

Water Quality Report – 2009

Lincoln Water Works

What is the source of my drinking water?

1) Lincoln Water Treatment Plant

- a) Loon Pond #005 – A pond, located on White Mountain National Forest land, that feeds water to Little Loon Pond and then into a small reservoir. The water from this surface water source is classified as Class A water, which is treated at the Water Treatment Plant.
- b) East Branch of the Pemigewasset River #006 – A river, located within the White Mountain National Forest, with many tributaries that drain the surrounding Lincoln Woods and provides sufficient water to the Town’s intake facility. The water from this surface water source is classified as Class B water, which is also treated at the Water Treatment Plant.

[Note: Class A water is a better quality raw water than Class B water because it contains less bacteria. Because water from both Loon Pond and the East Branch of the Pemigewasset River are treated through the Water Treatment Plant, all bacteria is removed from both sources. Therefore, the differences between Class A water and Class B water is not a matter of concern.]

2) Cold Springs Well Group #004

A ground water source, located on Route 3, which is used mainly during the high demand periods. This water originates from the Main Branch of the Pemigewasset River. Water from wells must be chlorinated to destroy any bacteria that may be present and pH levels are adjusted to protect against corrosion.

How can I get involved? If you should have any questions or concerns, please call David Beaudin at the Lincoln Water Department Monday to Friday, from 7:00am to 3:30 pm, at (603)745-9306.

Why are contaminants in my water?

Drinking water, including bottled water, may reasonably be expected to contain at least small amounts of 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 US Environmental Protection Agency’s Safe Drinking Water Hotline (1-800-426-4791).

Violations and Other information: We are pleased to report that our drinking water meets federal and state requirements.

Do I need to take special precautions?

Some people may be more vulnerable to contaminants in drinking water than the general population. Immunocompromised persons, such as persons with cancer undergoing chemotherapy, persons who have undergone organ trans-plants, 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 (1-800-426-4791).

Definitions:

MCLG: Maximum Contaminant Level Goal, or 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.

MCL: Maximum Contaminant Level: The highest level of a contaminant that is allowed in drinking water. They are set as close to the MCLGs as feasible using the best available treatment technology.

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

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

MRDLG: Maximum residual disinfectant level goal or the level of a drinking water disinfectant below which there is no known or expected risk to health. MRDLG’s do not reflect the benefits of the use of disinfectants to control microbial contaminants(for water systems that use chlorine).

MRDL: Maximum Residual Disinfectant Level or the highest level of a disinfectant allowed in drinking water. There is convincing evidence that the addition of a disinfectant is necessary for control of microbial contaminants (for water systems that use chlorine)..

Abbreviations: **ppm:** parts per million **ppb:** parts per billion **NTU:** Nephelometric Turbidity Unit **NA** – Not applicable **TT:** Treatment Technique

Sample Dates: The results for detected contaminants listed below are from the most recent monitoring done in compliance with regulations ending with the year 2008. Results prior to 2008 will include the date the sample was taken. The State of New Hampshire allows water systems to monitor for some contaminants less than once per year because the concentrations of these contaminants do not change frequently. Thus some of the data present, though representative, may be more than one year old.

Turbidity: is a measure of the cloudiness of the water. It is monitored by surface water systems because it is a good indicator of water quality and thus helps measure the effectiveness of the treatment process. High turbidity can hinder the effectiveness of disinfectants.

DETECTED WATER QUALITY RESULTS

Contaminant (Units)	Level Detected	MCL	MCLG	Violation YES/NO	Likely Source of Contamination
Microbiological Contaminants					
Total Organic Carbon (ppm)	RAA Average = 1.38 Range = 1.0 - 2.0	TT	N/A		Naturally present in the Environment
Turbidity (NTU)	Average = .14 Range = .10 - .19	TT	N/A		Soil runoff
Inorganic Contaminants					
Barium (ppm)	.003	2	2		Discharge of drilling wastes; discharge from metal refineries; erosion of natural deposits
Fluoride (ppm)	0.5	4	4		Erosion of natural deposits; water additive which promotes strong teeth; discharge from fertilizer and aluminum factories
Volatile Organic Contaminants					
Chlorine (ppm)	Average = .48 Range = .35 - .58	MRDL = 4	MRDLG = 4		Water additive used to control microbes
Haloacetic Acids (ppb)	1) 35 01/29/08 = 35 06/01/08 = 29 07/01/08 = 48 10/03/08 = 35	60	N/A		By-product of drinking water disinfection
TTHM (ppb) (Bromodichloro-methane Bromoform Dibromomethane Chloroform)	1) 55 01/23/08 = 35 06/01/08 = 54 07/01/08 = 78	80	N/A		By-product of drinking water chlorination

Description of Drinking Water Contaminants:

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 storm water 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 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 prescribes regulations which limit the amount of certain contaminants in water provided by public water systems. The United States Food and Drug Administration (FDA) regulations establish limits for contaminants in bottled water which must provide the same protection for public health.

Source Water Assessment Summary:

The NH Department of Environmental Services has prepared a Source Water Assessment Report for the source(s) serving this community water system, assessing the sources' vulnerability to contamination. The results of the assessment, prepared on July 5, 2001, are as follows:

Loon Pond Brook Reservoir received 0 (zero) high susceptibility ratings, 1 (one) medium susceptibility rating, and 10 (ten) low susceptibility ratings.

Intake /East Branch of Pemigewasset River received 1 (one) high susceptibility rating, 2 (two) medium susceptibility ratings, and 8 (eight) low susceptibility ratings.

The complete Assessment Report is available for review at the water system office or Lincoln Town Hall. For more information call David Beaudin at the Lincoln Water Department Monday to Friday, from 7:00am to 3:30 pm, at (603)745-9306, or visit NH Department of Environmental Services Drinking Water and Groundwater Bureau web site at <http://des.nh.gov/organization/divisions/water/dwgb/index.htm>.