

**2023 Consumer Confidence Report  
(Water Quality Report)**

**For the  
Littleton Water and Light  
65 Lafayette Ave.  
Littleton, NH 03561  
PWS ID: 1381010**

**Introduction:** As a responsible public water system (PWS), our mission is to “maintain a staff of professional service – orientated employees dedicated to providing and delivering a safe product to our customers.” This is accomplished in a manner that protects public health, preserves our environment, and supports the economic growth and well-being of the community and all at a “reasonable cost” (about 0.43 cents per 100 gallons). Our aging infrastructure combined with geopolitical pressures, rising operational costs and declining water use/sales presents challenges that we must manage to successfully accomplish our mission/goal. Capital improvements and routine maintenance to the system is ongoing and are made to optimize system performance to preserve the reliability and the operational integrity of our potable (drinking) water system. When considering the high value we place on water, it is truly a bargain to have water service/supply that is reliable, economical, provides fire-fighting needs, supports economic growth and enhances a very high-quality of life we enjoy in our

NOW IT COMES WITH A LIST OF INGREDIENTS.



community while assuring a clean and healthy environment.

**What is a Consumer Confidence Report?**

The Consumer Confidence Report (CCR) details the quality of your drinking water, where it comes from, and how to get more information. This annual report documents all detected primary and secondary drinking water contaminants and their respective standards known as Maximum Contaminant Levels (MCLs) for the previous year.

**The sources of drinking water** (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.

**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.
- **Inorganic contaminants**, such as salts and metals, which can be naturally occurring or result from urban storm water runoff, industrial or domestic wastewater discharges, oil and gas production, mining or farming.
- **Pesticides and herbicides**, which may come from a variety of sources such as agriculture, urban stormwater runoff, and residential uses.

- **Organic chemical contaminants**, including per- and polyfluoroalkyl substances, synthetic and volatile organic chemicals, which are by-products 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.

**In order to ensure that tap water is safe to drink**, EPA prescribe regulations which limit the amount of certain contaminants in water provided by public water systems. The US Food and Drug Administration (FDA) regulations establish limits for contaminants in bottled water which must provide the same protection for public health.

**What is the source of my drinking water?**

Our primary drinking water source comes from the Gale River basin and is economically supplied to most of our customers by gravity. Located within the White Mountain National Forest at the base of Garfield Mountain this protected water supply can be supplemented, as needed, by a bedrock artesian well located in Littleton. Fortunately, both these pristine water sources are of the highest quality and require only minimal treatment and disinfection to comply with the Safe Water Drinking Act.

No bulk water was purchased. Our water is disinfected using sodium hypochlorite (bleach) following slow sand filtration and a poly-orthophosphate is used as both an anti-corrosive and sequestering agent in accordance with the USEPA Lead and Copper Rule.

## Why are contaminants in my water?

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 at 1-800-426-4791.

## 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/CDC 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 1-800-426-4791.

## Source Water Assessment Summary

NHDES prepared drinking water source assessment reports for all public water systems between 2000 and 2003 to assess the vulnerability of each of the state's public water supply sources. Included in the report is a map of each source water protection area, a list of potential and known contamination sources, and a summary of available protection options. The results of the assessment, prepared in May 2002, are noted below.

1. Gale River, Surface Water, received a zero (0) susceptibility factors that were rated high, zero (0) were rated medium and eleven (11) were rated low.
2. Well, Groundwater, received two (2) susceptibility factor that were rated high, four (4) were rated medium, and six (6) were rated low.

The complete Assessment Report is available for review at the Littleton Water and Light Office located at 65 Lafayette Avenue in Littleton, New Hampshire or via an email request at [www.littletonwaterandlight.org](http://www.littletonwaterandlight.org). For more information, call **603-444-2915** or visit the NH Department of Environment Services website.

Note: Due to the time when the assessments were completed, some of the ratings might be different if updated to reflect current information.

## How can I get involved?

Public meetings are open to all and are held on the first and third Mondays of each month.

For more information about your drinking water please feel free to call the owners representative Tom Considine or the primary system operator Kevin Sorrell at 603-444-2915. Although we do not have specific dates for public participation events, feel free to contact us with your questions.

**Violations and Other information** must be annotated in this report and the steps taken to resolve that violation are reflected in the following tables (if any remedial action was needed).

## Definitions

**Ambient Groundwater Quality Standard or AGQS:** The maximum concentration levels for contaminants in groundwater that are established under RSA 485-C, the Groundwater Protection Act.

