

Richmond Water Resources Department

2016 Consumer Confidence Report

Water System Identification # VT0005084

Consumer Confidence Report (CCR) for Calendar Year 2015

The Richmond Water Resources Department's goal is to provide you with a safe and dependable supply of drinking water. This report provides a snapshot of the quality of water provided to you from January 1, 2015 through December 31, 2015. The CCR identifies all water quality contaminants detected in the past year. The CCR also contains information on all contaminant tests performed within the last five years.

Thanks to the hard work of the RWRD staff, the Town of Richmond provides some of the best drinking water in the State. In past years we have won awards for taste and quality and our goal is to hold each gallon to the highest standards.

Water Source Information

The source of Richmond's drinking water is:

| | |
|----------------------|------------------------------------|
| Vermont Source Type: | Gravel Packed Screened well |
| EPA Source Type: | Groundwater, non-purchased |
| Source Name: | Waterhouse |

Richmond's Water Supply Source Protection Ordinance (SSPO) protects the wellhead area by the Round Church from contamination. The SSPO was approved by the Vermont Department of Environmental Conservation's Water Supply Division on October 11, 1995. The SSPO, available at our office and online at Richmond's website (www.richmondvt.com), provides information on potential sources of contamination. Some of these sources are storm water runoff with highway contaminants, excess fertilizer runoff from fields and gardens and any misuse of potentially harmful contaminants such as gasoline while performing any agricultural or residential activities. While specific tests confirmed Richmond's water supply source is not under the direct influence of surface water, the source can be at risk if these contaminants seep directly into the groundwater.

Sources of Contaminants

Drinking water sources (both for tap water and bottled water) include surface waters (streams, lakes) and ground waters (wells, springs). As water travels over the land's surface or through the ground, it dissolves naturally-occurring minerals. It can also pick up contaminants from animal and human activity. Some of these contaminants can be harmful while others, such as iron and sulfur, are not. Public water systems treat water to remove harmful contaminants.

In order to ensure that your water is safe to drink, we test it regularly according to rules established by the U.S. Environmental Protection Agency and the State of Vermont. These rules limit the amount of various contaminants in the following categories:

- Microbial organisms such as viruses and bacteria may come from sewage treatment plants, septic systems, agricultural livestock operations, and wildlife.
- Inorganic chemicals such as salts and metals, which can be naturally-occurring or result from storm water runoff, industrial or domestic wastewater discharges, oil and gas production, mining or farming.
- Pesticides and herbicides may come from a variety of sources such as agriculture, storm water runoff, and residential users.
- Radioactive contaminants can be naturally occurring or the result of mining activity.
- Organic contaminants including synthetic and volatile organic chemicals, which are by-products of industrial processes and petroleum production, and also come from gas stations, urban storm water run-off, and septic systems

The Richmond Water Resources Department is required to monitor your drinking water for specific contaminants on a regular basis. Results of this regular monitoring are an indicator of whether or not our drinking water meets health standards. A failure to perform required monitoring means we cannot be sure of the quality of our water during that time.

Water Quality Data

The tables below list the drinking water contaminants that we detected during the past year and any contaminants detected within the past five years. The presence of these contaminants in the water does not necessarily mean that the water poses a health risk.

Terms and abbreviations - In this table you may find terms you might not be familiar with. To help you better understand these terms we have provided the following definitions:

Maximum Contamination Level Goal (MCLG): The “Goal” is the level of a contaminant in drinking water below which there is no known or expected risk to human health. MCLG’s allow for a margin of safety.

Maximum Contamination Level (MCL): The “Maximum Allowed” MCL is 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 treatment technology.

Maximum Residual Disinfectant Level Goal (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 disinfectants in controlling microbial contaminants.

Maximum Residual Disinfectant Level (MRDL): The highest level of a disinfectant allowed in drinking water. Addition a disinfectant may help control microbial contaminants.

Action Level (AL): The concentration of a contaminant which, if exceeded, triggers treatment or other requirements which a water system must follow.

90th Percentile: Ninety percent of the samples are below the action level. (Nine of ten sites sampled were at or below this level).

Treatment Technique (TT): A process aimed to reduce the level of a contaminant in drinking water.

Parts per million (ppm) or Milligrams per liter (mg/l): (one penny in ten thousand dollars)

Parts per billion (ppb) or Micrograms per liter (µg/l): (one penny in ten million dollars)

Picocuries per liter (pCi/L): a measure of radioactivity in water

Nephelometric Turbidity Unit (NTU): NTU is a measure of the clarity of water. Turbidity in excess of 5 NTU is just noticeable to the average person.

