

## Water Department do's and don'ts

**Do** locate and mark your main water shut off valve. Make sure that it works properly and that every family member knows its location. Major water damage can occur quickly by broken water pipes.

**Do** shut off the water to your washing machine when not in use. Many hoses rot through, causing cellar floods and high water bills. Check your hoses periodically and replace them if need be. We have seen the damage first hand and prevention is the key. You are not immune to having 5 ft. of water in your cellar!

**Do** insulate your hot water heater and pipes. This will prevent you from having to run your water for long periods of time to get hot.

**Do** turn your hot water heater down. Most can be left at a setting 140° and still provide plenty of hot water.

**Do** fix any leaky toilets or dripping faucets as soon as possible. Hundreds of gallons can be wasted in a matter of days.

**Do not** turn your heat way back, when leaving your house for long periods of time in the winter. Your pipes may freeze and burst.

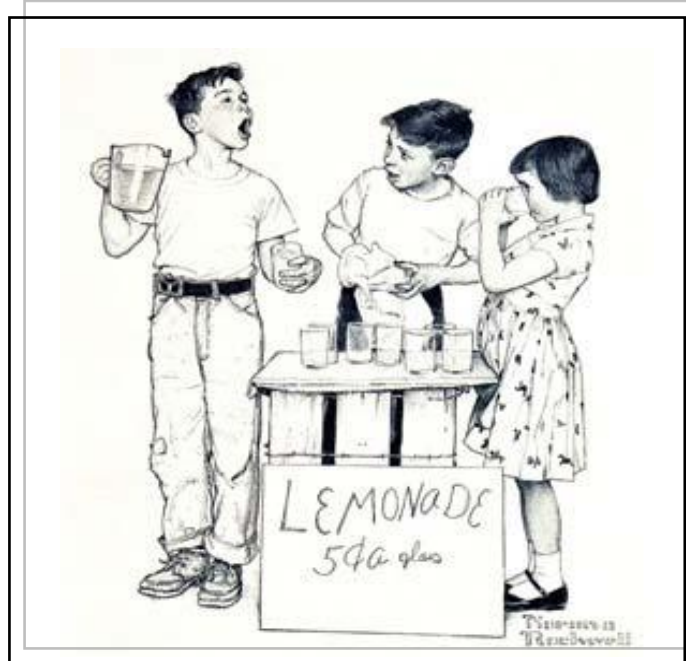
**Do not** drink water from a garden hose. The vinyl coating is made with chemicals that can get into the water as it flows through.

**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 chemical into your house plumbing.

### Answers to matching game:

1. - G, 15-30 GALLONS
2. - B, 180 GALLONS
3. - E, 9-20 GALLONS
4. - A, 30 GALLONS
5. - C, 4-7 GALLONS
6. - F, 1 GALLON
7. - D, 1/2 GALLON

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



2007

## ANNUAL WATER QUALITY REPORT

## South Hadley Fire District No. 2 - Water Quality Report

South Hadley Fire District No. 2 serves the northern section of town and receives its water from one groundwater source, Dry Brook well. Dry Brook Well is located along the Connecticut River near the Hadley Town line. The well is an Artesian, gravel packed well that is approximately 112 feet deep. The well utilizes water from a confined to semi-confined sand and gravel aquifer located within a buried, bedrock valley. The well pumps approximately 950 GPM (gallons per minute) and in 2007 pumped a total of 158,039 million gallons.

The New Well at Dry Brook, Well No. 2 is now up and running. This will ensure a much more reliable distribution system for many years to come. There are also two new inter-connections with Fire District No. 1. This is because of the new Mountain Brook project off of Westbrook Road. This brings the total number of inter-connections to seven, these interconnections can be used in case of emergency and can flow water in either direction.

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: Katie Fitzgerald  
Member: James Menard

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.

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 South Hadley Fire District #2 Water Department

recommends the installation of backflow prevention devices, such as a low cost hose bib vacuum breaker, for all inside and outside hose connections. You can purchase this at a hardware store 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!

### Fun Facts Matching Game

Draw a line matching the items on the left to the amount of water on the right.

- |                        |                     |
|------------------------|---------------------|
| 1. Taking a shower     | A. 30 gallons       |
| 2. Watering the lawn   | B. 180 gallons      |
| 3. washing the dishes  | C. 4 to 7 gallons   |
| 4. washing clothes     | D. 1/2 gallon       |
| 5. flushing the toilet | E. 9 - 20 gallons   |
| 6. brushing teeth      | F. 1 gallon         |
| 7. drinking            | G. 15 to 30 gallons |

answers on back.

ANY LEAKS OR DRIPS SHOULD BE FIXED IMMEDIATELY. 99% OF OUR CALLS FOR HIGH WATER BILLS, TURN OUT TO BE INTERNAL TOILET LEAKS OR OUTSIDE USE.

## Important 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 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.



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.

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 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.

## 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.

## 2007 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 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
<b>Inorganic Contaminants</b>								
COPPER	ppm	1.3	1.3 = AL	0.79 (90th percentile)	0.18 -1.0 MG/L	NO	2005	Corrosion of household plumbing systems; Erosion of natural deposits; Leaching from wood preservatives.
				All 20 sites below AL.				
LEAD	ppm	0	15 = AL	.0052 (90th percentile)	ND - .0066 MG/L	NO	2005	Corrosion of household plumbing systems; Erosion of natural deposits
				All 20 sites below AL.				
NITRATE	ppm	10	10	0.629	NA	NO	2007	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	Level	Year	Violation	Potential Source of Contamination
Sodium	ppm	7.02	2007	No	Naturally Occurring
Sulfate	ppm	25	2007	No	Runoff/leaching from natural deposits; industrial waste

Substance	Highest # possible in a month	MCL	MCLG	Violation	Potential Source of Contamination
Total Coliform	12	1	0	YES	Naturally present in the environment

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.

**Total Coliform:** Coliforms are bacteria that are naturally present in the environment and are used as an indicator that other potentially harmful bacteria may be present. Coliforms were found in more samples than allowed, and this was a warning of potential problems. The Water Department is attributing this coliform violation to a malfunction of the reverse osmosis filtration system in the Mt. Holyoke College greenhouse. All positive samples came from within the Greenhouse.

The unit was disconnected from the plumbing system and all of the piping was flushed until subsequent samples did not show the presence of any coliform bacteria.

### When to call the Water Department:

Please call the Water Department before conducting any excavation in your yard. We will come out and mark your water service for you, to prevent any damage to your pipes. You will also need to contact Dig-Safe.

Please call the Water Department before resurfacing your Driveway. Many times the water shutoff is located in your driveway and if it is, we can make arrangements to raise it for you.

Please call the Water Department if you plan to finish off your basement. Access to your water meter and main shutoff valve is essential, in case of an emergency. The water meter and valve should never be walled in.

Please call the Water Department if you are planning to redo the siding or shingles on your house and you need your outside water meter register, moved or removed.