



## 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 2013 Drinking Water Report.

During 2013 the Town used a total of 595.8 million gallons of water. The highest single day's consumption was 2.64 million gallons on July 18, 2013. The highest week's consumption was for the period July 14, 2013 to July 20, 2013 an amount of 16.36 million gallons and the highest month was July with an amount of 59.89 million gallons. Average daily usage was 1.63 million gallons. The average gallons per capita per day (gpcpd), use by each individual for 2013 was 46 gallons per person per day which is 41.4% below the state mandated 65 gpcpd.

The DPW Water Conservation Program continued with great success. In 2013 the program issued over \$35,000 in rebates and distributed 304 free retrofit water saving devices to residents. Since 2004 over \$531,000 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 to all individual third grade classes on the MWRA and Town distribution systems as well as water conservation information. For further information and participation in the program, please call the DPW at 781-942-9077, ENE Audit Hotline at 1-888-772-4242, the rebate Hotline at 781-942-0050, or visit the Town of Reading website, Water Conservation page at <http://www.readingma.gov/water-division/pages/water-conservation>.

The DPW continues to maintain and upgrade the water system. Highlights include: 13 broken water mains were repaired, 32 new water services installed, 23 water services replaced, 18 water service leaks repaired, 4 fire hydrants replaced, 11 fire hydrants repaired, and 69 fire hydrants rebuilt.

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 Peter Isbell, Water Distribution Supervisor at 781-942-9092 for more information on preventing backflow.

Drinking water issues are 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  
Director of Public Works

**READING'S WATER QUALITY RESULTS:** Listed below are the 5 substances detected by Reading's Water Department in the drinking water during 2013. For a complete list of the substances detected by the MWRA in the drinking water please view the accompanying MWRA 2013 Drinking Water Report.

Compound	Units	Highest Level Found	Range of Detections	MCL	MCLG (Ideal Goals)	Violation yes/no	How it gets in the water	Sample Date
<b>Regulated Compounds</b>								
Mono-chloramine	ppm	3.2	0.01-3.2 <sup>1</sup>	4-MRDL	4-MRDLG	no	Water disinfectant	2013
Lead	ppb	6.2 <sup>3</sup>	0.1-21.2	(AL) 15 <sup>2</sup>	0	no	Corrosion of household plumbing	2011
Copper	ppb	107 <sup>3</sup>	7.3-120	(AL) 1300 <sup>2</sup>	0	no	Corrosion of household plumbing	2011
Nitrate	ppm	0.44	0-012-0.44	10	10	no	Atmospheric deposition	2013
Nitrite	ppm	0.52	0-0.52	1	1	no	Water disinfection	2013

**Footnotes:** 1-This range and results are based on the individual samples analyzed in 2013. 2-Lead and copper Action Level based on 90th percentile result. 3-90th percentile results.

**Abbreviations:** ppm=parts per million; ppb=parts per billion; MCL=Maximum Contaminant Level; MCLG=Maximum Contaminant Level Goal; MRDL=Maximum Residual Disinfectant Level; MRDLG=Maximum Residual Disinfectant Level Goal; (AL)=Action Level

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