



Pennichuck 2026 Consumer Confidence Report

Northern Shores EPA # 2352020

What is a Consumer Confidence Report?

The Consumer Confidence Report (CCR) details the quality of your drinking water, where it comes from, and where you can get more information. This annual report documents all detected primary and secondary drinking water parameters and compares them to their respective standards known as Maximum Contaminant Levels (MCLs).

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.

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 urban storm water runoff, 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, urban stormwater 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.

In order to ensure that tap water is safe to drink, the EPA prescribes regulations which limit the amounts of certain contaminants in water provided by public water systems. The US Food and Drug Administration (FDA) regulations establish limits for contaminants in bottled water which must provide the same protection for public health.

What is the source of my drinking water?

Northern Shores obtains its water from one artesian well located in the pumphouse, is 185 feet deep and yields 300 gallons per minute. Treatment consists of chlorine as a disinfection and as a pre-oxidant, MTM® (granular manganese dioxide filtering media) filters to reduce iron and manganese. Average water use is approximately 3,100 gallons per day (2018 data) serving approximately 75 people.

Why are contaminants in my 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 by calling the Environmental Protection Agency's Safe Drinking Water Hotline at 1-800-426-4791.

Do I need to take special precautions?

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. 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 1-800-426-4791.

Lead Service Line Inventory

A service line inventory has been prepared and can be accessed by navigating to the Pennichuck Water Works website, which can be found here: <https://pennichuck.com/pennichuck-water-service-line-inventory-project/>. On this page, click on the map icon and you will be able to type your street address into the search bar in the top righthand corner of interactive map and see what material your service line is made of.

Source Water Assessment Summary

NHDES prepared drinking water source assessment reports for all public water systems between 2000 and 2003 in an effort to assess the vulnerability of each of the state's public water supply sources. Included in the report is a map of each source water protection area, a list of potential and known contamination sources, and a summary of available protection options. The results of the assessment prepared as noted below.

| SourceName | Low | Medium | High | Date |
|-----------------|-----|--------|------|------------|
| Artesian Well 1 | 8 | 1 | 3 | 08/10/2000 |

Note: Due to the time when the assessments were completed, some of the ratings might be different if updated to reflect current information. The complete Assessment Report is available for review. For more information, call **Matt Day** at 800-553-5191 or visit the [NHDES website](#).

How can i get involved?

For more information about your drinking water, please call our customer service department at (800) 553-5191. Although we do not have specific dates for public participation events, feel free to contact us with your questions.

Violations and Other Information: We are pleased to report that your drinking water meets or exceeds all federal and state requirements.

Drinking Water Contaminants:

Arsenic: While your drinking water meets EPA's standard for arsenic, it does contain low levels of arsenic. EPA's standard balances the current understanding of arsenic's possible health effects against the costs of removing arsenic from drinking water. EPA continues to research the health effects of low levels of arsenic, which is a mineral known to cause cancer in humans at high concentrations and is linked to other health effects such as skin damage and circulatory problems.

Combined Radium: Some people who drink water containing radium 226 and 228 in excess of the MCL over many years may have an increased risk of getting cancer.

Fluoride: 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.

Lead: Lead can cause serious health effects in people of all ages, especially pregnant people, infants (both formula-fed and breastfed), and young children. Lead in drinking water is primarily from materials and parts used in service lines and in home plumbing. Northern Shores is responsible for providing high quality drinking water and removing lead pipes but cannot control the variety of materials used in the plumbing in your home. Because lead levels may vary over time, lead exposure is possible even when your tap sampling results do not detect lead at one point in time. You can help protect yourself and your family by identifying and removing lead materials within your home plumbing and taking steps to reduce your family's risk. Using a filter, certified by an American National Standards Institute accredited certifier to reduce lead, is effective in reducing lead exposures. Follow the instructions provided with the filter to ensure the filter is used properly. Use only cold water for drinking, cooking, and making baby formula. Boiling water does not remove lead from water. Before using tap water for drinking, cooking, or making baby formula, flush your pipes for several minutes. You can do this by running your tap, taking a shower, doing laundry or a load of dishes. If you have a lead service line or galvanized requiring replacement service line, you may need to flush your pipes for a longer period. If you are concerned about lead in your water and wish to have your water tested, contact

Christopher Countie(800) 553-5191

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. Information on lead in drinking water, testing methods, and steps you can take to minimize exposure is available at <https://www.epa.gov/safewater/lead>.

Health Effects of Lead: Exposure to lead in drinking water can cause serious health effects in all age groups. Infants and children can have decreases in IQ and attention span. Lead exposure can lead to new learning and behavior problems or exacerbate existing learning and behavior problems. The children of women who are exposed to lead before or during pregnancy can have increased risk of these adverse health effects. Adults can have increased risks of heart disease, high blood pressure, kidney or nervous system problems.

