



2011 Water Quality Report *for* **Hartford and Quechee Central Water Systems**

The Hartford Water Department is committed to providing drinking water that meets or exceeds state and federal standards for quality and safety. We are pleased to report the results of our testing of your drinking water for 2011, of its high quality, and of the service that we deliver to you everyday.

The **HARTFORD AND QUECHEE WATER SYSTEMS** are separate entities that provide over 75% of the Town of Hartford's population with its drinking water. *The Hartford Water Department is responsible for maintaining both municipal water systems.*

In order to ensure that tap water is safe to drink, EPA and the State of Vermont prescribes regulations which limit the amount of certain contaminants in water provided by public water systems. FDA and state regulations establish limits for contaminants in bottled water, which must provide the same protection for public health.

All 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. More information about contaminants and potential health effects can be obtained by calling the **EPA Safe Drinking Water Hotline at (800) 426-4791.**

Drinking water sources (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.

WE TEST for over eighty contaminants that 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 stormwater runoff, industrial or domestic wastewater discharges, oil and gas production, mining or farming.
- **Pesticides and herbicides** that 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 stormwater runoff, septic systems, and careless disposal of household chemicals.
- **Radioactive contaminants** which can be naturally-occurring or be the result of oil and gas production and mining activities

(Monitoring Schedule is based on system size)

IMPORTANT HEALTH INFORMATION

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 microbiological contaminants are available from EPA's Safe Drinking Water Hotline (1-800-426-4791).

Infants and children are typically more vulnerable to lead in drinking water than the general population. It is possible that lead levels at your home may be higher than at other homes in the community as a result of materials used in your home's plumbing. It's always advisable to flush your tap for 30 seconds to 2 minutes before using the water. If you are concerned about elevated lead levels in your home's water, you can have it tested. Additional information is available from the Safe Drinking Water Hotline (1-800-426-4791) or at <http://www.epa.gov/safewater/lead>.

The HARTFORD WATER SYSTEM

WSID 5319

Two “gravel pack” wells provide drinking water to approximately 7,500 people in White River Junction, Wilder, and Hartford Village. The department is able to meet current system demands utilizing either well.

Wilder Well #1 has a current pump capacity of approximately 750 gallons per minute while **Wilder Well #2** is capable of pumping approximately 900 gallons per minute. In 2011 we pumped over 122-million gallons from Wilder Well #1 and over 154-million gallons from Wilder Well #2. This resulted in an average use of 756,000 gallons per day.

Although the water quality from these wells is excellent, it does contain elevated levels of manganese. Manganese is a naturally occurring mineral that is common in ground water. The amount found in groundwater is usually not considered a health risk; however as little as 0.05 ppm can be a nuisance by staining fixtures and laundry. The water from both Wilder Wells is processed through “greensand” filters at the **Wilder Treatment Plant** to consistently remove the manganese to levels below 0.02 ppm before entering the distribution system. The process, known as “catalytic oxidation” uses sodium hypochlorite (chlorine) for both filter regeneration and system disinfection. An alternative method also uses potassium permanganate (KMNO4) to regenerate the filter media. The plant is capable of treating over 2-million gallons of water a day.

The water is distributed to over 1900 homes and businesses through an underground network of pipes ranging from 3/4" to 16" in diameter. As a preventative measure, a small amount of sodium hypochlorite (chlorine) is added for disinfection. This practice is similar to many other public water systems and is required by State and Federal regulations. Two storage reservoirs, totaling 2.5-million gallons, provide pressure and storage during high water usage, such as a fire, and when the pumps are off. Additionally, there are 266 fire hydrants connected to the Hartford system. A 12" water main interconnects Hartford and the City of Lebanon water systems for mutual use in emergency conditions.

A **Source Protection Plan** that was approved by the Vermont Water Supply Division in July 2009 shows the susceptibility of potential contamination to the wells is low; since isolation zone around the wellheads is owned or controlled by the Town of Hartford. The complete Source Protection Plan can be reviewed at the Public Works office.

DETECTED CONTAMINANTS for the Hartford Water System (for the past five years)

Regulated Contaminants	Collection Date	Highest Value	Range	Unit	MCL	MCL Goal	Typical Source	
Nitrate (As N)	2/7/2011	0.64	0.64	ppm	10	0	Runoff from fertilizer use; Leaching from septic tanks, sewage; Erosion of natural deposits	
Lead and Copper	Date	90 TH Percentile	95 TH Percentile	Range	Unit	Action Level	Sites Over Action Level	Typical Source
Copper	2011 – 2013	0.66	0.89	0-0.92	ppm	1.3	0	Corrosion of household plumbing systems
Lead	2011 – 2013	4	4	0 – 9	ppb	15	0	Corrosion of household plumbing systems
Disinfection by-products	Monitoring Period	Running Annual Average (RAA)	Range	Unit	MCL	MCLG	Typical Source	
Total Haloacetic Acids (HAAS)	2010	12	12	ppb	60.0	0	by-product of chlorination	
Total Trihalomethanes (TTHM)	2010	31	31	ppb	80.0	0	by-product of chlorination	
Radionuclides	Collection Date	Highest Value	Range	Unit	MCL	MCLG		
No detected results								

HAVE QUESTIONS?

