



# THE HAMPSTEAD AREA WATER COMPANY, INC.

## 2025 ANNUAL WATER QUALITY REPORT ISSUED IN 2026

Hampstead Area Water – PWS ID 1031010

The Hampstead Area Water Company is committed to providing its customers with water that far exceeds all drinking water standards. We are pleased to report that our drinking water is safe and meets all federal and state requirements. Today's consumers are keenly aware of environmental and health issues. This Water Quality Report is designed to keep you as the customer informed so that you will be able to make educated decisions for you and your family. This report contains results from our most recent year's testing, details about your water source, how it is treated, what we are doing to protect it, and how it compares to standards set by regulatory agencies.

### The sources of drinking water:

Both tap water and bottled water come from 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. The water can also pick up and transport substances resulting from the presence of animals or from human activity.



### Contaminants that may be present in source water include:

- Contaminant, any physical, chemical, biological, or radiological substance or matter in water.
- 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 occur naturally in the soil or groundwater or may result from urban storm water runoff, industrial or domestic wastewater discharges, oil and gas production, mining or farming.
- Pesticides, generally, any substance or mixture of substances intended for preventing, destroying, repelling, or mitigating any pest.
- Herbicides, any chemical(s) used to control undesirable vegetation.
- **Organic chemical contaminants**, including per- and polyfluoroalkyl substances, synthetic and volatile organic chemicals, which are by-products of industrial processes and petroleum production, and can also come from gas stations, urban storm water runoff, and septic systems.
- **Radioactive contaminants**, which can be naturally occurring or be the result of oil and gas production and mining activities.

In order to ensure that tap water is safe to drink, EPA prescribe regulations which limit the amount of certain contaminants in water provided by public water systems. The US Food and Drug Administration (FDA) regulations establish limits for contaminants in bottled water which must provide the same protection for public health.

## CONTAMINANTS THAT MAY BE PRESENT IN SOURCE WATER INCLUDE (CONTINUED):

### ➤ Health Effects of Lead

Exposure to lead in drinking water can cause serious health effects in all age groups. Infants and children can have decreases in IQ and attention span. Lead exposure can lead to new learning and behavior problems or exacerbate existing learning and behavior problems. The children of women who are exposed to lead before or during pregnancy can have increased risk of these adverse health effects. Adults can have increased risks of heart disease, high blood pressure, kidney or nervous system problems.

### ➤ Lead In Schools

Per RSA 485:17-a, all NH schools and licensed child care facilities must test for lead at all drinking water outlets where children can drink the water and to remediate any outlets testing at or above 5 ppb. Three rounds of testing at least 6 months apart are required. A comprehensive list of facilities and results are available at [www.gettheleadoutnh.org](http://www.gettheleadoutnh.org) or direct link here: [View Results | NH Department of Environmental Services](#).



### ➤ Lead

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 drinking water is primarily from materials and parts used in service lines and in home plumbing. This water system 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 The Hampstead Area Water Company at: (603) 362-4299. Information on lead in drinking water, testing methods, and steps you can take to minimize exposure is available at <https://www.epa.gov/safewater/lead>.

## WHAT IS THE SOURCE OF MY WATER?

Hampstead Area Water Company obtains its water from up to 32 bedrock wells located throughout the system. The ground water pumped from these wells is filtered and treated with chlorine to disinfect, oxidize, and assist with the filtration process. Collectively, these wells can produce up to approximately 350 gallons per minute throughout the year. In addition, as of August of 2020 water is obtained through the Southern NH Regional Water system from the Town of Salem. The Sources of water are then distributed to 3,000 + service connections and is also used for fire protection at 120+ hydrants throughout Atkinson & Hampstead.

Source Assessment  
See next page



## WHY ARE CONTAMINANTS IN MY WATER?

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 Environmental Protection Agency's Safe Drinking Water Hotline at 1-800-426-4791.

## DO I NEED TO TAKE SPECIAL PRECAUTIONS?

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 at 1-800-426-4791.

## HOW CAN I GET INVOLVED?

For more information about your drinking water, please call The Hampstead Area Water Company at: (603) 362-4299 Monday through Friday 8:00am - 4:30pm. Although we do not have specific dates for public participation events or meetings, feel free to contact us with any questions you may have.

## LEAD SERVICE LINE INVENTORY

In accordance with EPA guidelines, The Hampstead Area Water Company has prepared a complete service line inventory. To access the inventory, please reach the office at: (603) 362-4299 Monday through Friday 8:00am - 4:30pm.

