

to monitor the water regularly. If our test results ever violate one of these standards, or if the department ever fails to report water quality data to the state, the Laconia Water Department will alert you promptly and advise you what to do.

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 the water poses a health risk. Some people may be more vulnerable to contaminants in drinking water than the general population. Immuno-compromised people with cancer undergoing chemotherapy, people who have undergone organ transplants, people with HIV/AIDS or other immune system disorders, some elderly, and infants can be particularly at risk of infections. These people should seek advice about drinking water from their health care provider. EPA/CDCP guidelines on appropriate means to lessen the risk of infection by cryptosporidium and other microbial contaminants are available from the Safe Drinking Water Hotline. More information about contaminants and potential health effects can be obtained by calling the EPA's Safe Drinking Water Hotline at 1-800-426-4791.

The Safe Drinking Water Act was passed by the U.S. congress in 1974, and it was updated as recently as 1996. We need your continued help protecting Paugus Bay, our water source. Carefully follow instructions on pesticides and herbicides you use for your lawn and garden, and properly dispose of household chemicals, paints, and waste oil. Fertilizers can contaminate surface and groundwater. The phosphorus and nitrogen in fertilizers are nutrients that not only promote grass growth, but also promote excessive growth of algae in surface water. This reduces the clarity of the water and ultimately threatens survival of fish and other aquatic life. Since phosphorus is a nutrient which can most adversely effect New Hampshire's water bodies, proper use and application of fertilizer is extremely important. The Conservation Shoreland Protection Act prohibits the use of all fertilizers except limestone within 25 feet of the reference line of public waters. Twenty five feet beyond the reference line, low phosphate, slow release nitrogen fertilizer or limestone may be used.

The NH Department of Environmental Services completed a drinking water source assessment report for our

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# OUR DAILY WATER!

UPDATED  
5/25/2021  
FOR THE YEAR  
2020

PWS ID # 1281010

CONSUMER CONFIDENCE REPORT  
LACONIA  
WATER DEPARTMENT

## How Does Laconia's Water Measure Up?

Laconia's drinking water has met or exceeded the strict standards set by the State of New Hampshire and the United States Environmental Protection Agency. The Laconia Water Department works hard to make sure the water you drink is of the highest quality. This annual report, which covers all of 2020 and previous years, describes the quality of our drinking water, where it comes from, and where you can get more information.

Consumers of the Laconia Water Department receive their drinking water from Paugus Bay, our water source. The water is treated and filtered at our treatment facility located at 117 Stark Street. One of the contaminants we monitor for is turbidity. Turbidity is a measure of cloudiness in the water. It is monitored because it is a good indicator of the quality of the water, and the potential for interfering with our disinfection process. The turbidity readings indicate how well our filtration process is working to reduce the turbidity levels. The chemicals used to ensure safe drinking water are Sodium Hypochlorite (disinfection), Sodium Hydroxide (ph control), Aluminum Sulfate (coagulation), Sodium Fluoride (dental care), and Zinc Orthophosphate (corrosion control).

Generally, sources of drinking water include rivers, lakes, streams, natural springs, and wells. As water travels over the surface of the land or under the ground, it dissolves naturally occurring minerals and radioactive material. It also picks up substances left by animal or human activity as it travels to its destination. For instance, microbial contaminants such as viruses and bacteria may come from sewage treatment plants, septic tanks, livestock operations and wildlife. Pesticides and herbicides come from agricultural runoff and excess residential use. Other inorganic contaminants come from urban runoff, petroleum products, mining, and industrial wastewater. Radioactive materials can occur naturally or can come from oil and gas production and mining.

The quality of Laconia's drinking water is governed by the Safe Drinking Water Act. The U.S. E.P.A. and the NH Department of Environmental Services implement this very important law. It requires all the nation's water suppliers to meet certain drinking water standards and

water department. Included in the report is a map of our water protection area, a description of our water system, a list of potential contaminant sites (which we inspect on a tri annual basis), and a high-medium-low susceptibility rating for our raw water source. The ratings were low = 5, medium = 5, and high = 3. The three high susceptibility areas were two for MTBE detection (recreational watercraft within our wellhead protection area), and roadways within 1,000 feet of our intakes (the possibility of accidental spills). It should be noted that all of our MTBE Test results for the last 13 years were below detection limits. The main purpose of this report is to show us what vulnerabilities are within our source waters and what we can do to minimize them. Being that the report is extensive, we will keep a report at our business office at 988 Union Avenue for our customers to look over.

Your public water supply is fluoridated. According to the Centers of Disease Control and Prevention (CDCP), if your child under the age of 6 months is exclusively consuming instant formula reconstituted with fluoridated water, there may be an increased chance of dental fluorosis. Consult your child's health care provider for more information.

All infant formulas, either concentrates or ready-to-feed, have some fluoride, but most infant formula manufacturers develop their products to ensure low levels of fluoride. A recent study by the American Dental Association (ADA) confirmed that fluoride concentrations in commercially available infant formulas are very low. It is not possible to remove this small amount of fluoride by filtering or boiling the formula; however, at normal consumption amounts, infant formula alone does not contain fluoride at levels that would be higher than the daily upper limit established by the Institute of Medicine. In liquid or powdered infant formula concentrate, the majority of fluoride comes from the water used to mix the formula. Some parents may choose bottled water. To learn more, check out the CDCP's Bottled Water and Fluoride and FDA's website <http://www.fda.gov/ForConsumers/ConsumerUpdates/ucm203620.htm>

