South Berwick
WATER DISTRICT

2020Consumer Confidence Report

Water Quality Report

Welcome to the annual Water Quality Report for customers of the South Berwick Water District. It provides important information about water, it's quality and service.

The District is a quasi-municipal utility providing clean, safe drinking water and fire protection services 24 hours a day, 365 days a year, to the citizens of South Berwick and 10 residences in Berwick Maine.

The South Berwick Water District uses groundwater consisting of 7 well points, 1 gravel packed well and 5 bedrock wells. The wells are located in four separate well fields throughout the towns of South Berwick and 1 in Berwick. A bedrock well site located off Route 4 continues to be under construction for future use. The daily combined output of water is .23 million gallons per day.

Mission

Our mission is to assure an adequate supply of high quality water to the residents and businesses of South Berwick. We provide water for domestic, commercial, industrial, municipal, conservation, sanitary and fire protection services

Cross Connection Control and Backflow Protection

The South Berwick Water District makes every effort to ensure that the water delivered to your home and business is clean, safe and free of contamination. Our staff work very hard to protect the quality of the water delivered to our customers from the time the water is extracted via deep wells from underground aquifers or it is withdrawal from a surface water source, throughout the entire treatment and distribution system. But what happens when the water reaches your home or business? Is there still a need to protect the water quality from contamination caused by a cross-connection if so, how?

What is a cross-connection?

A cross-connection occur whenever the drinking water supply is or could be in contact with a potential sources of pollution or contamination such as a piping arrangement or equipment allowing the drinking water to come in contact with non-potable liquids, solids or gases hazardous to humans in event of a backflow occurs.

What is a backflow?

Backflow is the undesired reverse of the water flow in the drinking water distribution lines. This backward flow of the water can occur when the pressure created by an equipment or system such as a boiler or air-conditioning is higher than the water pressure inside the water distribution line (backpressure), or when the pressure in the distribution line drops due to routine occurrences such as water main breaks or heavy water demand causing the water to flow backward inside the water distribution system (back siphonage). Backflow is a problem that many water consumers are unaware of, a problem that each and every water customer has a responsibility to help prevent.

What can I do to help prevent a cross-connection?

Without the proper protection something as simple as a garden hose has the potential to contaminate or pollute the drinking water lines in your house. In fact over half of the country's cross-connection incidents involve unprotected garden hoses.

There are very simple steps that you as a drinking water user can take to prevent such hazards, they are:

• NEVER submerge a hose in soapy water buckets, pet watering containers, pool, tubs, sinks, drains or chemicals.

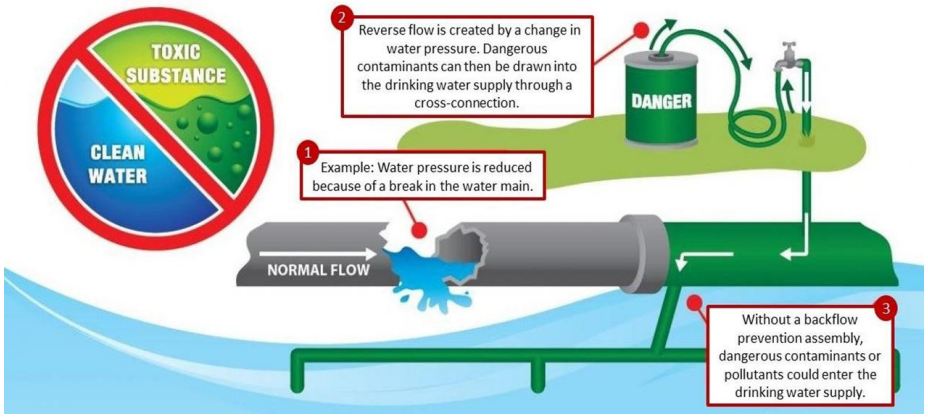
• NEVER attached a hose to a garden sprayer without the proper backflow preventer. • Buy and install a hose bibb vacuum breaker on any threaded water fixture. The installation can be as easy as attaching a garden hose to a spigot. This inexpensive device is available at most hardware stores and home-improvement centers.

• Identify and be aware of potential cross-connections to your water line.

• Buy appliances and equipment with a backflow preventer.

• Buy and install backflow prevention devices or assemblies for all high and moderate hazard connections. If you are the owner or manager of a property that is being used as a commercial, industrial or institutional facility you must have your property's plumbing system surveyed for cross-connection by your water purveyor.