Locational Running Annual Average (LRAA): The average of sample analytical results for samples taken at a particular monitoring location during four consecutive calendar quarters.

Running Annual Average (RAA): The average of 4 consecutive quarters (when on quarterly monitoring); values in table represent the highest RAA for the year.

Detected Contaminants RICHMOND WATER RESOURCES DEPARTMENT

| <u>Disinfection Residual</u> | <u>RAA</u> | <u>Range</u> | <u>Unit</u> | <u>MRDL</u> | <u>MRDLG</u> | <u>Typical Source</u> |
|------------------------------|------------|--------------|-------------|-------------|--------------|------------------------------------|
| Chlorine | .03 | .010-.050 | mg/l | 4.0 | 4.0 | Water additive to control microbes |

| <u>Microbiological</u> | <u>Result</u> | <u>MCL</u> | <u>MCLG</u> | <u>Typical Source</u> |
|--|---------------|------------|-------------|-----------------------|
| <i>No Detected Results were Found in the Calendar Year of 2015</i> | | | | |

| Chemical Contaminants | Collection Date | Highest Value | Range | Unit | MCL | MCLG | Typical Source |
|-----------------------|-----------------|---------------|-------------|------|-----|------|---|
| Barium | 10/30/2013 | 0.02 | 0.02 - 0.02 | ppm | 2 | 2 | Discharge of drilling wastes; Discharge from metal refineries; Erosion of natural deposits |
| Fluoride | 11/16/2015 | 1.3 | 0 - 1.3 | ppm | 4 | 4 | Erosion of natural deposits; Water additive which promotes strong teeth; Discharge from fertilizer and aluminum factories |
| Nitrate | 01/25/2015 | 1.2 | 1.2 - 1.2 | ppm | 10 | 10 | Runoff from fertilizer use; Leaching from septic tanks, sewage; Erosion of natural deposits |
| Nitrate-Nitrite | 03/12/2013 | 1.9 | 1.9 - 1.9 | ppm | 10 | 10 | Runoff from fertilizer use; Leaching from septic tanks, sewage; Erosion of natural deposits |

| Radionuclides | Collection Date | Highest Value | Range | Unit | MCL | MCLG | Typical Source |
|---------------|-----------------|---------------|-------------|-------|-----|------|-----------------------------|
| Gross Alpha | 12/02/2014 | 2.15 | 2.15 - 2.15 | pCi/L | 15 | 0 | Erosion of natural deposits |

| Disinfection Byproducts | Monitoring Period | LRAA | Range | Unit | MC L | MCL G | Typical Source |
|----------------------------|-------------------|------|-------|------|------|-------|----------------|
| <i>No detected results</i> | | | | | | | |

| Lead and Copper | Date | 90 th Percentile | 95 th Percentile | Range | Unit | AL | Sites Over AL | Typical Source |
|-----------------|------|-----------------------------|-----------------------------|-------------|------|-----|---------------|--|
| Copper | 2015 | 0.79 | 0.81 | 0.12 - 0.82 | ppm | 1.3 | 0 | Corrosion of household plumbing systems; Erosion of natural deposits; Leaching from wood preservatives |
| Lead | 2015 | 4 | 4 | 0 - 4 | ppb | 15 | 0 | Corrosion of household plumbing systems; Erosion of natural deposits |

Violation(s) that occurred during the year

We are required to monitor your drinking water for specific contaminants on a regular basis. Results of regular monitoring are an indicator of whether or not our drinking water meets health standards. The below table lists any drinking water violations we incurred during 2015. A failure to perform required monitoring means we cannot be sure of the quality of our water during that time.

| Type | Category | Analyte | Compliance Period |
|---|----------|---------|-------------------|
| <i>No Violations Occurred in the Calendar Year 2015</i> | | | |

Additional information (including steps taken to correct any violations listed above)

N/A

Health information regarding drinking water

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 care providers. EPA/CDC guidelines on appropriate means to lessen the risk of infection by cryptosporidium and other microbiological contaminants are available from EPA’s Safe Drinking Water Hotline (1-800-426-4791).

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 Safe Drinking Water Hotline.

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. The Richmond Water Resources Department is responsible for providing high quality drinking water, but cannot control the variety of materials used in plumbing components. When your water has been sitting for several hours, you can minimize the potential for lead exposure by flushing your tap for 30 seconds to 2 minutes before using water for drinking or cooking. If you are concerned about lead in your drinking 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 or at <http://www.epa.gov/safewater/lead>.