Due to the recent concerns regarding lead concentrations in Flint, Michigan and other water suppliers in the U.S., we wanted our customers to know that the results from our lead testing done in 2020 as well as previous years, show little to no detection. The most recent re-

| Contaminant                                     | Violation      | Range       | Level Detected | Unit Measured  | MCLG          | MCL     | Likely source of Contamination  |
|---|----------------|-------------|----------------|----------------|---------------|---------|---|
| <b>Micrbiological Contaminants</b>              |                |             |                |                |               |         |   |
| E. coli   | N              |             | 0              | 100 ml         | 0             | 0       | Human and animal fecal waste  |
| Turbidity                                       | N              |             | 0.09 AVG.      | NTU            | n/a           | 0.3     | Soil runoff   |
| <b>Disinfection By-Products</b>                 |                |             |                |                |               |         |   |
| <b>TTHM</b>                                     |                | <b>L</b>    | <b>H</b>       |                |               |         |   |
| LRCC  | N              | 39          | 88             | LRAA = 59      | ug/l          | 80      | Byproduct of drinking water chlorination  |
| F.W. Webb                                       | N              | 39          | 73             | LRAA = 53      | ug/l          | 80      | Byproduct of drinking water chlorination  |
| Lowes   | N              | 25          | 62             | LRAA = 46      | ug/l          | 80      | Byproduct of drinking water chlorination  |
| Cumberland Farms                                | N              | 43          | 90             | LRAA = 63      | ug/l          | 80      | Byproduct of drinking water chlorination  |
| <b>HAA5</b>                                     |                | <b>L</b>    | <b>H</b>       |                |               |         |   |
| LRCC  | N              | 9           | 19             | LRAA = 14      | ug/l          | 60      | Byproduct of drinking water disinfection  |
| F.W. Webb                                       | N              | 9           | 15             | LRAA = 12      | ug/l          | 60      | Byproduct of drinking water disinfection  |
| Lowes   | N              | 10          | 17             | LRAA = 14      | ug/l          | 60      | Byproduct of drinking water disinfection  |
| Cumberland Farms                                | N              | 12          | 24             | LRAA = 16      | ug/l          | 60      | By product of drinking water disinfection   |
| TOC Raw   | N              |             |                | RAA = 2.0      | ppm           | TT      | Byproduct of drinking water chlorination  |
| TOC Filtered                                    | N              |             |                | RAA = 1.5      | ppm           | TT      | natural in the environment  |
| <b>LEAD AND COPPER REPORTED 90TH PERCENTILE</b> |                |             |                |                |               |         |   |
| Lead(2020)                                      | N              | 11          | ppb            |                | 0             | AL= 15  | Erosion of natural deposits   |
| Copper(2020)                                    | N              | 0.044       | ppm            |                | 1.3           | AL= 1.3 | corrosion of household plumbing   |
| <b>INORGANIC CONTAMINANTS</b>                   |                |             |                |                |               |         |   |
| Sodium  | N              | 17          | ppm            |                | 250           |         | runoff from road salt   |
| Nitrate   | N              | ND          | ppm            |                | 10            | 10      | runoff from fertilizer use;   |
| Nitrite   | N              | ND          | ppm            |                | 1             | 1       | leaching from septic tanks, sewage; erosion of natural deposits.  |
| Fluoride  | N              | .64 AVG.    | ppm            |                | 4             | 4       | Erosion of natural deposits water additive which promotes strong teeth; discharge from fertilizer and aluminum factories. |
| Barium  | N              | 0.005       | mg/L           |                | 2             | 2       | Discharge of drilling wastes; discharge from metal refineries; erosion of natural deposits.                               |
| <b>PERFLUORINATED CHEMICALS</b>                 |                |             |                |                |               |         |   |
| CONTAMINANT                                     | LEVEL DETECTED | Contaminant | Violation      | Level Detected | Unit Measured | AL      | Likely source of Contamination  |
| PFOA  | BDL            | Chloride    |                | 22             | mg/L          | 250     | Wastewater, road salt water softeners, corrosion  |
| PFOS  | BDL            | Sulfate     |                | 6              | mg/L          | 250     | Naturally occurring   |
| PFNA  | BDL            | Zinc        |                | 0.2            | mg/L          | 5       | Possible presence of other health related heavy metals  |
| PFHxS   | BDL            |             |                |                | Range         |         |   |
|   |                | pH          |                | 8.36           | 6.5-8.5       | 8.5     | Naturally occurring precipitation and geology   |

sults are listed on the "Test Results" section of this report. If present, elevated levels of lead can cause serious 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. Laconia Water Works 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 at 800-426-4791 or at <http://www.epa.gov/safewater/lead>.

Our water department has created a website detailing information about our business operation. To get to our website, just type in "Laconia Water Department" on the internet page of your computer and it will take you to our site.

For more information about Laconia's drinking water, please call Benjamin Crawford, Superintendent, at 524-0901 or Brian McCall, Water Quality Control Supervisor, at 524-1096. The Laconia Water Department's Board of Water Commissioners generally meet each 2nd and 4th Thursday of each month at 8:00 a.m. at the Water Treatment Facility, 117 Stark Street. The meetings are open to the public.

#### Definitions

**MCLG:** Maximum Contaminant Level Goal, or 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.

**MCL:** The highest level of a contaminant that is allowed in drinking water.

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

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

#### Abbreviations

**BDL:** Below Detection Limit

**mg/L:** Milligrams Per Liter

**TTHM:** Total Trihalomethane

**HAA5:** Haloacetic Acids

**NTU:** Nephelometric Turbidity Units

**ppm:** Parts Per Million

**ug/l & ppb:** Parts Per Billion

**TOC:** Total Organic Carbon

**ug/l:** Micrograms Per Liter

**LRAA:** Locational Running Annual Average

**RAA:** Running Annual Average

**ppt:** Parts Per Trillion