The Maine Drinking Water Program requires all public water systems to have an approved and fully implemented Cross-connection Control Program (CCCP). The South Berwick Water District is working diligently to protect the public health of its drinking water customers from the hazardous caused by unprotected cross-connections through the implementation of its cross- connection survey program, elimination or properly protection of all identified cross-connections, the registration of all cross- connections protected by a reduced pressure backflow preventers (RPBPs) or a double check valve assemblies (DCVAs), and the implementation of a testing program for all RPBPs and DCVAs



Water Meter Change Out Program

The Water District changes out water meters yearly. We target the oldest meters in our system, which are 15 to 20 years old.

You will receive a letter from the South Berwick Water District requesting that you contact us to make an appointment to change your water meter. Please contact us quickly to make an appointment that is convenient for you.

We need access to the water meter, which is usually located in the basement of your home. Please be sure the area is clear of belongings so that the technician has room to work in that area.

The water will be shut off for a few minutes while the technician removes the old water meter and installs a new one. This process takes about 15 minutes provided there are no issues.

We appreciate your cooperation and quick response to our request.

Payment Arrangements

We can work with you to make a payment arrangement at any time.

Please contact our office during business hours and we will set up a payment arrangement that is agreeable for both parties.

GIS Mapping of Curb Stops

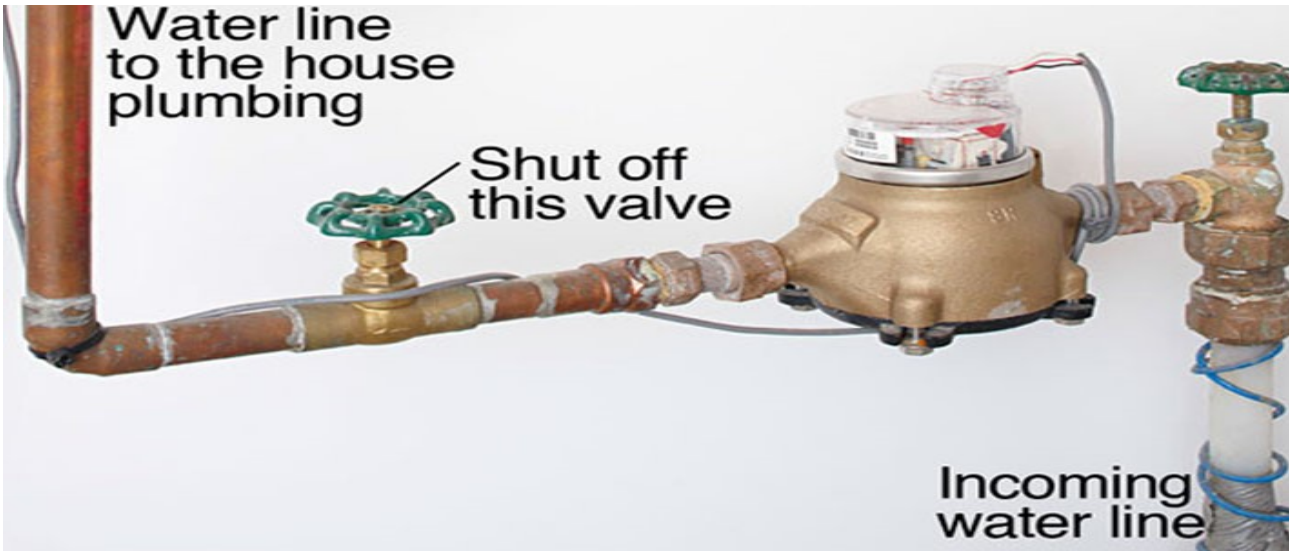
The Water District is currently updating and gathering information for our GIS Mapping System. Our crew will be on various Streets locating water mains, valves, fire hydrants and curb stops using GPS ordinance. While locating curb stops(the outside valve for each water service) crews will also be checking to insure operability, this may require them dig a small hole in your lawn , which they will repair.

Adopt a Hydrant

The South Berwick Water District encourages residents to “adopt a fire hydrant” near their home or business and keep snow shoveled away from them during the winter season. Please make it a point to uncover your fire hydrant(s) after every snowfall. Clear a path approximately 3 feet around the hydrant. These actions will allow the fire department to quickly locate the fire hydrant, obtain a water supply for firefighting activities, and give the fire department room to work with this hydrant should the need arise.

Please consider helping a neighbor who is elderly or has a medical condition by shoveling out a hydrant in front of their home. This act of kindness will benefit the entire neighborhood.

Water is the principle agent used by the Fire De-



Please update your contact information with the Water District so that we may contact you in case of an emergency. You may write on your payment slip or call 207-384-2257 to verify current information.

It is your responsibility to keep the water meter from freezing.

