

# Annual Water Quality Report

Water Testing Performed  
in 2017

Presented by The Torrington Water  
Company—Agent for the  
New Hartford WPCA  
PWS ID#: CT 920011

New Hartford WPCA  
PO Box 845  
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**Town of New Hartford  
New Hartford Water Pollution Control Authority  
P.O. Box 316  
New Hartford, CT 06057  
2017 Consumer Confidence Report**

The New Hartford Water Pollution Control Authority (NHWPCA), and the water system contract operator, The Torrington Water Company are pleased to present this Consumer Confidence Report. The contents of this report and the information about potential contaminants is included to keep you informed about water quality for the year 2017.

#### **Count on Us**

Delivering high-quality drinking water to our customers involves far more than just pushing water through pipes. Water treatment is a complex, time-consuming process. Because tap water is highly regulated by state and federal laws, water treatment plant and system operators must be licensed and are required to commit to long-term, on the job training before becoming fully qualified. Our licensed water professionals have a basic understanding of a wide range of subjects, including mathematics, biology, chemistry, and physics.

So, the next time you turn on your faucet, think of the skilled professionals who stand behind each drop.

#### **Where does your water come from?**

Your water source consists of two gravel-packed wells located in the northeast portion of the Town of New Hartford, referred to as the Pine Meadow and Black Bridge wells. The Pine Meadow well is 70 feet in depth and the Black Bridge well is 85 feet in depth. The system has no secondary water source. Daily water production averaged 105,100 gallons per day. The system serves a population of approximately 1,350 residents, and certified laboratory analysis was completed by Aqua Environmental Laboratories, Newtown, CT.

#### **Consumer Education & Participation.**

We encourage public interest regarding your communities water supply. Regular meetings of the NHWPCA occur on the first Thursday of each month at the New Hartford Town Hall. The public is invited to attend.

#### **What are we doing to protect your drinking water?**

The New Hartford WPCA's commitment to providing the highest-quality water is evidenced by the efforts we take to protect your water source. Plans for new land use projects are reviewed for possible impact on water quality.

A source water assessment of our drinking water sources was performed by the State of Connecticut Department of Public Health (DPH). The assessment found that your public drinking water source has a low susceptibility to potential sources of contamination. The reports are available on the Drinking Water Division website at [www.dph.state.ct.us/BRS/Water/DWD.htm](http://www.dph.state.ct.us/BRS/Water/DWD.htm).

Things that you can do to help make sure that your water supply is protected are:

- Use chemicals such as pesticides and cleaning products in compliance with all manufacturers' instructions and regulatory agency governance.
- Dispose of waste chemicals and used motor oil according to approved disposal practices of your waste hauler or landfill recycling facility, who manage hazardous waste materials programs.
- Make sure septic systems are working properly.
- Report illegal dumping, chemical spills, or other polluting activities to the CT DEEP's 24-hour hotline (860) 424-3338, Torrington Water (860) 489-4149 or your local police.

#### **Water Conservation—What you can do**

You can play a role in conserving water and save yourself money in the process by becoming conscious of the amount of water your household is using and by looking for ways to use less whenever you can. It is not hard to conserve water. Here are a few tips:

- Automatic dishwashers use 15 gallons for every cycle, regardless of how many dishes are loaded. So get a run for your money and load it to capacity.
- Turn off the tap when brushing your teeth.
- Did you know that even a pinhole leak wastes up to 170 gallons a day? A dripping faucet can waste more than 3,000 gallons of water a year. Fix it and you can save approximately \$300 a year.
- Check your toilets for leaks by putting a few drops of food coloring in the tank. Watch for a few minutes to see if the color shows up in the bowl. It is not uncommon to lose up to 100 gallons a day from an invisible toilet leak. Fix it and you save more than 30,000 gallons a year.
- Minimize evaporation by watering your lawn and flowers in early morning or evening. Aerate lawns and install automatic timers for watering.



**Footnotes for the summary of water quality for the calendar year 2017 below:**

AL Action Level  
 CU Color Limits  
 MCL Maximum Contaminant Level  
 MCLG Maximum Contaminant level goal  
 N/A Not applicable (No MCL or MCLG level set at this time)

**Information on the Internet**

The U.S. EPA of Water ([www.epa.gov/watrhme](http://www.epa.gov/watrhme)) and the Centers for Disease Control and Prevention ([www.cdc.gov](http://www.cdc.gov)) web sites provide a substantial amount of information on many issues relating to water resources, water conservation, and public health. Also, the Connecticut Department of Public Health has a web site ([www.dph.state.ct.us](http://www.dph.state.ct.us)) that provides complete and current information on water issues in Connecticut.

NTU Nephelometric Turbidity Units  
 pci/l picocuries per liter  
 ppm parts per million, also expresses at mg/l  
 mg/l milligrams per liter  
 ppb micrograms per liter, also expressed as  
 ug/l micrograms per liter  
 TT treatment technique

**Definitions for the Summary of Water Quality Table:**

**Action level:** The concentration of a contaminant which, if exceeded mandates treatment.

**MCL:** The highest level of a contaminant that is allowed in drinking water. MCLs are set as close to the MCLG as feasible using the best available treatment technology.

