

Hinesburg's Water System

Hinesburg's water system consists of 2 drilled wells near the main well house, a pumping station at the Village Cemetery which pumps water up to a 500,000 gal storage tank on Piette Rd. The water mains are a mix of new and old lines which run through the village and up Richmond Rd. The water is chlorinated for disinfection and fluoridated. The wells are both **Rock Well (Vermont Source Type), Groundwater, non purchased (EPA Source Type)**. This means they are drilled in bedrock and produce groundwater. They are named **Well Number ONE and THREE (Source Name)**. A recent requirement of the Safe Water Drinking Act was for communities to take a look at where drinking water comes from and develop a plan to protect its sources. The **Water Supply Division approved Hinesburg's Source Protection Plan on 3/17/98; a copy is available at the Water Dept Office 482-6097. Some potential sources of contamination within Hinesburg's Wellhead Protection Area include: wastewater treatment lagoons, private septic systems, underground storage tanks and pulled underground storage tanks. If you have questions, concerns, or comments please contact:**

Water Superintendent Steve Button 482-6097
Buildings/Facilities Director Rocky Martin 482-2096
Selectboard Chair Jon Trefry 482-2096

Issues concerning the Water System are discussed at Selectboard meetings held the first and third Mondays of every month at 7:00 PM in the Hinesburg Town Hall. Contact Jeanne Wilson at 482-2096 to schedule a time to be on the Selectboard's agenda.

The Water Dept has taken steps to improve security at its facilities and continues to assess vulnerability to address identified risks. We urge you to contact water system personnel if you notice any suspicious activities related to the water system.

Water Quality Summary

Listed below are the contaminants detected in Hinesburg's water in the last 5 years. Hinesburg had NO violations in 2009.

Substance (Contaminant)	Level Detected	MCL	MCLG	Sample Date	Violation (Yes/No)	Likely Source of Contamination
Iron	0.20 mg/l	0.30 mg/l	n/a	9/24/08	NO	Erosion of natural deposits
Manganese	0.063 mg/l	0.05 mg/l	n/a	9/24/08	NO	Erosion of natural deposits
Barium	0.038 ppm	2.00 ppm	2.00 ppm	9/24/08	NO	Erosion of natural deposits
Arsenic	3.000 ppb	10.000ppb	n/a	9/28/05	NO	Erosion of natural deposits
Gross Alpha	2.6 pci/l	10	0	3/26/08	NO	Erosion of natural deposits
Radium-226	0.1 pci/l	5	0	3/26/08	NO	Erosion of natural deposits

Contaminant Detected	90th Percentile (Amount Detected)	Action Level	Sample Date	# of samples	# samples exceeding Action Level	Likely source of detected contamination
Copper	0.11 mg/l	1.3 mg/l	9/30/09	10	0	Corrosion of household plumbing; erosion of natural deposits

Chemical Contaminant	Collection Date	Highest Value	Range	Unit
Alkalinity, Total	5/18/2007	239	223-239	mg/l
Calcium	5/18/2007	66.9	65.6-66.9	mg/l
Conductivity @ 25 CUMHOS/CM	5/18/2007	577	572-577	UMHOS/CM
Hardness, Total (As CaCO3)	5/18/2007	306	300-306	mg/l
Methyl -t -butyl ether (mtbe)	8/12/2009	3.9	1.4—3.9	ppb
Microbiological	Collection date	Level Detected	MCL	Likely Source
Coliform	8/28/09	Present	No more than 1	Naturally present

Definitions and Abbreviations

MCL	Maximum Contaminant Level: The highest level of a contaminant that is allowed in drinking water. MCLs are set as close to the MCLGs as feasible using best available treatment.
MCLG	Maximum Contaminant Level Goal: The level of a contaminant in drinking water below which there is no known or expected health risk. MCLGs allow for a margin of safety.
Action Level	The concentration of a contaminant which, if exceeded, triggers treatment or other requirements.
ppm	Parts Per Million (One penny in ten thousand dollars)
ppb	Parts Per Billion (One penny in ten million dollars)
pci/l	Picocuries per Liter: A measure of radioactivity in water
mg/l	Milligrams per liter (ppm)

Substances Found in Drinking Water

Sources of drinking water (both tap and bottled water) include rivers, lakes, reservoirs, streams and wells. As water travels over land surfaces or through the ground, it dissolves and picks up naturally occurring minerals and radioactive material, and can be polluted by animals or human activity. Contaminants that might be expected in untreated water include: biological contaminants such as viruses and bacteria; inorganic contaminants such as metals and salts; pesticides and herbicides; organic chemicals from industrial or petroleum use; and naturally occurring radioactive materials. To ensure that tap water is safe to drink, the Environmental Protection Agency (EPA) prescribes regulations that limit the amount of certain contaminants in water provided by public water systems. 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 EPA's Safe Drinking Water Hotline (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. Immunocompromised 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 providers. EPA/CDC guidelines on appropriate means to lessen the risk of infection by *Cryptosporidium* and other contaminants are available from the Safe Drinking Water Hotline.

Water Conservation Tips Save Water Save Money

1. **Check for plumbing leaks**-some are visible (and noisy) but some are invisible and silent. Toilets (largest water user in your home) can have invisible/silent leaks that if unchecked can use a TON of water. Check by observing your water meter after making sure all water faucets/appliances are off. If the red or black triangle on the meter head is spinning, water is leaking somewhere. You can also read the meter with everything off and then read it 2 hours later. If the two readings are not exactly the same, there is a leak somewhere.
2. **Replace old toilets**-any toilet manufactured before 1992 is considered "old" and could use 3.5 to 5 gallons per flush (GPF). Some toilets have date stamped on inside of tank lid, or look for info stamped on bowl. New toilets use 1.6 GPF or less-many different options to choose from.
3. **Replace clothes washer**-(second largest water user in your home) For the average household, replacing your old clothes washer with a High Efficiency (HE) model can save:
 - up to 5100 gallons of water per year,
 - up to 50% electrical savings
 - and use less detergent
4. **Replace shower heads and faucets with low flow devices** Some showerhead/faucets have flow rate stamped on them in gallons per minute (GPM). If not use a bucket and wrist watch to estimate their flow rate. New faucets and showerheads have maximum flow rate of 2.5 GPM, many use much less-down to 1.5 GPM.

These are just a few of the many ways you can cut down on water consumption and your water bill.

For further info and resources, check out h2ouse.org

For more helpful hints both inside and outside your home, an interactive house tool to investigate water use and more!

Town of Hinesburg Water System Water Quality Report for 2009

The Town of Hinesburg Water Department is committed to providing our customers with high quality drinking water that meets or exceeds state and federal standards. To ensure that your water is safe, it is sampled by the operators and analyzed by a contract laboratory approved by the State for compliance monitoring. The Safe Drinking Water Act directs the state, along with the EPA, to establish and enforce minimum drinking water standards. These standards set limits on certain biological, organic, inorganic and radioactive substances sometimes found in drinking water. Primary drinking water standards set achievable levels of drinking water quality to protect your health. Secondary standards provide guidelines regarding the taste, color, odor and other aesthetic aspects of drinking water which do not present a health risk. We are pleased to provide you with this report about where your water comes from, what it contains and how it compares to state and federal standards. We are doubly pleased to report that in the past year Hinesburg Water has had no violations. This report lists any contaminants that were detected, even though they were below the levels set by state and federal guidelines. Any questions about this report should be directed to Steve Button at 482-6097 or Rocky Martin at 482-2096.