Please be sure you keep the area around the meter warm. Floors and concrete walls are extremely cold.

Repair cracks, broken windows and drafts in the area.

If in a closet or cabinet, keep doors open in cold weather so warm air can circulate in that area.

When doing remodeling projects, be mindful of the water meter and how it will be affected by your project.

A frozen water meter will flood your home. Prevention is cheaper than the alternative.

Water Shut Off Valve

You should have quick access to the Water Shut Off Valve attached to your water meter. Make sure the area is kept free of belongings and don't hide it in a cabinet.

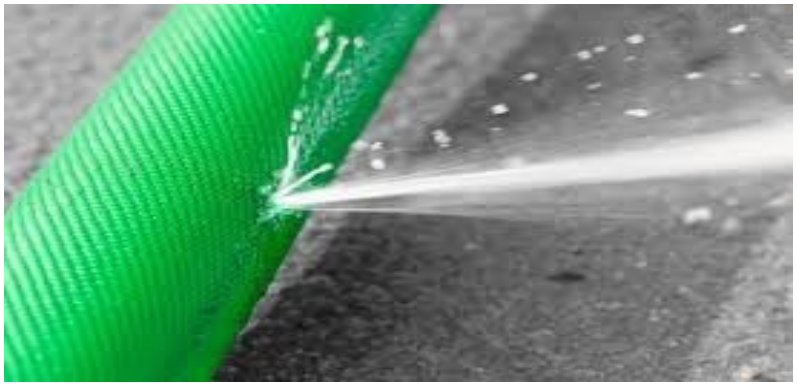
When water is leaking in your house, you need to react quickly. The longer it takes for you to find it or move things to get access to it, the more damage you will have to your property.

Show all family members where the Shut Off Valve is located, marking it is a good idea. Show them how to turn off the valve to stop the water flow into the house.

You should test the shut off frequently to make sure it is in working order and have it repaired if needed.

Water Conservation Tips

• Never pour water down the drain when there may be another use for it. Use it to water your indoor plants or garden.
• Repair dripping faucets by replacing washer.
• Retrofit all household faucets by installing aerators with flow restrictor
• Choose appliances that are more energy and water efficient
• Consider purchasing a low-volume toilet that uses less than half the water of older models. Note: In many areas, low-volume units are required by law.
• Install a toilet displacement device to cut down on the amount of water needed to flush.
• Replace your showerhead with an ultra-low-flow version.
• Avoid flushing the toilet unnecessarily. Dispose of tissues, insects, and other similar waste in the trash rather than the toilet.
• Avoid taking baths—take short showers—turn on water only to get wet and lather and then again to rinse off.
• Avoid letting the water run while brushing your teeth, washing your face, or shaving.
• Operate automatic dishwashers only when they are fully loaded. Use the "light wash" feature, if available, to use less water.
• Clean vegetables in a pan filled with water rather than running water from the tap.
• Avoid wasting water waiting for it to get hot. Capture it for other uses such as plant watering or heat it on the stove or in a microwave.
• Avoid rinsing dishes before placing them in the dishwasher; just remove large particles of food. (Most dishwashers can clean soiled dishes very well, so dishes do not have to be rinsed before washing)
• Operate automatic clothes washers only when they are fully loaded or set the water level for the size of your load.
• Use mulch to retain moisture in the soil. Mulch also helps control weeds that compete with landscape plants for water.
• Use a shut-off nozzle that can be adjusted down to a fi ne spray on your hose.
• Use a commercial car wash that recycles water. If you wash your own car, park on the grass so that you will be watering it at the same time. Lawn Care
• Avoid over watering your lawn. A heavy rain eliminates the need for watering for up to two weeks. Most of the year, lawns only need one inch of water per week.
• Position sprinklers so water lands on the lawn and shrubs and not on paved areas.



Dig Safe

Maine law requires all utility companies be notified of any excavation by means of motorized equipment (rototillers, tractors, sod cutters, etc.)

Calling Dig Safe is not the only phone call you need to make. Most small local utilities do not belong to the Dig Safe system due to the high cost of being a member. Before doing any type of earth work, from landscaping to major construction, please contact the South Berwick Water

2020 Consumer Confidence Report

SOUTH BERWICK WATER DISTRICT

PWSID ME0091470

General Information

Water System Contact Name: John Leach, Superintendent

Address: 80 Berwick Road

South Berwick, ME 03908

Telephone #: 207-384-2257 **Fax#: 207-384-2762** **Email: info@sbwd.org**

Report Covering Calendar Year: Jan 1 - Dec 31, 2020

Upcoming Regularly Scheduled Meetings: 1st & 3rd Tuesday of every Month

Source Water Information

Description of Water Source: Wells 7

Source Water consists of 5 Bedrock wells, a series of shallow well points and a gravel pack well

Water Treatment & Filtration Information:

Disinfection at all water sources. Iron and Manganese Removal at Willow Pump Station. Arsenic removal and pH adjustment at Junction Road Pump Station.