Lead In Schools: Per RSA 485:17-a, all NH schools and licensed child care facilities must test for lead at all drinking water outlets where children can drink the water and to remediate any outlets testing at or above 5 ppb. Three rounds of testing at least 6 months apart are required. A comprehensive list of facilities and results are available at www.gettheleadoutnh.org or direct link here: [View Results | NH Department of Environmental Services](#).

Per- and polyfluoroalkyl Substances: Some people who drink water containing perfluorooctanoic acid (PFOA) in excess of the MCL over many years could experience problems with their liver, endocrine system, or immune system, may experience increased cholesterol levels, and may have an increased risk of getting certain types of cancer. It may also lower a women's chance of getting pregnant.

Per- and polyfluoroalkyl Substances: Some people who drink water containing perfluorooctane sulfonic acid (PFOS) in excess of the MCL over many years could experience problems with their liver, endocrine system, or immune system, may experience increased cholesterol levels, and may have an increased risk of getting certain types of cancer. It may also lower a women's chance of getting pregnant.

Sodium: At present, there are no federal or state primary health-based drinking water standards for sodium or chloride. Although there is sufficient scientific evidence that shows that the vast majority of sodium ingestion is from food rather than drinking water, EPA has recommended a drinking water advisory level of 20 mg/L sodium for those persons on a physician-prescribed "no salt diet" related to hypertension treatment. EPA has identified a secondary or aesthetic standard for chloride of 250 mg/L as a concentration at which chloride can be expected to cause a salty taste in drinking water. New Hampshire has adopted 250 mg/L chloride and 250 mg/L Sodium as state secondary standards under Env-Dw 706.

2025 Results

| | Dated | 90th Percentile | Range of Sampling Results | Action Level (AL) | # of Sites Sampled | # Sites Above AL | Exceeds Action Level | Typical Source of Contaminant |
|--------------|-----------|-----------------|---------------------------|-------------------|--------------------|------------------|----------------------|--|
| Lead (ppb) | 8/20/2024 | 2 | 0-2.1 | 15 | 7 | 0 | No | Corrosion of household plumbing systems, erosion of natural deposits |
| Copper (ppm) | 8/20/2024 | 0.189 | 0.0614-0.189 | 1.3 | 7 | 0 | No | Corrosion of household plumbing systems; erosion of natural deposits; leaching from wood preservatives |

DISINFECTION BY-PRODUCTS

| | Dated | Highest Detect | Range Detected | MCL | MCLG | Violation Yes/No | Typical Source of Contaminant |
|-----------------------------|----------------|----------------|----------------|----------|-----------|------------------|---|
| Chlorine (ppm) | Quarterly 2025 | AVG 0.25 | 0.09-0.52 | 4 - MRDL | 4 - MRDLG | No | Water additive used to control microbes |
| Haloacetic Acids (ppb) | 7/7/2025 | 0 | <1 | 60 | 0 | No | By-product of drinking water chlorination |
| Total Trihalomethanes (ppb) | 10/13/2025 | 4.3 | 1.9-4.3 | 80 | 0 | No | By-product of drinking water chlorination |

INORGANIC CONTAMINANTS

| | Dated | Highest Detect | Range Detected | MCL | MCLG | Violation Yes/No | Typical Source of Contaminant |
|---------------|----------------|----------------|----------------|-----|------|------------------|--|
| Arsenic (ppb) | Quarterly 2025 | RAA 3.58 | 3.4-3.7 | 5 | 0 | No | Erosion of natural deposits; runoff from orchards; runoff from glass and electronics production wastes |
| Barium (ppm) | 10/3/2023 | 0.0012 | NA | 2 | 2 | No | Discharge of drilling wastes; discharge from metal refineries; erosion of natural deposits |

Organic Chemical Contaminants

| | Dated | Highest Detect | Range Detected | MCL | MCLG | Violation Yes/No | Typical Source of Contaminant |
|--------------------------------------|------------|----------------|----------------|-----|------|------------------|--|
| Perfluorooctanesulfonic Acid (PFOS) | 10/28/2024 | 0 | NA | 15 | 0 | No | Discharge from industrial processes, wastewater treatment, residuals from firefighting foam, runoff/leachate from landfills and septic systems |
| Perfluorohexanesulfonic acid (PFHxS) | 10/28/2024 | 0 | NA | 18 | 0 | No | Discharge from industrial processes, wastewater treatment, residuals from firefighting foam, runoff/leachate from landfills and septic systems |
| Perfluorononanoic acid (PFNA) | 10/28/2024 | 0 | NA | 11 | 0 | No | Discharge from industrial processes, wastewater treatment, residuals from firefighting foam, runoff/leachate from landfills and septic systems |
| Perfluorooctanoic acid (PFOA) | 10/28/2024 | 0 | NA | 12 | 0 | No | Discharge from industrial processes, wastewater treatment, residuals from firefighting foam, runoff/leachate from landfills and septic systems |

