



## Town of Reading DEPARTMENT OF PUBLIC WORKS

Public Water Supply  
# 3246000

Dear Water Consumer:

The Town of Reading Department of Public Works (DPW) in partnership with the Massachusetts Water Resources Authority (MWRA) is pleased to provide you with the 2011 Drinking Water Report.

During 2011 the Town used a total of 597.2 million gallons of water. The highest single day's consumption was 2.86 million gallons on June 9, 2011. The highest week's consumption was for the period July 18, 2011 to July 24, 2011 with an amount of 16.6 million gallons and the highest month was July with an amount of 67 million gallons. Average daily usage was 1.64 million gallons. The gallon per capita per day use by each individual for 2011 was 47 gallons per person per day which is 38.3% below the state mandated 65 gpcpd.

The DPW Water Conservation Program continued with great success. In 2011 the program issued almost \$51,000 in rebates and distributed 192 free retrofit water saving devices to residents. Since 2004 over \$458,000 in rebates has been distributed. The program consists of rebates for water saving fixtures, rain barrels, irrigation system rain sensors, complimentary residential and irrigation system water audits, retrofit water saving devices, general public outreach and education, school education and outreach, and system wide leak detection. The school education and outreach program provided in class instruction and water conservation information to all individual third grade classes on the MWRA and Town distribution systems. For further information and participation in the program, please call the rebate Hotline at 781-942-0050, ENE Audit Hotline at 1-888-772-4242, the DPW at 781-942-9077 or visit the Town of Reading website, Water Conservation page at [http://www.ci.reading.ma.us/Pages/ReadingMA\\_Water/conservation/index](http://www.ci.reading.ma.us/Pages/ReadingMA_Water/conservation/index).

The DPW continues to maintain and upgrade the water system. Highlights include 500 feet of new water main as well as 3,936 feet of water main replacement, 8 broken water mains were repaired, 1,501 5/8" to 1" meters replaced, 10 new water services installed, 23 water services replaced, 28 water service leaks repaired, 6 fire hydrants replaced, 10 fire hydrants repaired, and 42 fire hydrants rebuilt. Auburn St. and Bear Hill storage tanks were drained, cleaned and interior and exterior inspections were performed.

The Reading Water Department maintains an active Cross-Connection Program to protect against cross connections between the public water supply and sources of potential contamination. Any time a homeowner uses a hose to spray fertilizer or other chemicals they have created a cross connection and could potentially contaminate the water in their own home. The Water Department encourages all customers to install hose bib vacuum breakers (available at any hardware store) on all hose connections. Please contact Jim Richardson, Water Distribution Supervisor at 781-942-9092 for more information on preventing backflow.

Drinking water issues are also addressed through the Board of Selectmen, which generally meet on the first, third and fourth Tuesday of each month in the Town Hall at 7:00 P.M. Questions about Drinking Water Quality can also be answered by contacting the EPA's Safe Drinking Water Hotline at 800-426-4791 or on the web at [www.epa.gov/ow](http://www.epa.gov/ow).

Jeffrey T. Zager

Listed below are the local results for substances detected in your local water in 2011. For a complete list of the substances detected by the MWRA in the drinking water please view the accompanying MWRA 2011 Drinking Water Report.

Compound	Units	Highest Level Found	Range of Directions	MCL	MCLG (Ideal Goals)	Violation yes/no	How it gets in the water	Sample Date
Chlorine (Total)	ppm	2.6	0.0-2.6	4	4	no	Water additive to control microbes	2011
Lead <sup>1</sup>	ppb	6.2 <sup>2</sup>	0.1-21.2	(AL) 15 <sup>1</sup>	0	no	Corrosion of household plumbing	2011
Copper <sup>1</sup>	ppb	107 <sup>2</sup>	7.3-120	(AL) 1300 <sup>1</sup>	0	no	Corrosion of household plumbing	2011

**Footnotes:** 1-Lead and copper Action Level based on 90<sup>th</sup> percentile result. 2-90<sup>th</sup> percentile results.

**Abbreviations:** ppm – parts per million; ppb – parts per billion; (AL) – Action Level

For any additional information please contact: Peter Tassi, Supervisor Water Supply & Quality, Department of Public Works, 75 New Crossing Road, Reading, Massachusetts 01867, Tel. (781) 942-9199