

A large graphic on the left side of the page. It features a stylized blue mountain peak at the top, followed by several horizontal blue stripes of varying lengths that curve downwards to form a circular shape. Overlaid on this graphic is a white outline of the state of Maryland. A blue arrow curves from the top left towards the center of the Maryland outline.

HAWSCO

HAMPSTEAD AREA WATER SERVICES, CO.

“Serving the Water Community for over 40 years”

2024 ANNUAL WATER QUALITY REPORT

Cotton Farms MHP – PWS ID 0583030

Hampstead Area Water Services Company is committed to providing its customers with water that far exceeds all drinking water standards. We are pleased to report that our drinking water is safe and meets all federal and state requirements. Today's consumers are keenly aware of environmental and health issues. This Water Quality Report is designed to keep you as the customer informed so that you will be able to make educated decisions for you and your family. This report contains results from our most recent year's testing, details about your water source, how it is treated, what we are doing to protect it, and how it compares to standards set by regulatory agencies.

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.

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.



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.
- **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](#)

WHAT IS THE SOURCE OF MY WATER?

Cotton Farms obtains its water from two bedrock wells located at two locations in the system, The Wesley St. pump house and the Mary St. pump house. At the Wesley St. PH the water is treated with chlorine before passing through greensand filters for iron, manganese, and arsenic removal. Water flows from the wells to three 10,000-gallon atmospheric storage tanks. The treated water is transferred via duplicate booster pumps to a 6,160-gallon hydropneumatic storage tank and feeds the distribution system. At the Mary St. PH water flows from the two wells into two 5,000-gallon atmospheric storage tanks. It is then transferred via duplicate booster pumps to distribution.

Source Assessment

Source	Date	Low	Med	High
BRW6	8/14/2001	9	2	1
BRW7	8/14/2001	8	2	2
BRW8	8/14/2001	9	2	1
BRW9	3/11/2005	7	3	2

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



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.

HOW CAN I GET INVOLVED?

For more information about your drinking water, please call Hampstead Area Water Services Company at: (603) 362-5333 Monday through Friday 8:00am - 4:30pm. Although we do not have specific dates for public participation events or meetings, feel free to contact us with any questions you may have.

DEFINITIONS AND ABBREVIATIONS

Abbreviations

BDL: Below Detection Limit

mg/L: milligrams per Liter

NA: Not Applicable

ND: Not Detectable at testing limits

NTU: Nephelometric Turbidity Unit

pCi/L: picoCurie per Liter

ppb: parts per billion

ppm: parts per million

ppt: parts per trillion

RAA: Running Annual Average

TTHM: Total Trihalomethanes

UCMR: Unregulated Contaminant Monitoring Rule

ug/L: micrograms per Liter

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 disinfectant 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.

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.

COTTON FARMS MHP WATER SYSTEM

PWS ID 0583030

2024 REPORT (2023 DATA)

LEAD AND COPPER

Contaminant (units)	Action Level	90 th Percentile Value	Date	# of sites above AL	Violation Yes/No	Likely Source of Contamination	Heath Effects of Contaminant
Copper (ppm)	1.3	0.289	2021	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	2	2021	0	No	Corrosion of household plumbing systems, erosion of natural deposits	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. 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)

INORGANIC CONTAMINANTS								
Contaminant (units)	Level Detected	Range	MCL	MCLG	Violation Yes/No	Year	Likely Source of Contamination	Heath Effects of Contaminant
Barium (ppm)	0.06 average	0.023 - 0.095	2	2	No	2022	Discharge of drilling wastes; discharge from metal refineries; erosion of natural deposits	Some people who drink water containing barium in excess of the MCL over many years could experience an increase in their blood pressure.
Chlorine (ppm)	0.37 average	0.10 - 1.01	MRDL = 4	MRDLG = 4	No	Monthly 2023	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.
Arsenic (ppb)	2.38 average	ND - 4.6	5	0	No	2023	Erosion of natural deposits; runoff from orchards; runoff from glass and electronics production wastes	While your drinking water meets EPA's standard for arsenic, it does contain low levels of arsenic. EPA's standard balances the current understanding of arsenic's possible health effects against the costs of removing arsenic from drinking water. EPA continues to research the health effects of low levels of arsenic, which is a mineral known to cause cancer in humans at high concentrations and is linked to other health effects such as skin damage and circulatory problems.
Chromium (ppb)	1.5 average	ND - 3	100	100	No	2022	Discharge from steel and pulp mills; erosion of natural deposits	Some people who use water containing chromium well in excess of the MCL over many years could experience allergic dermatitis.
Fluoride (ppm)	0.4 average	0.34 - 0.45	4	4	No	2022	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.