| RADIOLOGICAL CONTAMINANTS | | | | | | | |
|----------------------------------|--------------|-----------------------|-----------------------|------------|-------------|-------------------------|--------------------------------------|
| | Dated | Highest Detect | Range Detected | MCL | MCLG | Violation Yes/No | Typical Source of Contaminant |
| Combined Radium (pCi/L) | 10/13/2025 | 1±0.5 | NA | 5 | 0 | No | Erosion of natural deposits |
| Radium-228 | 10/13/2025 | 1.0±0.5 | NA | 5 | 0 | No | Erosion of natural deposits |
| Uranium (Mass) ppb | 10/13/2025 | 0 | NA | 30 | 30 | No | Erosion of natural deposits |

| UNREGULATED CONTAMINANTS | | | | | | | |
|---------------------------------|--------------|-----------------------|-----------------------|------------|-------------|-------------------------|--------------------------------------|
| | Dated | Highest Detect | Range Detected | MCL | MCLG | Violation Yes/No | Typical Source of Contaminant |
| Calcium(ppm) | 10/3/2023 | 12.5 | 12.5 | NA | 0 | No | Natural Geological |
| Magnesium(ppm) | 10/3/2023 | 3.6 | 3.6 | NA | 0 | No | Geological |

| SECONDARY CONTAMINANTS | | | | | | | |
|-------------------------------|--------------|-----------------------|----------------------------|-------------|---|--|---|
| | Dated | Level Detected | Treatment Technique | SMCL | 50 % AGQS (Ambient groundwater quality standard) | AGQS (Ambient groundwater quality standard) | Typical Source of Contaminant |
| Chloride (ppm) | 10/3/2023 | 18 | N/A | 250 | N/A | N/A | Wastewater, road salt, water softeners, corrosion |
| Fluoride (ppm) | 10/3/2023 | 0.6 | N/A | 4 | 2 | 4 | Erosion of natural deposits; water additive which promotes strong teeth; discharge from fertilizer and aluminum factories |
| Hardness (ppm) | 10/3/2023 | 46 | N/A | N/A | N/A | N/A | Geological |
| Iron (ppm) | 10/3/2023 | 0 | N/A | 0.3 | N/A | N/A | Geological |
| Manganese (ppm) | 10/3/2023 | 0.0041 | N/A | 0.05 | 0.15 | 0.3 | Geological |
| pH | 10/3/2023 | 7.33 | N/A | 6.5-8.5 | N/A | N/A | Precipitation and geology |
| Sodium (ppm) | 10/3/2023 | 13.8 | N/A | 100-250 | N/A | N/A | Road salt, septic systems (salt from water softeners) We are required to regularly sample for sodium |
| Sulfate (ppm) | 10/3/2023 | 6 | N/A | 250 | 250 | 500 | Naturally occurring |
| Zinc (ppm) | 10/3/2023 | 0.0035 | N/A | 5 | N/A | N/A | Galvanized pipes |

Secondary Maximum Contaminant Level or SMCL: They identify acceptable concentrations of contaminants which cause unpleasant tastes, odors, or colors in the water

Definitions:

Ambient Groundwater Quality Standard or AGQS: The maximum concentration levels for contaminants in groundwater that are established under RSA 485-C, the Groundwater Protection Act.

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

Level I Assessment: A study of the water system to identify potential problems and determine, if possible, why total coliform bacteria have been found in our water system.

Level II Assessment: A very detailed study of the water system to identify potential problems and determine, if possible, why an E.coli MCL violation has occurred and/or why total coliform bacteria have been found in our water system on multiple occasions.

Maximum Contaminant Level or 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 or 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.

Maximum Residual Disinfectant Level Goal or MRDLG: The level of a drinking water disinfectant below which there is no known or expected risk to health. MRDLGs do not reflect the benefits of the use of disinfectants to control microbial contaminants.

Maximum Residual Disinfectant Level or MRDL: The highest level of a disinfectant allowed in drinking water. There is convincing evidence that addition of a disinfectant is necessary for control of microbial contaminants.

Treatment Technique or TT: A required process intended to reduce the level of a contaminant in drinking water.

Abbreviations

NA: Not Applicable

ND: Not Detectable at testing limits

pCi/L: picoCurie per Liter

ppm: parts per million

ppb: parts per billion

ppt: parts per trillion

RAA: Running Annual Average

90th Percentile - Out of every 10 homes sampled, 9 were at or below this level

The most up to date information of **PFAS RESOURCES** can be found on the following NHDES websites:

NH PFAS Investigation

<https://www4.des.state.nh.us/nh-pfas-investigation/>

NH Department of Health and Human Services

<https://www.dhhs.nh.gov/dphs/pfcs/index.htm>



Office Hours: Monday - Thursday 7:30am - 7:00pm & Friday 7:30am - 5:00pm

Emergency contact 24/7

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www.pennichuck.com