2024 Consumer Confidence Report

Your Annual Drinking Water Quality Information

Meadowbrook Acres Mobile Home Park

Route 20, Brimfield, MA 01010

Massachusetts Department of Environmental Protection Public Water Supply ID #1043001

This report provides a snapshot of the drinking water quality that was achieved last year. Included are details about where your water comes from, what it contains and how its quality compares to state and federal standards. We are committed to providing you with information because informed customers are our best allies.

PUBLIC WATER SYSTEM INFORMATION

Meadowbrook Acres Mobile Home Park is a community located on Route 20 in Brimfield, with 96 mobile home sites, an office building, and a recreation hall for general activities for the residents. The population fluctuates based upon the number of units that may be for sale, or residents that may reside in other locations during winter months. The maximum population is 137 people. The water system includes two wells, a 20,000-gallon storage tank, and approximately 5,000 feet of 2-inch plastic piping around the perimeter of the park.

Meadowbrook Acres makes every effort to provide you with safe and uncontaminated drinking water. Our water system is routinely inspected by the Massachusetts Department of Environmental Protection (MassDEP). MassDEP inspects our system for its technical, financial, and managerial capacity to provide safe drinking water to you. To ensure that we provide the highest quality of water available, your water system is also operated by a Massachusetts certified operator who oversees the routine operations of our system. The water quality achieved with our system is monitored by us, the certified operator, and MassDEP to determine if any future treatment may be required. Our Licensed Contract Water Operator and maintenance staff routinely inspect the system. In addition, MassDEP inspects the system approximately every 3 years to evaluate compliance with current state and federal regulations. Our last Sanitary Survey inspection was conducted by MassDEP on May 10, 2024. We currently have no outstanding deficiencies with our water system.

OPPORTUNITIES FOR PUBLIC PARTICIPATION

While we do not have regularly scheduled meetings regarding our water system, we welcome any opportunity to discuss concerns or issues. Please contact us if you would like to publicly discuss your drinking water.

YOUR DRINKING WATER SOURCE

Where Does My Drinking Water Come From?

The drinking water for Meadowbrook Acres comes from two deep wells. These groundwater sources are designated by MassDEP Source Name and ID Source Number as the Upper Well [1043001-01G] and Lower Well [1043001-02G]. The primary source of water for Meadowbrook Acres, the Upper Well, is located near the corner of Willow Circle and Foxrun Lane. The Lower Well, which is used primarily when demand is high and/or in the event of a water emergency, is located on Cypress Court.

How are These Sources Protected?

MassDEP has prepared a Source Water Assessment Program (SWAP) Report for the water supply sources serving this water system. The SWAP Report assesses the susceptibility of public water supplies. A susceptibility ranking of "moderate" was assigned to this system using the information collected during the assessment by MassDEP. The complete SWAP report is available online at https://www.mass.gov/service-details/the-source-water-assessment-protection-swap-program . For more information, call Harry Dumont at (603) 888-8950.

Residents can help protect sources by:

- *practicing good septic system maintenance,*
- *supporting water supply protection initiatives at the next town meeting*
- *taking hazardous household chemicals to hazardous materials collection days,*
- *contacting the water department or Board of Health to volunteer for monitoring or education outreach to schools,*
- *Limiting pesticide and fertilizer use, etc.*

SUBSTANCES FOUND IN TAP WATER

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. 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 stormwater runoff, industrial, or domestic wastewater discharges, oil and gas production, mining, and 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 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.
Radioactive contaminants - which can be naturally occurring or be the result of oil and gas production and mining activities.

COMPLIANCE WITH REGULATIONS

Does Drinking Water Meet Current Health Standards?