**Action Level or AL:** The concentration of a contaminant which, if exceeded, triggers treatment or other requirements which a water system must follow.

**Level I Assessment:** A study of the water system to identify potential problems and determine, if possible, why total coliform bacteria have been found in our water system

**Level II Assessment:** A very detailed study of the water system to identify potential problems and determine, if possible, why an E. coli MCL violation has occurred and/or why total coliform bacteria have been found in our water system on multiple occasions.

**Maximum Contaminant Level or 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 technology.

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

**Maximum Residual Disinfectant Level Goal or MRDLG:** The level of a drinking water disinfect-

ant below which there is no known or expected risk to health. MRDLGs do not reflect the benefits of the use of disinfectants to control microbial contaminants.

**Treatment Technique or TT:** A required process intended to reduce the level of a contaminant in drinking water.

**IMPORTANT NOTE:**

**Lead:** If present, elevated levels of lead can cause serious health problems, especially for pregnant women and young children. Lead in drinking water is primarily from materials and components associated with service lines and home plumbing. This water system is responsible for high quality drinking water but cannot control the variety of materials used in your plumbing components. When your water has been sitting for several hours, you can minimize

the potential for lead exposure by flushing cold water from your tap for at least 30 seconds before using water for drinking or cooking. Do not use hot water for drinking and cooking. If you are concerned about lead in your water, you may wish to have your water tested. Information on lead in drinking water, testing methods, and steps you can take to minimize exposure is available from the Safe Drinking Water Hotline at 1-800-426-4791 or at [US EPA Basic Information about Lead in Drinking Water](#).

**Abbreviations:**

BDL: Below Detection Limits  
mg/L: milligrams per Liter  
NA: Not Applicable  
ND: Not Detectable at testing limits  
NHDES: NH Department of Environmental Services  
NTU: Nephelometric Turbidity Unit  
pCi/L: picoCurie per Liter  
ppb: parts per billion  
ppm: parts per million  
RAA: Running Annual Average  
TTHM: Total Trihalomethanes  
UCMR: Unregulated Contaminant Monitoring Rule  
ug/L: micrograms per Liter  
USEPA: US Environmental Protection Agency

## 2023 Report (Reporting 2022 sample data)

**BULK WATER DELIVERIES - NONE**

**VIOLATIONS - NONE**

**ASSESSMENTS – NOT REQUIRED**

**ASSESSMENTS NOT COMPLETED – NOT APPLICABLE**

**SIGNIFICANT DEFICIENCY – NONE FOUND**

**NHDES SANITARY SURVEY COMPLETE: OCTOBER 7, 2022**

## LEAD AND COPPER

Contaminant (Units)	Action Level (AL)	90 <sup>th</sup> percentile sample value *	Date	# of sites above AL	Violation Yes/No	Likely Source of Contamination	Health Effects of Contaminant
Copper (ppm)	1.3	0.37	July 2022	0	NO	Corrosion of household plumbing systems; erosion of natural deposits; leaching from wood preservatives.	Copper is an essential nutrient, but some people who drink water containing copper in excess of the action level over a relatively short amount of time could experience gastrointestinal distress. Some people who drink water containing copper in excess of the action level over many years could suffer liver or kidney damage. People with Wilson's Disease should consult their personal doctor.
Lead (ppb)	15	7.8	July 2022	1	NO	Corrosion of household plumbing systems, erosion of natural deposits	15 ppb in more than 5%) Infants and young 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. 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 Safe Drinking Water Hotline (800-426-4791). (Above 15 ppb) Infants and children who drink water containing lead in excess of the action level could experience delays in their physical or mental development. Children could show slight deficits in attention span and learning abilities. Adults who drink this water over many years could develop kidney problems or high blood pressure.

## LABORATORY ANALYSIS - DETECTED CONTAMINANTS

### Microbiological Contaminants

Contaminant (Units)	Level Detected*	Date	MCL	MCLG	Violation YES/NO	Likely Source of Contamination	Health Effects of Contaminant
Turbidity (NTU) Average, high Month and high Day	.031	Average					Turbidity has no health effects. However, turbidity can interfere with disinfection and provide a medium for microbial growth. Turbidity may indicate the presence of disease-causing organisms. These organisms include bacteria, viruses, and parasites that can cause symptoms such as nausea, cramps, diarrhea, and associated headaches.
	.037	Sep 2022	TT	N/A	NO	Soil runoff	
	.080	Sep. 2 <sup>nd</sup>					

