

City of Claremont
Department of Public Works
8 Grandview Street
Claremont, NH 03743

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**Your Water—
How Good Is It?
[Details inside]**

Consumer Confidence Report - 2010 / Claremont Water System

The City of Claremont . . .

owns and maintains a water supply, treatment and distribution system that delivers quality water to its users. The Environmental Protection Agency (EPA) has enacted regulations requiring all water departments to inform their users of the quality of water that we provided last year. This report is a means of letting our customers know where their water comes from, what it contains, and how it compares to EPA standards. Claremont Water System is committed to providing you with this information because informed customers are our best allies – and this is **your** water system.

How can I get involved?

If you have any questions about this report or concerning your drinking water, please contact Wayne Leonard, the Water & Sewer Superintendent in

the Claremont Department of Public Works at (603) 542-7020 Ext. 2002 or through email at wleonard@claremontnh.com. The Water Treatment Plant operation is contracted out to United Water/AOS and the contact

“...informed customers are our best allies – and this is your water system.”

person is Rob Lauricella at (603) 543-0680 or through email at rob.lauricella@unitedwater.com. The City of Claremont’s Water Department is governed through the public works department, which, through the city manager’s office, implements the policy of the city council. Council meetings are held on the second Wednesday of every month at 6:30PM.

Health Information

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 (800) 426-4791.

What is the water quality of my drinking water?

The water supplied to the City of Claremont water users meets or exceeds all Local, State and Federal regulations for drinking water and is considered high quality drinking water. Last year, Claremont’s Water

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System took more than 500 water quality samples for over 220 different contaminants. Out of all these samples there was only one Maximum Contaminant Level violation for total coliform.

During the month of February 2009 there was a major fire in Claremont that agitated the water distribution piping with the sudden use of the hydrants. The Claremont Water System took 10 samples for total coliform bacteria during the month. Two of those samples showed the presence of total coliform bacteria. All samples were also checked for E. Coli and there were no samples that had any presence of this harmful bacteria. The follow up samples at the sites and those collected up and downstream were free from total coliform.



Dole Reservoir

Why are there contaminants in my water?

The sources of drinking water (both tap 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.



Water Plant with Lime Silo

- ***Inorganic contaminants***, such as salts and metals, which may be naturally occurring or a result from urban storm water runoff, industrial or domestic wastewater discharges, oil and gas production, and 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, are byproducts 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.

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 and Center for Disease Control 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.

Health effects statement for lead:

Infants and young children are typically more vulnerable to lead in drinking water than the general population. Lead levels at your home may be higher than at other homes in the community because 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 EPA's Safe Drinking Water Hotline at (800) 426-4791.

2010 CLAREMONT WATER SYSTEM

What is the source of my water?

The Claremont water system uses surface water supplied from three sources:

- White Water Reservoir, a 150 million gallon reservoir,
- Rice Reservoir, a 40 million gallon reservoir, and
- Sugar River.

These sources feed the Dole Reservoir, a 40 million gallon holding reservoir that feeds the water treatment plant.

Summary of Claremont's Source Water Assessment:

NH Department of Environmental Services has prepared a Source Assessment Report for the sources serving this public water system, assessing its vulnerability to contamination. The results of the assessment, prepared in 2001 are as follows:

Whitewater Reservoir: The majority (approximately 71%) of total water drawn for treatment is from this source. The Whitewater Reservoir received 0 high susceptibility ratings, 0 medium susceptibility ratings, and 11 low susceptibility ratings.

Sugar River: Approximately 29% of water drawn for treatment is from this source. Susceptibility for contamination at this source is elevated due to its proximity to an active highway and agricultural activity in its large watershed area. The Sugar River received 5 high susceptibility ratings, 3 medium susceptibility ratings, and 3 low susceptibility ratings.

Dole Reservoir: Dole is a 40 million gallon "holding" reservoir adjacent to the water treatment plant which accepts water from both the Sugar River and Whitewater Reservoir. It serves to provide an adequate steady and continual feed into the plant for treatment. The Dole Reservoir received 0 high susceptibility ratings,

0 medium susceptibility ratings, and 11 low susceptibility ratings.

Rice Reservoir: Due to its size, this reservoir is used very little and there were no known sources of contamination identified in its watershed. The Rice Reservoir received 0 high susceptibility ratings, 0 medium susceptibility ratings, and 11 low susceptibility ratings.

Claremont's complete Water Source Assessment Report is available for review at the Claremont Department of Public Works office located at 8 Grandview Street. For more information call (603) 542-7020 or the New Hampshire Department of Environmental Services (DES) at (603) 271-3303. You can also visit the NH DES Drinking Water Source Assessment Program web site at: <http://des.nh.gov/organization/divisions/water/dwgb/dwspp/dwsap.htm>

How is Claremont's Water treated?