Public Notice - Permit to Operate Issued July 29, 2013: The Water System is required to notify all users of the following compliance schedule contained in the Permit to Operate issued by the State of Vermont Agency of Natural Resources:

1. On or before December 1, 2016, upon receiving a Permit to Construct, the Permittee shall make all necessary system improvements in order to provide minimum pressure to all service connections under all conditions of flow. Should the Water System not be able to provide adequate minimum pressure under all conditions of flow, all in-home booster pumps shall be modified to incorporate the appropriately sized and located air gaps and seek a variance from the construction standards of the Rule. *New water storage tank online 2/7/2016.*

Public Notice - Uncorrected Significant Deficiencies:

The system is required to inform the public of any significant deficiencies identified during a sanitary survey conducted by the Drinking Water and Groundwater Protection Division that have not yet been corrected. For more information please refer to the schedule for compliance in the system’s Operating Permit.

| Date Identified | Deficiency | Facility |
|-----------------|---|----------|
| 10/23/2012 | Inadequate Cross-Connection Controls (inline booster pump(s)) | |

The residential booster pumps have been removed. Code review of the school systems are in progress.

Protecting Water Quality – What You Can Do?

The Town of Richmond recognizes the need to protect all private and public water supply sources. We strive to achieve this through appropriate land use strategies and conservation measures. As a customer of the Richmond Water Resources Department, you can help us protect the high quality of your drinking water in the following ways:

1. **Do not remove the backflow prevention device in your water supply line.** The backflow device prevents contaminated water from your home or business from being sent back into the town mains and traveling to other locations. You are protecting your neighbor, and your neighbor is protecting you! In 2012 we achieved 100% compliance with this State of Vermont Water Supply Division rule. Thank you to everyone for cooperating. If you need to make changes to your water supply line, please notify RWRD staff first to insure you remain protected. The devices are free from the Richmond Water Resources Department and should be installed by a licensed plumber as directed by RWRD staff.

2. **Use fertilizers on you lawn and garden sparingly. Never submerge the hose and leave it running.**
3. **Use chemicals, oil and gasoline with care and dispose of them properly.** Contact the Chittenden Solid Waste District Hotline: 802-872-8111 (<http://www.cswd.net/>) for convenient, safe disposal help.
4. **Practice water conservation.** Conservation of water is increasingly important as the costs of treatment continue to go up and supply may not always be able to meet demand during droughts or emergency situations. For water conservation advice on ways you can audit your own home or business for leaks or reduce usage, visit www.wateruseitwisely.com. You may also find additional regulatory information at the State Water Quality Division website - www.anr.state.vt.us/dec/watersup/wslinks.htm.
5. **Follow the recommendations in Richmond's Source Protection Plan Ordinance!**
<http://www.richmondvt.gov>

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Infants and 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 homes plumbing. If you are concerned about elevated lead levels in your home's water, you may wish to have your water tested and also flush your tap for 30 seconds to 2 minutes before using tap water. . Information on lead in drinking water, testing methods, and steps you can take to minimize exposure is available from the Safe Drinking Water Hotline or at <http://www.epa.gov/safewater/lead>.

Additional information

We add fluoride to our water supply to promote public health through the prevention of tooth decay.

US EPA's Water Sense Website
www.epa.gov/watersense/



Owner/Operator and Public Participation Opportunities

We want our customers to be informed about their water quality. If you have any questions about this report or the Richmond Water Resources Department, please feel free to contact us, or attend any of our regularly scheduled meetings.

Authorized Owner of System

Town of Richmond
Geoffrey Urbanik, Town Manager
P.O. Box 285
Richmond, VT 05477
802-434-5170
townmgr@gmavt.net

Other Contacts

RWRD staff
Kendall Chamberlin, Superintendent
Trudy Jones, Lead Mechanical Operator
Allen Carpenter, Lead Process Operator
802-434-2178

Richmond Board of Water & Sewer Commissioners Meetings:

Dates: 1st and 3rd Mondays of the month
Time: 6:00 p.m.
Location: Town Center Meeting Room, 203 Bridge Street

Please share this information with all the people who drink this water, especially those who may not have received this notice directly (for example, people in apartments, nursing homes, schools and businesses). You can do this by posting this notice in a public place or distributing copies by hand or mail. Thank you for assisting the town in this effort.

Richmond Water Resources Annual Customer Meeting:

Date: Thursday, May 19, 2016
Time: 7:00 p.m.
Location: **Richmond Free Library**

Please note that this is the annual meeting to review and approve the proposed budget as well as discuss any customer concerns about the system.

Richmond Water Resources Department

*PO Box 285
Richmond, VT 05477*

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