### Radioactive Contaminants – Below Detectible Limit

### Inorganic Contaminants

Contaminant (Units)	Level Detected*	Date	MCL	MCLG	Violation YES/NO	Likely Source of Contamination	Health Effects of Contaminant
Chlorine (ppm)	0.65 (Ave) 0.76 (Max)	Annual Oct 2022	MRDL= 4	MRDL G= 4	NO	Water additive used to control microbes	Some people who use water containing chlorine well in excess of the MRDL could experience irritating effects to their eyes and nose. Some people who drink water containing chlorine well in excess of the MRDL could experience stomach discomfort.
Fluoride (ppm)	0.22	Aug 2022	4.0	4.0	NO	Erosion of natural deposits; water additive which promotes strong teeth; discharge from fertilizer and aluminum factories	Some people who drink water containing fluoride in excess of the MCL over many years could get bone disease, including pain and tenderness of the bones. Fluoride in drinking water at half the MCL or more may cause mottling of children's teeth, usually in children less than nine years old. Mottling also known as dental fluorosis, may include brown staining and/or pitting of the teeth, and occurs only in developing teeth before they erupt from the gums.
Nitrate (as Nitrogen) (ppm)		Feb 2022	10	10	NO	Runoff from fertilizer use; leaching from septic tanks, sewage; erosion of natural deposits	(5 ppm - 10ppm) Nitrate in drinking water at levels above 10 ppm is a health risk for infants of less than six months of age. High nitrate levels in drinking water can cause blue baby syndrome. Nitrate levels may rise quickly for short periods of time because of rainfall or agricultural activity. If you are caring for an infant, you should ask for advice from your health care provider. (Above 10 ppm) Infants below the age of six months who drink water containing nitrate in excess of the MCL could become seriously ill and, if untreated, may die. Symptoms include shortness of breath and blue baby syndrome.

### Inorganic Contaminants - Continued

Contaminant (Units)	Level Detected*	Date	MCL	MCLG	Violation YES/NO	Likely Source of Contamination	Health Effects of Contaminant
Nitrite (as Nitrogen) (ppm)	.034	Aug 2022	1	1	NO	Runoff from fertilizer use; leaching from septic tanks, sewage; erosion of natural deposits	Infants below the age of six months who drink water containing nitrite in excess of the MCL could become seriously ill, and if untreated, may die. Symptoms include shortness of breath and blue baby syndrome.

**Synthetic Organic Contaminants including Pesticides and Herbicides – Not Applicable – NHDES Wavier Granted 2022**

### Volatile Organic Contaminants

Contaminant (Units)	Level Detected*	Date	MCL	MCLG	Violation YES/NO	Likely Source of Contamination	Health Effects of Contaminant
Haloacetic Acids (HAA) (ppb)	39.5 LRAA 46.4 (Max)	Average May 2022	60	N/A	No	By-product of drinking water disinfection	Some people who drink water containing haloacetic acids in excess of the MCL over many years may have an increased risk of getting cancer.
Total Trihalomethanes (TTHM) (Bromodichloromethane Bromoform Dibromochloromethane Chloroform) (ppb)	53.9 LRAA 64.6 (Max)	Average Nov 2022	80	N/A	No	By-product of drinking water chlorination	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 an increased risk of getting cancer.

### PER- AND POLYFLUOROALKYL SUBSTANCES (PFAS) CONTAMINANTS – Below Detectible Limits

### ADDITIONAL TESTING – NONE REQUIRED

### SECONDARY CONTAMINANTS

Secondary MCLs (SMCL)	Level Detected	Date	Treatment technique (if any)	SMCL	50 % AGQS (Ambient groundwater quality standard)	AGQS (Ambient groundwater quality standard)	Specific contaminant criteria and reason for monitoring
Chloride (ppm)	4.0	Feb 2022	N/A	250	N/A	N/A	Wastewater, road salt, water softeners, corrosion
Fluoride (ppm)	0.22	Aug 2022	N/A	2	2	4	<i>Add Health effects language from Env-Dw 806.11 or attach public notice to CCR</i>
Iron (ppm)	.025	Feb 2022	N/A	0.3	N/A	N/A	Geological
PH (ppm)	6.7 – 6.8 Average	Annual	N/A	6.5-8.5 (Normal)	N/A	N/A	Precipitation and geology
Sodium (ppm)	2.8	Feb 2022	N/A	100-250	N/A	N/A	We are required to regularly sample for sodium