All of the water that enters the Claremont water system is treated in stages: coagulation, settling, filtration, chlorination to remove pathogens (disease-causing organisms), pH control, and corrosion control. Coagulation, settling, and filtration remove impurities in the water and the carbon filtration takes care of the taste and odor. There are approximately 3,600 connections served by the water treatment plant with a daily average of 1,000,000 gallons treated and delivered into the distribution system.

System improvements

During the 2009 construction period, the City of Claremont continued to make significant distribution system improvements. A major improvement was the interconnection of distribution lines running along Plains Road and Old Church Road. Approximately 570 linear feet of 8" water main and one additional hydrant were installed cross country to connect the existing distribution lines which greatly improved flow and fire protection services along Old Church Road.

A continuation of the previous year's work on Roosevelt and Thrasher Road saw the completion of a looped system between Roosevelt Road and Bowker Street. The work entailed 300 linear feet of 8" ductile iron water main along Thrasher Road including a stream crossing.

One other major improvement project involved the replacement of 300 linear feet of deteriorated 1 1/2" steel line

along Spencer Avenue with new 2" PVC piping which corrected flow, pressure and turbidity issues. In connection with the roadway reconstruction project on Clifton Avenue, an additional 700 linear feet of 6" water main and one new fire hydrant were installed to improve neighborhood distribution service.



Rice Reservoir

National Drinking Water Standards

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 U.S. Food and Drug Administration (FDA) regulations establish limits for contaminants in bottled water,

which must provide the same protection for public health. The table below shows those substances on the EPA required monitoring list for public water systems that was found in Claremont's water. Not all tests are required every year. The table contains the

most recent results up to December 31, 2009.

If you would like to receive lists of the substances tested for but NOT found in your water, call us at 543-0680 and ask for the Safe Drinking Water Act compliance list.

SUBSTANCE	LEVEL MEASURED	MCL	MCLG	MEETS LIMITS?	LIKELY SOURCE	
Copper 2008	90 th Percentile # of sites above AL	0.045 mg/L 0 sites	AL= 1.3 mg/L	1.3mg/L	yes	Corrosion of household plumbing.
Lead 2008	90 th Percentile # of sites above AL	13 ug/L 1 sites	AL= 15 ug/L	0 ug/L	yes	Corrosion of household plumbing.
Total THMs	Highest annual average Range of measurements	64 ug/L 55 – 75 ug/L	80 ug/L Annual running average	N/A	yes	By-product of drinking water disinfection with chlorine.
Total HAA5s	Highest annual average Range of measurements	25 ug/L 21–29 ug/L	60 ug/L Annual running average	N/A	yes	By-product of drinking water disinfection with chlorine.
TOC	Annual average Range of measurements	.9 mg/L .8 – 1.1 mg/L	TT = 35% removal	N/A	yes	Naturally present in the environment.
Chlorine	Running average	0.73 mg/L	MRDLG = 4 mg/L	MRD= 4 mg/L	yes	Water additive used to control microbes.
Barium	Highest measurement	0.006 mg/L	2 mg/L	2 mg/L	yes	Erosion of natural deposits.
Turbidity	Highest measurement % of samples <0.3NTU	0.08 NTU 100%	TT = 1 NTU 95% < 0.3 NTU	N/A	yes	Soil runoff.
Total Coliform	Highest monthly % of positive samples	5% in one month	<5%	0%	no	Naturally present in the environment

Health Effects for contaminants that did not meet the limits:

Total Coliform: Total coliforms are bacteria that are naturally present in the environment and are used as an indicator that other, potentially harmful bacteria may be present. Total coliforms were found in more samples than allowed by EPA regulations and this was a warning of potential problems.

DEFINITIONS:

Turbidity is the cloudiness of water. A mix of tiny suspended particles found in all natural waters causes it. Since these particles can interfere with disinfection, our treatment process is designed to remove them using the treatment steps of coagulation/flocculation, settling and filtration. We test the turbidity of our water after filtration in order to monitor filter performance.

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: Maximum Contaminant Level: the highest level of a contaminant that is allowed in drinking water. They are set as close to the MCLGs as feasible using the best available treatment technology.

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.

mg/L: milligrams per liter. A unit of concentration also described as Parts per Million.

ug/L: micrograms per liter. A smaller unit of concentration also described as Parts per Billion.

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

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

ABBREVIATIONS: N/A = not applicable
 NTU = Nephelometric Turbidity Unit
 HAA5 = Haloacetic Acids
 TOC = Total Organic Carbon
 THM = Total Trihalomethanes
 < = less than