

WATERVILLE VALLEY'S REPORT CARD ON WATER QUALITY 2009 CONSUMER CONFIDENCE REPORT

TEST RESULTS: The Waterville Valley Water System had no specific violations during the past twelve months.

On August 19, 1999, the US Environmental Protection Agency published the final ruling requiring every community water system (CWS) to prepare and provide customers an annual consumer confidence report (CCR). This rule was mandated by the 1996 amendments to the Safe Drinking Water Act. A CCR is a report card for customers on the quality of the water delivered by the water system. The following is the Town of Waterville's Consumer Confidence Report for 2009.

WHAT IS THE SOURCE OF MY WATER? The Town of Waterville Valley obtains its water from three wells: 2 gravel-packed wells and 1 dug well. All three wells are located off West Branch Road. Well No. 1 is located on the east side of the West Branch River and yields 70 gallons per minute (gpm). Well No. 2 is located on the west side of the same river, across from the Sullivan property and yields 300 gpm. Well No. 3 is located on the lower end of the peninsula of land where the West and East Branches of the Mad River converge and yields 180 gpm.

IS MY DRINKING WATER SAFE? We are pleased to report that our drinking water is safe and meets all federal and state requirements. Monthly samples of our water, drawn from 3 sites approved by the State of N.H., are taken to the State lab in Concord for bacteria testing. 36 of the 36 samples during this past year tested **absent** for E. Coli and Total Coli form. Our water is also tested at the State lab for naturally present contaminants and manmade contaminants, on a schedule that is given by the State Department of Environmental Services. Of the 42 elements for which the State tests, 42 were below the detection level (BDL) and the other elements were well below the allowable maximum contaminant level (MCL). We conducted 9 separate tests for inorganic materials, 42 separate tests for volatile organic materials, and 20 separate

tests for lead and copper at private residences and condos. All of these tests met the federal and state requirements for safe drinking water.

WHY ARE THERE 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 the water poses a health risk. More information about contaminants and potential health effects can be obtained by calling the U.S. Environmental Protection Agency's Safe Drinking Water Hotline @ (1-800-426-4791).

RADON: Radon is a naturally occurring radioactive gas that you cannot see, taste, or smell. It is found throughout the United States and can move up through the ground and into the home through cracks and holes in the foundation. Radon can build up to high levels in all types of homes. Radon can also get into indoor air when released from tap water from showering, washing dishes, and other household activities. Compared to entering the home through soil, radon entering the home through tap water in most cases will only be a small source of radon in indoor air. Radon is a known human carcinogen. Breathing air containing radon can lead to lung cancer. Drinking water containing radon may also cause increased

risk of stomach cancer. If you are concerned about radon in your home, you should consider testing the air in your home. Testing is inexpensive and easy. There is a problem in your home only if the total level of radon is 4,000 Pico curies per liter (pCi/L) or higher, and it should be addressed. The water from the Town of Waterville Valley's wells has been tested at the state lab, and contains 1,200 pCi/L of radon. If the level of radon in the air of your home combined with the radon level of the water is greater than 4,000 pCi/L you should have the problem fixed. There are simple ways to fix a radon problem that are not too costly. For additional information, call the New Hampshire State Radon Coordinator, David Chase, at 603-271-4764.

OTHER INFORMATION: The water system of the Town of Waterville Valley began operations in 1968 serving about 200 customers. At the present time, the system includes 1,362 connections and services 310 full-time residents and thousands of guests each year. The Town continues to develop plans for future improvements to the Water System. We are currently working with an engineering firm to design the connection of a new well to the water system. We are also looking at the possibility of installing water meters to monitor water use within the

system. The Water Department underwent a Sanitary Survey by the NH Department of Environmental Services during the past year and passed the inspection.

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 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 risk of infection by Cryptosporidium and other microbial contaminants are available from the Safe Drinking Water Hotline @ (1-800-462-4791).

HOW CAN I GET INVOLVED? Please, if you have any questions about this report, call Superintendent Bill Cheney or Town Manager Mark Decoteau at the Waterville Valley Town Offices, ph. (603) 236-4730.

DEFINITIONS

MCLG: Maximum Contaminant Level Goal, or 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.

MCLs: The highest level of a contaminant in drinking water below which there is no known or expected risk to health. 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.

ABBREVIATIONS

PPT: Parts per trillion **PPB:** Parts per billion **PPM:** Parts per million **NTU:** Nephelometric Turbidity Unit Used in testing for clarity of the water

MFL: Millions of fibers per liter **Nd:** Not detectable at testing limits