

**NORTHPORT VILLAGE CORPORATION
WATER DEPARTMENT
2004 CONSUMER CONFIDENCE REPORT**

Welcome

We are pleased to present our seventh annual Consumer Confidence Report to our customers. The reports are a requirement of the 1996 amendments to the Federal Safe Drinking Water Act and are designed to inform you about the quality of your water and the services we deliver to you every day. We want you to know that the Village and District staff's constant goal is to provide you, our customers, with a safe, dependable and adequate supply of drinking water.

The Northport Village Corporation (Village) and Belfast Water District's (District) 2004 testing results confirm that the Northport Village Corporation drinking water meets or exceeds all state and federal requirements. There were no drinking water violations.

Water Supply / Source Information

During 2004 the water distributed to Village users was purchased from the Belfast Water District. The Belfast Water District uses groundwater as its water source from two gravel packed wells located in the Goose River Aquifer in Swanville and Belfast. The wells have been a safe and reliable source of drinking water since the 1950's and are protected to prevent contamination by the Aquifer/Watershed Overlay District ordinance adopted by the City of Belfast in 1990.

Because of the high quality of the source of water, the only treatments required by the District to ensure safe water at your tap are pH adjustment, disinfection and fluoridation.

1. *pH Adjustment* with sodium hydroxide is required to control corrosion which keeps copper and lead levels in your water to a minimum. Without such treatment the water will slowly dissolve metals from copper piping and lead solder. Young children and pregnant women are especially at risk from high levels of lead in the drinking water. **Lead** in blood can interfere with growth and can alter physical and mental development or cause deficits in I.Q. **Copper** health effects include stomach and intestinal distress, liver and kidney damage and some rare cases of Wilson's Disease.
2. *Disinfection* is achieved using sodium hypochlorite for biological control and to maintain high quality drinking water throughout the water distribution system prior to delivery to you.
3. *Sodium fluoride* is fed into drinking water systems to prevent tooth decay in young children up to the age of eight to ten years.

Source Water Assessment

In 2003, the Maine Drinking Water Program completed an evaluation of all public water supply systems in the State of Maine as part of the Source Water Assessment Program. The evaluation considers geology and hydrology, land uses, water testing information, and the extent of land ownership or protection by local ordinance to determine how likely or unlikely drinking water sources can be contaminated going forward in time. According to the 2004 Belfast Water District Water Quality Report, Belfast's wells are rated as moderate risk because they are gravel packed wells installed in a surficial aquifer. The current land use around their wells results in a low risk for bacteria and nitrates,

and low to moderate risk for long-term, chronic contaminants. Both wells are isolated from most sources of potential contamination.

For more information on the results of the 2003 Belfast Water District's Source Water Assessment Program (SWAP), please contact the State of Maine Drinking Water Program at (207) 287-2070.

Water System Data

The Village serves customers in Northport and Northport Village. The Village distribution system includes 5.5 miles of water main ranging in size from 1-inch to mostly 8-inches in diameter. The pipe material is made of mostly ductile iron and some plastic and galvanized iron. The system served 299 customers in 2004, of which the majority was seasonal cottage users. The Village distribution system provides only limited fire protection service through one dry-barrel fire hydrant.

In 2004, the Village purchased from the District a total of 7.6 million gallons of drinking water averaging just less than 21,000 gallons per day. Village consumption peaks to near double or 42,000 gpd during July and August and lowers to one-half of this amount or near 10,500 gpd during the off peak season of November to April. The Village's consumption represents only 2.7% of the District's water production. Agreements with the District allow for the Village to purchase up to 50,000 gallons per day.

Health Information

Sources of drinking water include rivers, lakes, streams, ponds, reservoirs, groundwater and groundwater under the direct influence of surface water. As water travels over the surface of the land or through the ground, it dissolves naturally occurring minerals, and in some cases, radioactive materials, and can pick up substances resulting from the presence of animals or from human activity.

The Federal Safe Drinking Water Act directs the Environmental Protection Agency (EPA) and the Maine Department of Human Services (DHS) to establish and enforce minimum primary and secondary drinking water standards. Primary standards are health based standards and secondary standards establish guidelines for aesthetic water quality such as taste and odor which do not present health risks. These standards set maximum contamination levels (MCL) and goals (MCLG) for biological, radioactive, organic and inorganic contaminants that can be reasonably expected to be present in all drinking water, including bottled water, in at least small amounts. The presence of a contaminant does not necessarily indicate that the water poses a health risk. Contaminants that may be present in source water include:

1. *Biological (microbial) contaminants*, such as viruses and bacteria, which may come from sewage treatment plants, septic systems, agricultural livestock operations and wildlife.
2. *Radioactive Contaminants*, which can occur naturally or be the result of oil and gas production and mining activities.
3. *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 stormwater runoff, and septic systems.
4. *Inorganic Contaminants*, such as salts and metals, which can be naturally occurring or result from urban stormwater runoff, industrial discharges, oil and gas production, mining or farming.
5. *Pesticides and Herbicides*, which may come from a variety of sources such as agriculture, urban stormwater runoff, and residential uses.