Radioactive Contaminants								
Contaminant (units)	Level Detected	Range	MCL	MCLG	Violation Yes/No	Year	Likely Source of Contamination	Heath Effects of Contaminant
Compliance Gross Alpha (pCi/L)	2.45 average	ND - 4.9	15	0	No	2020	Erosion of natural deposits	Certain minerals are radioactive and may emit a form of radiation know as alpha radiation. Some people who drink water containing alpha emitters in excess of the MCL over many years may have an increased risk of getting cancer.
Combined Radium 226 + 228 (pCi/L)	4.13 average	2.1 - 7.8	5	0	Yes	2023	Erosion of natural deposits	Some people who drink water containing radium 226 or 228 in excess of the MCL over many years may have an increased risk of getting cancer.
Uranium (ug/L)	8 average	3 - 13	30	0	No	2020	Erosion of natural deposits	Some people who drink water containing uranium in excess of the MCL over many years may have an increased risk of getting cancer and kidney toxicity
Volatile Organic Contaminants								
Contaminant (units)	Level Detected	Range	MCL	MCLG	Violation Yes/No	Year	Likely Source of Contamination	Heath Effects of Contaminant
Methyl tertiary-butyl ether (MtBE) (ppb)	0.66	0.6 - 0.7	13	13	No	2023	A gasoline additive	The New Hampshire Bureau of Health Risk Assessment considers MtBE a possible human carcinogen. Some people who drink water containing MtBE in excess of the MCL over many years could experience problems with their kidneys and may have an increased risk of getting cancer.
Haloacetic Acids (HAA) (ppb)	5.7	N/A	60	N/A	No	2021	By-product of drinking water chlorination	Some people who drink water containing haloacetic acids in excess of the MCL over many years may have an increased risk of getting cancer.

PER- AND POLYFLUOROALKYL SUBSTANCES (PFAS) CONTAMINANTS								
Contaminant (units)	Level Detected	Range	MCL	MCLG	Violation Yes/No	Year	Likely Source of Contamination	Heath Effects of Contaminant
Perfluorooctane sulfonic acid (PFOS) (ppt)	4.47	N/A	15	0	No	2023	Discharge from industrial processes, wastewater treatment, residuals from firefighting foam, runoff/leachate from landfills and septic systems	The New Hampshire Bureau of Health Risk Assessment considers MtBE a possible human carcinogen. Some people who drink water containing MtBE in excess of the MCL over many years could experience problems with their kidneys and may have an increased risk of getting cancer.
Perfluorooctanoic acid (PFOA) (ppt)	6.15	N/A	12	0	No	2023	Discharge from industrial processes, wastewater treatment, residuals from firefighting foam, runoff/leachate from landfills and septic systems	Some people who drink water containing perfluorooctanoic acid (PFOA) in excess of the MCL over many years could experience problems with their liver, endocrine system, or immune system, may experience increased cholesterol levels, and may have an increased risk of getting certain types of cancer. It may also lower a women’s chance of getting pregnant.
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	
Iron (ppm)	0.34	2022	N/A	0.3	N/A	N/A	Geological	
Sodium (ppm)	14.85	2022	N/A	100-250	N/A	N/A	We are required to sample for sodium	
Zinc (ppm)	0.072	2022	N/A	5	N/A	N/A	Galvanized pipes	
Chloride (ppm)	40	2022	N/A	250	N/A	N/A	Wastewater, road salt, water softeners, corrosion	
Sulfate (ppm)	17.7	2022	N/A	250	250	500	Naturally occurring	
Manganese (ppm)	0.019	2022	N/A	0.05	0.15	0.3	Geological	
Nickel (ppm)	0.004	2022	N/A	Not established, reporting is required for detections	0.05	0.1	Geological; electroplating, battery production, ceramics	

VIOLATIONS

VIOLATIONS	Date of violation	Explain violation	Length of violation	Action taken to resolve	Health Effects (Env-Dw 804-810)
MCL / Sample Average - Combined Radium (-226 and -228)	1/1/2023	Level detected was above the MCL	2/22/2024	Follow up samples were taken and samples have been in compliance since	Some people who drink water containing radium 226 or 228 in excess of the MCL over many years may have an increased risk of getting cancer.