We are committed to providing you with the best water quality available. Coliforms are bacteria that are naturally present in the environment and are used as an indicator that other, potentially harmful, waterborne pathogens may be present or that a potential pathway exists through which contamination may enter the drinking water distribution system. We found coliforms indicating the need to look for potential problems in water treatment or distribution. When this occurs, we are required to conduct assessment(s) to identify any problems that were found during these assessments. During the past year, we were required to conduct one Level 1 assessment. The Level 1 assessment was completed. In addition, we were required to take one corrective action which has since been completed.

IMPORTANT DEFINITIONS

Maximum Contaminant Level (MCL) - 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 Contaminant Level Goal (MCLG) - The level of a contaminant in drinking water below which there is no known expected risk to health. MCLG's allow for a margin of safety.

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

90th Percentile - Out of every 10 homes sampled, 9 were at or below this level.

Treatment Technique (TT) - A required process intended to reduce the level of a contaminant in drinking water.

Secondary Maximum Contaminant Level (SMCL) – These standards are developed to protect aesthetic qualities of drinking water and are not health based.

Unregulated Contaminants – Contaminants for which EPA has not established drinking water standards. The purpose is to assist EPA in determining their occurrence in drinking water and whether future regulation is warranted.

Method of Detection Limit (MDL) - The minimum concentration of a substance that can be measured and reported with 99% confidence the analyte concentration is greater than zero and determined from analysis of a sample in a given matrix containing the analyte

Turbidity - A measure of the cloudiness of water. Turbidity is monitored because it is a good indicator of the effectiveness of the filtration system.

Massachusetts Office of Research and Standards Guidelines (ORSG) - This is the concentration of a chemical in drinking water, at or below which, adverse health effects are unlikely to occur after chronic (lifetime) exposure.

Level1Assessment is 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.

Level2Assessment is 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.

WATER QUALITY TESTING RESULTS

The water quality tables show the most recent water quality testing results where levels were detected and compare those levels to standards set by the Environmental Protection Agency and Massachusetts Environmental Protection Agency.

MassDEP has reduced the monitoring requirements for inorganic contaminants, synthetic organic contaminants, and perchlorate, because the source is not at risk of contamination. The last sample was collected on 4/5/2023 & 5/3/2023 for Perchlorate, 4/23/2024 for Synthetic Organic Contaminants, 07/23/2024 for Radioactive Contaminants and Volatile Organic Contaminants, 4/5/2023 & 5/3/2023 for Inorganic Contaminants, and 4/23/2024 for PFAS, with all found to meet all applicable US EPA and MassDEP standards.

The last samples for iron and manganese were collected on 7/23/2024 and 10/21/2024. The sample collected on 7/23/2024 returned from laboratory analysis with manganese levels in exceedance of the established MCL. While consumption of manganese is dangerous to children and those with liver issues, this exceedance was isolated the lower well (02G), which has not been supplying drinking water to the park.

Additionally, bacteria samples collected in the month of July (07/23/2024 and 07/25/2024) indicated that coliform bacteria present in the drinking water supply. Total Coliform is an effectively harmless indicator bacteria. A storage tank chlorination was performed on 08/01/2024, which appears to have resolved the issue.

With the exception of the compounds noted on the tables below, all other compounds in the panels reported undetectable levels.

Regulated Contaminant	Date(s) Collected	Highest Result	Range Detected	MCL	MCLG	Violation (Yes/No)	Possible Source(s) of Contamination
INORGANIC CONTAMINANTS							
Nitrate (ppm)	*04/05/2023*	*0.185 (Upper)*	*N/A*	*10*	*10*	*No*	*Runoff from fertilizer use; leaching from septic tanks; sewage; erosion of natural deposits*
Barium (ppm)	*04/05/2023 05/03/2023*	*0.0104 (Upper) 0.0092 (Lower)*	*N/A*	*2*	*2*	*No*	*Discharge of drilling waste, or from metal refineries. Erosion of natural deposits*
*Fluoride (ppm)**	*05/03/2023*	*0.404 (Lower)*	*N/A*	*4 ppm*	*4 ppm*	*No*	*Erosion of Natural Deposits, discharge from fertilizer*
Perchlorate (ppb)	*04/05/2023 05/03/2023*	*0.042 (Upper)*	*N/A*	*2 ppb*	*N/A*	*No*	*Rocket propellants, fireworks, munitions, flares, blasting agents*
**Fluoride has a secondary contaminant level (SMCL) of 2 ppm to better protect human health.*							