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

MCLGs allow a margin for safety.

**TT:** A required process intended to reduce the level of a contaminant in drinking water.

**Summary of Water Quality for the Calendar year 2017**

\* Lead and Copper are reported as the 90th percentile

Substance	MCLG	MCL	Amount Detect	Range	Violation	Sources
<b>Bacteriological</b>						
Total Coliform	0	Routine test positive	0	0-0	No	Naturally present in environment
<b>Inorganic compounds</b>						
Chloride (2015)	N/A	250 ppm	22.0	N/A	No	Runoff/leaching from natural deposits
Copper * (2016)	1300 ppb	AL = 1300ppb	150	5-170	No	Corrosion of household plumbing ; erosion of natural deposits
Lead * (2016)	15 ppb	AL = 15ppb	1	<1-3	No	Corrosion of household plumbing ; erosion of natural deposits
Nitrate	10ppm	10 ppm	1.30	< 0.1-1.30	No	Runoff from fertilizer use; leaching from septic tanks
Sodium (2015)	N/A	N/A	20.8	12.9-20.8	No	Naturally occurring
Sulfate (2015)	N/A	N/A	6.9	6.9-6.9	No	Runoff/leaching from natural deposits, industrial waste
Barium MG/L (2015)	2	2	.01	.006-.01	No	Erosion of natural deposits
<b>Microbiols</b>						
Turbidity	N/A	TT = 5 ntu max	0.17 average	0.1-.8	No	Soil runoff
<b>Organic compounds</b>						
Free Chlorine (2015)	0	4 ppm	0.70	0.1-1.91	No	By-product of drinking water disinfection
Total Trihalomethanes	N/A	80 ppb	6.60	0-6.66	No	By-product of drinking water disinfection
Total HAA5's 2017	N/A	60 ppb	4.2	0-4.2	No	
<b>Radiological</b>						
Net Gross Alpha (2015)	0	15 pCi/L	0.73+/-0.59	---	No	Decay of natural and man made deposits
Combined Radium (2015)	0	5 pCi/L	-0.02+/-0.37	---	No	Decay of natural and man made deposit
<b>Physical Characteristics</b>						
Color	N/A	15 cu	< 5 average	0- < 5	No	
pH	N/A	6.4-10.0 units	7.17 average	6.50-7.80	No	

### Substances That could be in the Water?

To ensure that tap water is safe to drink, the EPA prescribes the same regulations and standards for tap water as it does for bottled drinking water. The standards limit the allowable amount of contaminants. The presence of contaminants does not necessarily indicate that the water poses a health risk.

The sources of drinking water (both tap and bottled water) include rivers, lakes, streams, ponds, reservoirs, springs, and wells. As water travels over the surface of land or through the ground, it dissolves naturally occurring minerals and in some cases, radioactive material and substances resulting from the presence of animals or human activity.

Substances that may be present source water include the following:

- 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 storm water runoff, wastewater discharges, oil and gas production, mining, or farming.
- Herbicides and pesticides, which may come from a variety of sources, such as agricultural and residential, uses.
- Radioactive contaminants which can be naturally occurring or be the result of oil and gas production and mining activities.
- Organic chemical contaminants, including synthetic and volatile organic chemicals, which are byproducts of industrial processes and petroleum production, and can also come from gas stations, storm water runoff, and septic system.

New Hartford meets (or) exceeds all compliance standards for its drinking water.

### What's Your Water Footprint?

You may have some understanding about your carbon footprint, but how much do you know about your water footprint? The water footprint of an individual, community, or business is defined as the total volume of freshwater that is used to produce the goods and services that are consumed by the individual or community or produced by the business. For example, 11 gallons of water are needed to irrigate and wash the fruit in one half-gallon container of orange juice., and 4,200 gallons of water are required to produce two pounds of beef.

According to the U.S. EPA, the average American uses over 180 gallons of water daily. The annual American per-capita water footprint is about 8,000 cubic feet, twice the global per-capita average. To check out your own water footprint, go to <http://googl/QMoIXT>.

### What is the latest information on Lead and Copper?

#### Information on Lead:

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. New Hartford WPCA 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 water, you may wish to have your water tested. Information on lead in drinking water, testing method and steps you can take to minimize exposure is available from the State Drinking Water Hotline or at [www.epa.gov/safewater/lead](http://www.epa.gov/safewater/lead).

#### Information on Copper:

Copper is an essential nutrient, but some people drinking water in excess of the action level over a relatively short period of time could experience distress. Some people who drink water containing copper in excess of the action level over many years could suffer liver or kidney damage. People with Wilson's disease should consult their personal doctor.

#### Is our water safe for everyone?

Some people may be more vulnerable to drinking water contaminants 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 may be particularly at risk from infections. These people should seek advice about drinking water from their health care providers. The U.S. 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 at (800) 426-4791 or the State health Department at (860) 509-7333.

#### Questions?

For more information about this report, or for any questions relating to your drinking water, please call Steven Cerruto, Vice President of Operations, at (860) 489-4149.