WANT MORE INFORMATION?

Call John Choate, Asst. Public Works Director or Rick Kenney, Chief Water System Operator at (802) 295-3622. Visit our office at the Public Works Facility at 173 Airport Road, White River Jct. VT.

Visit our Website at www.hartford-vt.org

The Town of Hartford Board of Selectmen also serves as the Water Commissioners for the Hartford Water Department. Meetings are held on alternating Tuesdays of each month.

QUECHEE CENTRAL WATER SYSTEM WSID 5320

Since 1973, the water supplied to **Quechee** has come from one "gravel pack" well with a current pump capacity of 600 gallons per minute. In 2011 we pumped more than 58-million gallons from this well, which resulted in an average use of 159,000 gallons per day. **Over 600** connections to the system provide water to year round residents, vacation homes, and commercial businesses. The water is distributed through an underground network of pipes ranging from 3/4" to 8" in diameter. Also connected to the system are 81 fire hydrants. The water is pumped to three storage tanks totaling 262,000 gallons. These tanks provide pressure and storage during high water usage, such as a fire, and for when the pump is off. An additional 54,000-gallon tank is filled through a booster pump station and serves some higher elevations. As a preventative measure, a small amount of sodium hypochlorite (chlorine) is added for disinfection. This practice is similar to many other public water systems in the United States. **A Source Protection Plan** that was approved by the Vermont Water Supply Division in March 2012 shows the susceptibility of potential contamination to the well is low to medium since the Town controls the isolation zone around the wellhead. The complete Source Protection Plan can be reviewed at the Public Works office.

DETECTED CONTAMINANTS for the Quechee System (for the past five years)

Regulated Contaminants	Collection Date	Highest Value	Range	Unit	MCL	MCLG	Typical Source	
Nitrate (As N)	7/22/2011	None detected	<0.5	ppm	10	10	Runoff from fertilizer use; Leaching from septic tanks, sewage; Erosion of natural deposits	
Lead and Copper	Date	90 TH Percentile	95 TH Percentile	Range	Unit	Action Level	Sites Over Action Level	Typical Source
Copper	2010	0.25	0.26	<0.1-0.26	ppm	1.3	0	Corrosion of household plumbing, erosion of natural deposits
Lead	2010	<2	<2	<2	ppb	15	0	Corrosion of household plumbing, erosion of natural deposits
Disinfection by-products	Monitoring Period	Running Annual Average		Range	Unit	MCL	MCLG	Typical Source
Total Trihalomethanes	2011 to 2013	4		3.8– 3.8	ppb	80.0	0	by-product of drinking water chlorination
Radionuclides	Collection Date	Highest Value	Range	Unit				
No detected results								
Secondary Contaminants	Collection Date	Highest Value	Range	Unit	MCL			
Calcium	7/14/2011	49	48-49	mg/l	N/A			
Hardness, Total (as CaCO ₃)	7/14/2011	140	138-140	mg/l	N/A			
Magnesium	7/14/2011	4.4	4.3-4.4	mg/l				

Some people who drink water containing trihalomethanes *in excess* of the MCL over many years may experience problems with their liver, kidneys, or central nervous systems, and may have increased risk of getting cancer.

WE ARE PLEASED TO REPORT THAT WE HAD NO TREATMENT OR DISTRIBUTION VIOLATIONS in 2011 for EITHER SYSTEM

DEFINITIONS

- **Maximum Contamination 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.
- **Maximum Contamination 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.
- **Maximum Residual Disinfectant Level Goal (MRDLG):** The level of a drinking water disinfectant below that there is no known or expected risk to health. MRDLGs do not reflect the benefits of disinfectants in controlling microbial contaminants.
- **Maximum Residual Disinfectant Level (MRDL):** The highest level of a disinfectant allowed in drinking water. Addition a disinfectant may help control microbial contaminants.
- **Action Level:** The concentration of a contaminant that, if exceeded, triggers treatment or other requirements, which a water system must follow.
- **90th Percentile:** Ninety percent of the samples are below the action level.
- **95th Percentile:** Ninety-five percent of the samples are below the action level.
- **Treatment Technique:** A required process intended to reduce the level of a contaminant in drinking water.
- **Parts per million (ppm) or Milligrams per liter (mg/l):** one penny in ten thousand dollars
- **Parts per billion (ppb) or Micrograms per liter (ug/l):** one penny in ten million dollars
- **Picocuries per liter (pCi/L):** a measure of radioactivity in water
- N/A: Not applicable

Safe Drinking Water is Everyone's Right...And Everyone's Responsibility!

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Permit No. 97

POSTAL PATRON



TOWN OF HARTFORD WATER DEPARTMENT

2011 WATER QUALITY REPORT

for

**White River Junction, Wilder, Hartford Village, and Quechee
VERMONT**

We Deliver. - From Source to Tap!