Source Water Assessment:

The sources of drinking water include rivers, lakes, ponds, and wells. As water travels over the surface of the land or through the ground, it dissolves naturally occurring minerals and radioactive material and can pick up substances resulting from human or animal activity. The Maine Drinking Water Program (DWP) has evaluated all public water supplies as part of the Source Water Assessment Program (SWAP). The assessments included geology, hydrology, land uses, water testing information, and the extent of land ownership or protection by local ordinance to see how likely our drinking water source is to being contaminated by human activities in the future. Assessment results are available at town offices and public water systems.

Definitions:

Maximum Contaminant Level (MCL): The highest level of a contaminant that is allowed in drinking water.

Maximum Contaminant Level Goal (MCLG): The level of a contaminant in drinking water below which there is no known or expected risk to health.

Running Annual Average (RAA): A 12 month rolling average of all monthly or quarterly samples at all locations. Calculation of the RAA may contain data from the previous year.

Locational Running Annual Average (LRAA): A 12 month rolling average of all monthly or quarterly samples at specific sampling locations. Calculation of the RAA may contain data from the previous year.

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

Maximum Residual Disinfectant Level (MRDL): The highest level of a disinfectant allowed in drinking water. There is convincing evidence that addition of a disinfectant is necessary for control of microbial contaminants.

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 the use of disinfectants to control microbial contaminants.

Units:

ppm = parts per million or milligrams per liter (mg/L) pCi/L = picocuries per liter (a measure of radioactivity).

ppb = parts per billion or micrograms per liter (µg/L) pos = positive samples. MFL = million fibers per liter

Water Test Results

Contaminant	Date	Results	MCL	MCLG	Possible Sources of Contamination
Microbiological					
Coliform TCR (1)	2020	0 pos	1 pos or 5%	0pos	Naturally in the environment
Inorganics					
Arsenic (6)	6/30/2020	9ppb	10 ppb	0 ppb	Erosion of natural deposits. Runnoff from orchards glass and electronics production waste
Barium	4/22/2020	0.045ppm	2 ppm	2ppm	Discharge of drilling wastes and metal refineries Erosion of natural deposits
Chromium	4/22/2020	0.57 ppb	100ppb	100 ppb	Discharge from steel and pulp mills Erosion natural deposits
Fluoride (3)	4/22/2020	0.3 ppm	4ppm	4ppm	Erosion from natural deposits. Water additive promotes strong teeth. Discharge from fertilizer and aluminum factories
Nitrate (5)	4/22/2020	0.32 ppm	10 ppm	10 ppm	Run off from fertilizer use. Leaching from septic tanks, sewerage. Erosion of natural deposits
Radionuclides					
Combined Radium 226 & 228	8/18/2020	1.285 pCi/l	5 pCi/l	0 pCi/l	Erosion of natural deposits
Radium 226	8/18/2020	0.473 pCi/l	5 pCi/l	0 pCi/l	Erosion of natural deposits
Radium 228	8/18/2020	0.91 pCi/l	5 pCi/l	0 pCi/l	Erosion of natural deposits
Lead/Copper					
Copper 90th% Value (4)	7/1/-12/31/20	0.18 ppm	AL=1.3 ppm	1.3 ppm	Corrosion of household plumbing systems
Lead 90th% Value (4)	7/1-12/31/20	1ppb	15 ppb	0 ppb	Corrosion of household plumbing systems
Disinfection and Disinfection Byproducts					
Distribution System					
Total Halacetic Acids (HAA5) (9)	LRAA 2020	1.5 ppb Range (1.5-1.5 ppb)	60 ppb	0 ppb	By-product of drinking water chlorination
Total Trihalomethane (TTHM) (9)	LRAA 2020	9.8 ppb Range (9.8-9.8 ppb)	80 ppb	0 ppb	By-product of drinking water chlorination
Chlorine Residual					
Chlorine Residual	Range 0.25ppm - 1.1 ppm		MRDL=4ppm	MRDLG=4ppm	By-product of drinking water chlorination

