



CITY OF MARLBOROUGH WATER SYSTEM

Drinking Water Report

Public Water Supply
217000

This is an annual report on the quality of water delivered by the City of Marlborough to its residents and businesses. It complies with the Federal Safe Drinking Water Act (SDWA) requirement for "Consumer Confidence Reports" and contains information on the source of our water, its makeup and the health risks associated with any contaminants. Safe water is vital to our community. Please read this report carefully and if you have questions, call the numbers listed below.

The City of Marlborough's water supply comes from three sources: Massachusetts Water Resources Authority (MWRA), Lake Williams and Millham Reservoir. During calendar year 2009, the City of Marlborough Department of Public Works supplied 1.6 million gallons of water for use by our customers.

Pursuant to the SDWA, the City of Marlborough is required to monitor its drinking water on a regular basis for specific man-made and naturally occurring contaminants. Results of regular monitoring are an indicator of whether or not our drinking water meets applicable health standards. During the monitoring period between July 1st and December 31st, 2009, the city received a Notice of Non-compliance (NON) for failing to submit, by a prescribed deadline, the required number of sample results for the contaminants, lead and copper. The delay in filing the required sampling was principally due to a reluctance of our residents to participate in the program. The requisite sampling was completed within one week of the deadline, after implementing an incentive program to residents for their participation. The city plans to continue this incentive program in the future to avoid future non-compliance.

Water Quality Table

The Water Quality Table below provides information on the results of the city's testing program and is based upon samples taken during 2009. Terms used in the table are defined below and within the table itself.

	MCL	MCLG	Highest Detected	Range	Major Sources	Violation
Inorganic Contaminants						
Nitrate (ppm)	10	10	0.07	0.07	Runoff from fertilizer use; Erosion of natural deposits	No
Barium (ppm)	2	2	0.025	0.025	Erosion of natural deposits	No
Fluoride (ppm) ²	4	4	1.4	0.82 - 1.4	Water additive which promotes strong teeth	No
Sodium (ppm)	none		120	120	Road salt and erosion of natural deposits	No
Microbiological Contaminants						
Turbidity ¹ (NTU)	1	TT	0.3	0.03 - 0.3	Temporary insolubility from lime addition & soil runoff	No
Volatile Organic Contaminants						
TTHMs Total Trihalomethanes (ppb)	avg.=80	0	avg.=30	11.8 - 86.5	By-product of drinking water chlorination	No
HAA5 (ppb)	avg.=60	0	avg.=16	7.4 - 44.1	By-product of drinking water chlorination	No
Radioactive Contaminants						
Gross Alpha (6/11/2003)(pCi/L)	15	0	0.5	0.5	Erosion of natural mineral deposits	No
Combined Radium (pCi/L)	5	0	0.7	0.7	Erosion of natural mineral deposits	No
Additional Contaminants Monitored:						
Lead and Copper: 4th Quarter 2009			90th%*		# of homes exceeding AL# of homes tested	
Lead (ppb)	15	0	16	0 - 21	6 of 54	Yes [^]
Copper (ppm)	1.3	0	0.07	0 - 0.52	0 of 54	No

Water-Quality Table Footnotes:

1. The turbidity level of the filtered water shall be less than 0.3 NTU in 95% of the measurement taken each month and shall not exceed 1.0 NTU at any time. Turbidity is regulated by Treatment Technique. These parameters were met. 2. Fluoride has been added since 1985 to prevent tooth decay. Key to Tables: AL=Action Level MCL=Maximum Contamination Level MCLG=Maximum Contaminant Level Goal (The definitions for MCL and MCLG are on page 2.) NTU=Nephelometric Turbidity Units ND=Not Detectable ppb=parts per billion or micrograms per liter (ug/l) pCi/L=PicoCuries per liter ppm=parts per million, or milligrams per liter (mg/l) TT=Treatment Technique Unregulated Contaminants: Percolate was tested and was not detected. The water was tested for Giardia and Cryptosporidium and were not found. *90th%=Out of every 10 homes sampled, 9 were at or below this level. [^]The Lead exceeded the Action Limit; Copper was below the Action Level. Lead and Copper was also tested in the 2nd Quarter, 2009. Please read page 5 for more information.

Although many tests were run on a number of contaminants, only those substances listed above were detected. Please share this information with other people who drink our water, especially those who may not have received this notice directly, for example, residents who live in apartments, nursing homes, and other businesses. You can do this by posting this notice in a public place or distributing copies by hand or mail.

Finally, the state-recommended per capita water use is 65 gallons per person per day. In order to achieve this value, we encourage all residents to use water more efficiently. Please visit the Marlborough Department of Public Works website for tips on water conservation at www.marlborough-ma.gov/Gen/MarlboroughMA DPWUtility/MarlboroughMA WaterSewer.

Water conservation kits are available through the MWRA free of charge and are available at the Marlborough Department of Public Works at its Municipal Garage at 135 Neil Street.

For more information call the Marlborough Department of Public Works at 508-624-6910 ext. 7200.