Contaminant (units)	Dates Collected	Result or Range Detected	Average Detected	SMCL	ORSG	Possible Source(s) of Contamination
UNREGULATED AND SECONDARY CONTAMINANTS						
*Sodium (ppm)**	*05/03/2023 04/05/2023*	*9.83 (Lower) 5.41 (Upper)*	*N/A*	*N/A*	*20*	*Natural Sources, runoff from use of salt on roadways, byproduct of water treatment process.*
Iron (ppm)	*10/21/2024*	*0.96 (Lower)*	*N/A*	*300 ppb*	*N/A*	*Natural and industrial sources as well as aging and corroding distribution systems and household pipes*
*Manganese(ppb)***	*07/23/2024 10/21/2024*	*1300 (Lower) 140 (Lower)*	*720*	*50 ppb*	*300 ppb*	*Erosion of natural deposits as well as discharges from industrial uses*
**Some people who drink water containing sodium at high concentrations for many years could experience an increase in blood pressure.*						

****EPA has established a lifetime Health Advisory (HA) of 0.3 mg/L and an acute HA at 1.0 mg/L*

LEAD AND COPPER – 8/09/2023						
Contaminant (units)	**Action Level**	**90th Percentile**	**Number of Sites Sampled**	**Number of sites above the Action Level**	**Possible Sources of Contamination**	**Violation (Yes/No)**
Lead (ppb)	***15***	***0.6***	***5***	***0***	***Corrosion of household plumbing***	***No***
Copper (ppm)	***1.3***	***0.057***	***5***	***0***	***Corrosion of household plumbing***	***No***

ppm = parts per million, or milligrams per liter (mg/l)
ppb = parts per billion, or micrograms per liter (ug/l)
ppt = parts per trillion, or nanograms per liter (ng/l)
ND = Not Detected
N/A = Not Applicable

BACTERIAL DETECTIONS						
BACTERIA	**MCL/TT**	**MCLG**	**VALUE**	**DATE**	**VIOLATION**	**POSSIBLE SOURCE**
Total Coliform	***MCL***	***0***	***Present***	***07/23 07/25***	***Yes***	***Naturally Present in the Environment***
****Meadowbrook Acres MHP triggered a level 1 assessment on 07/25/2024. The assessment was completed, and the affiliated corrective actions were carried out. See more info below:***						

What Happened?
As part of our routine water quality monitoring, we collect two bacteria samples per month from Meadowbrook Acres MHP. In July, one of the two routine samples tested positive for Total Coliform (TC). Follow-up testing was conducted, and of the four repeat samples collected, one also tested positive for TC. In response, an investigation was conducted to determine the potential source of contamination.

What We Found and How We Responded?
The most likely cause of contamination was vegetation overgrowth around the storage tank vents, which may have allowed contaminants to enter the system. Upon discovery, corrective actions were immediately taken:

- The vegetation around the storage tank was trimmed to prevent future contamination.
- The storage tank was disinfected (after detection, prior to assessment).
- Since these corrective actions were carried out, there have been no further issues.

Is the Water Safe?
Total coliform bacteria are generally not harmful themselves but serve as an indicator that conditions could allow for the presence of other potentially harmful microorganisms. Follow-up testing confirmed that no E. coli or other harmful bacteria were present. We continue to monitor and maintain the system to ensure the safety of your drinking water.