1) Total Coliform Bacteria: Reported as the highest monthly number of positive samples, for water systems that take less than 40 samples per month.
2) E. Coli: E. coli are bacteria whose presence indicates that the water may be contaminated with human or animal wastes. Human pathogens in these wastes can cause short-term effects, such as diarrhea, cramps, nausea, headaches, or other symptoms. They may pose a greater health risk for infants, young children, the elderly, and people with severely-compromised immune systems.
3) Fluoride: For those systems that fluoridate, fluoride levels must be maintained between 0.5 to 1.2 ppm. The optimum level is 0.7 ppm.
4) Lead/Copper: Action levels (AL) are measured at consumer's tap. 90% of the tests must be equal to or below the action level.
5) Nitrate: Nitrate in drinking water at levels above 10 ppm is a health risk for infants of less than six months of age. High nitrate levels in drinking water can cause blue baby syndrome. Nitrate levels may rise quickly for short periods of time because of rainfall or agricultural activity. If you are caring for an infant you should ask advice from your health provider.
6) Arsenic: While your drinking water may meet EPA's standard for Arsenic, if it contains between 5 to 10 ppb you should know that the standard balances the current understanding of arsenic's possible health effects against the costs of removing it from drinking water. EPA continues to research the health effects of low levels of arsenic, which is a mineral known to cause cancer in humans at high concentrations and is linked to other health effects such as skin damage and circulatory problems. Quarterly compliance is based on running annual average.
7) Gross Alpha: Action level over 5 pCi/L requires testing for Radium 226 and 228. Action level over 15 pCi/L requires testing for Uranium. Compliance is based on Gross Alpha results minus Uranium results = Net Gross Alpha.
8) Radon: The State of Maine adopted a Maximum Exposure Guideline (MEG) for Radon in drinking water at 4000 pCi/L, effective 1/1/07. If Radon exceeds the MEG in water, treatment is recommended. It is also advisable to test indoor air for Radon.
9) TTHM/HAA5: Total Trihalomethanes and Haloacetic Acids (TTHM and HAA5) are formed as a by-product of drinking water chlorination. This chemical reaction occurs when chlorine combines with naturally occurring organic matter in water. Compliance is based on running annual average

All other regulated drinking water contaminants were below detection levels.

Secondary Contaminants

IRON 0.056 ppm 4/22/2020
SULFATE 28 ppm 4/22/2020
ZINC 0.0076 ppm 4/22/2020
SODIUM 80 ppm 4/22/2020
NICKEL 0.004 ppm 4/22/2020
MAGNESIUM 9.6 ppm 4/22/2020
CHLORIDE 57 ppm 4/22/2020
MANGANESE 0.00081 ppm 4/22/2020

Health Information

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.
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, or 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 runoff, and septic systems.
Radioactive Contaminants, which can be naturally-occurring or be the result of oil and gas production and mining activities.

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 microbial contaminants are available from the Safe Drinking Water Hotline (1-800-426-4791) or at the following link:

https://www.epa.gov/ccr/forms/contact-us-about-consumer-confidence-reports

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. South Berwick Water District 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 methods, and steps you can take to minimize exposure is available from the Safe Drinking Water Hotline or at the following link:

http://www.epa.gov/safewater/lead

Violations No Violations in 2020

Waiver Information (to be included in the CCR for systems that were granted a waiver)
In 2020, our system was granted a 'Synthetic Organics Waiver.' This is a three year exemption from the monitoring/reporting requirements for the following industrial chemical(s): TOXAPHENE/CHLORDANE/PCB, CARBAMATE PESTICIDES. This waiver was granted due to the absence of these potential sources of contamination within a half mile radius of the water source(s).

Questions, Comments and Further Information

We are proud of the work we do for you and to be your source for all your water services.

If you have any questions, comments or concerns about your water quality or service, please call the South Berwick Water District at (207) 384-2257 during business hours.

The Board of Trustees meet on the first and third Tuesday of each month. The annual meeting is the first Monday of March. These meetings are open to the public and you are welcome to attend.

In case of an emergency after hours
please call South Berwick Dispatch at 207-384-2254 Option 1
They will contact a Water District Employee to assist with your emergency

South Berwick Water District

80 Berwick Rd.
South Berwick, ME 03908

Phone: 207-384-2257
Fax: 207-384-2762
Email: info@sbwd.org

Trustees

Douglas Letelllier, Chairman
Dennis Fontaine, Treasurer
Henry Miller, Clerk
Dwayne Rice, Trustee
James Roberge Trustee

Staff

John Leach, Superintendent
Dana Curtis, Operations Foreman
Katie Ouellette, Office Manager
Evan Adams, Operator in Training

Business Hours

Monday—Friday	9:00am—12:00pm	1:00pm—4:00pm