

Cogswell Spring Water Works  
146 Davison Road  
Henniker, NH 03242

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PERMIT #17

# Consumer Confidence Report

## Cogswell Spring Water Works

(Town of Henniker Water Supply)

### 2013

#### 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).

NOW IT COMES WITH A  
LIST OF INGREDIENTS.



**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**, EPA prescribes regulations which limit the amount 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?

The water supplied is from groundwater sources. It is pumped from two gravel packed wells. A third well is available and maintained as an emergency supply. Wells #1 & #2 are each housed within individual pump stations and are treated by sodium hydroxide injection. The sodium hydroxide is added to raise the pH of the water. Water is less corrosive to your internal plumbing at higher pH levels. Well #3 is currently off-line. This well is maintained as an emergency backup for the system. The water from Well #3 meets all current contaminant limits but has a yellow color. Water is pumped from wells #1 & #2 to two storage tanks. One is a 300,000-gallon concrete underground reservoir and the second is a 500,000-gallon concrete tank. Customers receive water directly from the wells, or from the tanks depending on demand. There are approximately 511 service connections on the system.

**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.

#### Source Water Assessment Summary

DES 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 during 2002, are noted below.

- Well 1 received 3 high susceptibility ratings, 0 medium susceptibility ratings, and 9 low susceptibility ratings.
- Well 2 received 3 high susceptibility ratings, 0 medium susceptibility ratings, and 9 low susceptibility ratings.
- Well 3 received 3 high susceptibility ratings, 1 medium susceptibility ratings, and 8 low susceptibility ratings.

Note: This information is over 10 years old and includes information that was current at the time the report was completed. Therefore, some of the ratings might be different if updated to reflect current information. At the present time, DES has no plans to update this data but we are required to present it in this report.

The complete Assessment Report is available for review at the Water Department office. For more information, call Norm Bumford at 428-3237, or visit the DES Drinking Water Source Assessment website at <http://des.nh.gov/organization/divisions/water/dwgb/dwspp/dwsap.htm>.

#### How can I get involved?

The Water Commissioners hold their meetings at the Water Department office located at 146 Davison Road on the third Tuesday of each month at 8:30 AM. The system operator is Norman Bumford. He can be reached at 428-3237. To report water emergencies outside regular work hours, please contact the Henniker Police Department. The Water Commissioners are Joseph P. Damour, Ronald C. Taylor and Jerry D. Gilbert.

**Violations and Other information:** The system had one MCL violation for Total coliform bacteria during October 2012. Three of the nine samples collected during October showed the presence of total coliform bacteria. The standard does not allow more than one positive sample in a one month period. The bacteria issue was addressed by disinfecting the system with chlorine. Work was conducted on the Depot Hill storage tank to address a possible source of contamination. Public notice was provided to all customers of the system when the event occurred.

#### 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.

**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** 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.

**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.

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

#### Abbreviations

BDL: Below Detection Limit

mg/L: milligrams per Liter

NA: Not Applicable

ND: Not Detectable at testing limits

NTU: Nephelometric Turbidity Unit

pCi/L: picoCurie per Liter

ppb: parts per billion

ppm: parts per million

RAA: Running Annual Average

TTHM: Total Trihalomethanes

UCMR: Unregulated Contaminant Monitoring Rule

ug/L: micrograms per Liter

#### Drinking Water Contaminants:

**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. This water system is responsible for high quality drinking water, but can not control the variety of materials used in your plumbing components. When your water has been sitting for several hours, you can minimize the

potential for lead exposure by flushing cold water from your tap for at least 30 seconds before using water for drinking or cooking. Do not use hot water for drinking and 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 or at <http://water.epa.gov/drink/info/lead/index.cfm>

**Sample Dates:** The results for detected contaminants listed below are from the most recent monitoring done in compliance with regulations ending with the year 2012. Results The State of New Hampshire allows water systems to monitor for some contaminants less than once per year because the concentrations of these contaminants do not change frequently. Thus some of the data present, though representative, may be more than one year old.

**System Name: Cogswell Spring Water Works**

**EPA ID: 1121010**

**2013**

<b>VIOLATIONS</b>	<b>Date of violation</b>	<b>Explain violation</b>	<b>Length of violation</b>	<b>Action taken to resolve</b>	<b>Health Effects (Env-Dw 811.21)</b>
MCL	October 2012	More than 1 positive bacteria sample in one a month period	Positive October samples were collected October 15 and 17 2012. All sites showed no bacteria by October 24, 2012.	Chlorinated system. Made repairs to Depot Hill storage tank coating. Notified customers by direct mailing during October 2012.	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.

**DETECTED WATER QUALITY RESULTS**

<b>Contaminant (Units)</b>	<b>Level Detected</b>	<b>MCL</b>	<b>MCLG</b>	<b>Violation YES/NO</b>	<b>Likely Source of Contamination</b>	<b>Health Effects of Contaminant</b>
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**Microbiological Contaminants**

Total Coliform Bacteria	39 Absent 4 Present  During October 2012 3 samples tested Positive out of the 9 collected.	No more than 1 positive sample per month	0	Yes	Naturally present in the environment	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.
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**Radioactive Contaminants**

Compliance Gross Alpha (pCi/L)	Range ND – 3.8 Average 0.8 Sampled 2007 & 2011	15	0	No	Erosion of natural deposits	
Uranium (ug/L)	Range ND – 0.2 Average 0.04 Sampled 2007 & 2011	30	0	No	Erosion of natural deposits	
Combined Radium 226 + 228 (pCi/L)	Range ND – 0.2 Average 0.1 Sampled 2007	5	0	No	Erosion of natural deposits	

### Inorganic Contaminants

Barium (ppm)	Range 0.004 – 0.014 Average 0.009 Sampled 2012	2	2	No	Discharge of drilling wastes; discharge from metal refineries; erosion of natural deposits
Chlorine (ppm)	Range ND – 0.14 Average 0.01 Sampled 2012	MRDL = 4	MRDLG = 4	No	Water additive used to control microbes
Copper (ppm)	90th Percentile = 0.051 Sampled 2010	AL=1.3	1.3	No	Corrosion of household plumbing systems; erosion of natural deposits; leaching from wood preservatives
Lead (ppb)	90th Percentile = 3 Sampled 2010	AL=15	0	No	Corrosion of household plumbing systems, erosion of natural deposits

### ADDITIONAL TESTING

Additional tests (no Primary MCL)	Results	Date	AL (Action Level) or AGQS (Ambient groundwater quality standard)
Chloride (ppm)	Range 17 – 56 Average 36.5	Sampled 2012	
Manganese (ppb)	Range ND - 6 Average 3	Sampled 2012	AGQS = 840
Sodium (ppm)	Range 17 – 27 Average 22	Sampled 2009	
Sulfate (ppm)	Range 4 – 5 Average 4.5	Sampled 2012	AGQS = 500
Zinc (ppm)	Range 0.006 – 0.053 Average 0.03	Sampled 2012	