HEALTH NOTES

In order to ensure that tap water is safe to drink, the Department of Environmental Protection (MA DEP) and U.S. Environmental Protection Agency (EPA) prescribe regulations that limit the amount of certain contaminants in water provided by public water systems. The Food and Drug Administration (FDA) and Massachusetts Department of Public Health (DPH) regulations establish limits for contaminants in bottled water that must provide the same protection for public health. 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 EPA's Safe Drinking Water Hotline (1-800-426-4791).

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).

Lead can cause serious health effects in people of all ages, especially pregnant people, infants (both formula-fed and breastfed),and young children. Lead in 18 drinking water is primarily from materials and parts used in service lines and home plumbing. Meadowbrook Acres Mobile Home Park is responsible for providing high quality drinking water and removing lead pipes but cannot control the variety of materials used in the plumbing in your home. Because lead levels may vary over time, lead exposure is possible even when your tap sampling results do not detect lead at one point in time. You can help protect yourself and your family by identifying and removing lead materials within your home plumbing and taking steps to reduce your family's risk. Using a filter, certified by an American National Standards Institute accredited certifier to reduce lead, is effective in reducing lead exposures. Follow the instructions provided with the filter to ensure the filter is used properly. Use only cold water for drinking, cooking, and making baby formula. Boiling water does not remove lead from water. Before using tap water for drinking, cooking, or making baby formula, flush your pipes for several minutes. You can do this by running your tap, taking a shower, doing laundry or a load of dishes. If you have a lead service line or galvanized requiring replacement service line, you may need to flush your pipes for a longer period. If you are concerned about lead in your water, and wish to have your water tested, contact Meadowbrook Acres Mobile Home Park at 603-888-8950. Information on lead in drinking water, testing methods, and steps you can take to minimize exposure is available at https://www.epa.gov/ground-water-and-drinking-water/basic-information-about-lead-drinking-water#statereqs.

Service Line Inventory and Lead Awareness

In 2024, the U.S. Environmental Protection Agency (EPA) mandated that all Non-Transient Non-Community (NTNC) and Community (COM) water systems conduct a service line inventory to identify and document the materials of all service connections. This requirement is part of the Lead and Copper Rule Improvements (LCRI) and supports the Infrastructure Investment and Jobs Act (IIJA), which provides federal funding to assist with the replacement of lead service lines nationwide.

As part of this effort, Meadowbrook Acres MHP was required to catalogue and report all service connections within its water system. These results have been submitted to the state and are publicly accessible.

To review the Service Line Inventory (2024) for Meadowbrook Acres MHP, visit the State of Massachusetts Public Water Supplier Document Search webpage:
https://www.mass.gov/info-details/public-water-supplier-document-search

1. Select the name of the water supply (Meadowbrook Acres MHP).
2. Navigate to the “Documents for Download” section.
3. Open the file titled “Service Line Inventory (2024).”

Cross connections are potentially hazardous situations for public or private potable water supply and a source of potable water contamination. A cross connection is any potential or actual physical connection between potable water supply and any source through which it is possible to introduce any substance other than potable water into the water supply. Common Cross connection scenarios are a garden hose whose spout is submerged in a bucket of soapy water or connected to a spray bottle of weed killer.

Cross connections between a potable water line and a non-potable water system or equipment have long been a concern of the Department of Environmental Protection (MassDEP). MassDEP established regulations to protect the public health of water consumers from contaminants due to back-flow events. The installation of back-flow prevention devices, such as a low-cost hose bib vacuum breaker, for all inside and outside hose connections is recommended. You can purchase this at a hardware store or plumbing supply store. This is a great way for you to help protect the water in your home as well as the drinking water system in your community.

For additional information on cross connections and on the status of your water system's cross connection program, please contact:

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For more information regarding our system you may also visit the EPA website at:
http://www.epa.gov/enviro/facts/sdwis/search.htm

This report is a compilation of best available data sources including: licensed operators' reports, water supply owner's coordination. MA DEP public records and EPA online records. The report represents an accurate account of your water quality to the best of our knowledge. Prepared by Housatonic Basin Sampling & Testing on behalf of your water supplier.