, safe, and great tasting drinking water to all of our customers but also in protecting the natural resources of the aquifer from which it comes."



Please note that we are now hosting our annual water quality reports online, in lieu of general mailing. If you would like to receive a printed copy, call us at (603) 356-5382 and we will be happy to mail you a copy.