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 (1-800-426-4791).

Water Quality Information / Data

The Village and District team together to ensure that your water is safe through regular monitoring and testing of the water quality. The water is sampled and tested by the Village and District's state-certified operators, the State of Maine's Health and Environmental Testing Lab (HETL) in Augusta, Maine, Aqua Maine, Inc. and/or by other private state-certified labs. Meeting all water quality requirements is the responsibility of the Village and District's certified water operators, who are licensed by the State of Maine.

The water quality report included with this cover, summarizes the detectable testing results of parameters for your water and represents a very small sample of the extensive tests that are run continuously, daily, weekly, monthly, quarterly, annually and with other specific time schedules. Parameters, excepting Total Coliform, tested for, but that were not detectable in your water are not listed in this report. A list of the non-detectable parameters and test results for the secondary standards are available from the Village Water Department (207) 338-0751.

Waiver Summary

A 2002 three year waiver was granted the District from the State of Maine Drinking Water Program exempting the testing and monitoring requirements for pesticides, herbicides and other industrial contaminants upon finding that no potential sources of these contaminants were within a half mile radius of the source of the District's drinking water supplies.

Water utilities in Maine have been granted a State-wide waiver from testing dioxin because no intakes or wells are known to be downstream of dioxin discharges.

Results of 2004 Water Quality Testing

Primary Drinking Water Standards: Levels established to prevent known health risks

Physical Parameters	Date	Result	MCL	MCLG	Source
Turbidity (NTU)	Daily	0.05-0.10	5.0	N/A	A measurement of suspended matter (silt) or the clarity of water. Excessive levels can cause problems with water disinfection.
Microbiological					
Total Coliform	72 tests	0	1 pos	0	Naturally preset in the environment
Radionuclides					
Gross Alpha Screen (pCi/L)	Mar-02	0.67	15	0	Erosion of natural deposits
Radium 226/228 (pCi/L)	May-02	0.42	5	0	Erosion of natural deposits
Radon Screen	Feb-03	1396	20,000	N/A	Erosion of natural deposits
Disinfection By-Products					
Total Trihalomethanes (ppb)	Mar-98	5.1	80	0	By-Product of chlorination
Inorganics Chemicals					
Barium (ppm)	Mar-02	0.006	2	2	Erosion of natural deposits
Copper (ppm) 90th percentile value	Sep-02	0.19	AL=1.3	AL=1.3	Corrosion of household plumbing fixtures
Lead (ppb) 90th percentile value	Sep-02	2	AL=15	AL=15	Corrosion of household plumbing fixtures
Fluoride (ppm)	Sep-02	0.57	4	4	Water additive to prevent tooth decay
Nitrate Nitrogen (ppm)	Apr-04	0.68	10	10	Run off from fertilizer use. Erosion of natural deposits. Leachate from septic tanks

Definitions

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

MCLG: Maximum Contaminant Level Goal: 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.

AL: Action Level: The concentration of a contaminant which, if exceeded, triggers treatment or other requirements which a water system must follow. 90% of sample results must be less than the action level to meet compliance.

NTU: Nephelometric Turbidity Unit: A measure of the amount of light scattered by suspended particles in a water sample.

pCi/L: picocuries per liter = a measure of radioactivity.

ppm or mg/l: parts per million = milligrams per liter

ppb or ug/l: parts per billion = micrograms per liter

A State-wide waiver to test for asbestos has also been granted to Maine utilities with systems without asbestos pipe.

The State of Maine Drinking Water Program granted the above waivers upon finding that “it will not result in an unreasonable risk to health”.

Other Important Information

Constructive public participation is welcomed. The Village Board of Trustees meets on the first Friday of each month at the Village Office on Shore Road at 2:30 pm. These meetings are open for public participation.

Comments, questions or complaints should be directed to Dr. David Crofoot, Chairman and/or Richard McElhaney, Utility Superintendent by phone at (207) 338-0751 or by letter. Please send to:

Northport Village Corporation
813 Shore Road
Northport, Maine 04849

1. *Board of Trustees:* Chairman, Dr. David Crofoot; Judy Metcalf, Esq.; William Cressey; Peter Spollett; James Coughlin; Technical Advisor, Dick Brockway.
2. *Utility Superintendent / State-Certified Operator:* Richard McElhaney
3. *Office Manager / Billing Clerk:* Karen Hoedtke
4. *Village Agent / Water Technician:* William Paige

Again your drinking water meets all regulatory requirements that exist today, plus some regulations that haven't even been finalized yet. Further to the positive side, there are no major capital investments that need to be made to make your drinking water safer in the foreseeable future.

Thousands of dollars are spent analyzing your drinking water each year by the Village and District for more than 90 contaminants. If you have specific questions about your drinking water, we can answer them.

The staff of the Village Water Department would like to thank its Chairman, Dr. David Crofoot and the rest of the Trustees and Overseers for their support in supervising the staff and operations of both the water and sewer departments. And, finally, moreover, to you, our customers, who are small in numbers and who have had to dig deep into their pockets to enable the Village to meet today's Federal and State regulatory challenges. Thank You!

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