# SOURCE ASSESSMENT

Source	Date	High	Med	Low
BRW1	10/14/2002	4	4	4
BRW2	10/14/2002	4	4	4
BRW4	10/17/2002	1	2	9
BRW5	10/14/2002	3	1	8
BRW6	10/14/2002	3	1	8
BRW7	10/24/2002	2	1	9
BRW8	10/14/2002	2	4	6
BRW10	10/24/2002	2	4	6
BRW11	10/24/2002	1	3	8
BRW12	10/24/2002	2	3	7
BRW13	12/03/2004	1	3	8
BRW14	03/11/2005	0	3	9
BRW15	03/11/2005	0	3	9
BRW16	12/03/2004	0	3	9
BRW17	06/07/2000	1	2	9
BRW18	06/21/2000	1	2	9

Source	Date	High	Med	Low
BRW1	12/23/2002	3	4	5
BRW3	12/23/2002	3	5	4
BRW4	12/23/2002	3	4	5
*BRW5	06/22/2000	3	1	8
*BRW6	10/05/1999	1	3	8
*BRW7	10/05/1999	1	3	8
*BRW9	12/23/2002	2	3	7
*BRW10	12/23/2002	1	3	8
*BRW11	12/23/2002	2	2	8
*BRW12	12/23/2002	2	2	8
*BRW13	12/23/2002	3	2	7
*BRW14	12/23/2002	3	2	7
BRW16	11/12/2004	3	2	7

\*Well formerly served the Walnut Ridge Water System (EPA ID: 1031010, Pre-2010)

*The NH Department of Environmental Services has prepared a Source Water Assessment Report for the sources serving the community water system, assessing the sources vulnerability to contamination. The results of the assessment are in the above tables.*

This information is several years old and includes information that was current at the time the report was completed. Therefore, some of the ratings might be different if updated to reflect current information. At this present time, DES has no plans to update this data. For more information visit the DES Drinking Water Source Assessment website at <http://des.nh.gov/organization/divisions/water/dwgb/dwspp/dwsap.htm>

Note: The Hampstead Area Water System is comprised of several bedrock wells that once may have served a separate water systems in Hampstead and Atkinson prior to being interconnected to the large system. Therefore, there are duplicates in well numbering.

# DEFINITIONS AND ABBREVIATIONS

## Abbreviations

BDL: Below Detection Limit

mg/L: milligrams per Liter

NA: Not Applicable

ND: Not Detectable at testing limits

NTU: Nephelometric Turbidity Unit

pCi/L: picoCurie per Liter

ppb: parts per billion

ppm: parts per million

ppt: parts per trillion

RAA: Running Annual Average

TTHM: Total Trihalomethanes

UCMR: Unregulated Contaminant Monitoring Rule

ug/L: micrograms per Liter

## Maximum Contaminant Level or MCL:

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

## Maximum Contaminant Level Goal or MCLG:

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.

## Maximum Residual Disinfectant Level or 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 or 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.

## Treatment Technique or TT:

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

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

**Level I Assessment:** 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

**Level II Assessment:** 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.

## Violations and Other information:

See violations if any listed in the table below in the Data Report

# HAMPSTEAD AREA WATER

## PWS ID 1031010

### 2026 REPORT (2025 DATA)

#### LEAD AND COPPER

Contaminant (units)	Action Level	90 <sup>th</sup> Percentile Value	Range of tap sampling results	Date	# of sites above AL	Exceedance Yes/No	Likely Source of Contamination	Health Effects of Contaminant
Copper (ppm)	1.3	0.105	0.01 - 1.62	2025	0	No	Corrosion of household plumbing systems; erosion of natural deposits; leaching from wood preservatives	Copper is an essential nutrient, but some people who drink water containing copper in excess of the action level over a relatively short amount of time could experience gastrointestinal 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.
Lead (ppb)	15	1	1 - 2	2025	0	No	Corrosion of household plumbing systems, erosion of natural deposits	Infants and young 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 home's plumbing. If you are concerned about elevated lead levels in your home's water, you may wish to have your water tested. Flush your tap for 30 seconds to 2 minutes before using tap water. Additional information is available

## INORGANIC CONTAMINANTS

Contaminant (units)	Level Detected	Range	MCL	MCLG	Violation Yes/No	Year	Likely Source of Contamination	Heath Effects of Contaminant
Nitrite	0.0	N/A	1	1	No	2025	Runoff from fertilizer use; leaching from septic tanks, sewage; erosion of natural deposits	Infants below the age of six months who drink water containing nitrite in excess of the MCL could become seriously ill, and if untreated, may die. Symptoms include shortness of breath and blue baby syndrome.
Nitrate	.078 average	ND - 1.5	10	10	No	2025	Runoff from fertilizer use; leaching from septic tanks, sewage; erosion of natural deposits	(5 ppm through 10ppm) 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 for advice from your health care provider.
Flouride (ppm)	0.18 average	ND - .47	4	4	No	2025	Erosion of natural deposits; water additive which promotes strong teeth; discharge from fertilizer and aluminum factories	Some people who drink water containing fluoride in excess of the MCL over many years could get bone disease, including pain and tenderness of the bones. Fluoride in drinking water at half the MCL or more may cause mottling of children's teeth, usually in children less than nine years old. Mottling also known as dental fluorosis, may include brown staining and/or pitting of the teeth, and occurs only in developing teeth before they erupt from the gums.
Chromium (ppb)	4 average	2 - 6	100	100	No	2025	Discharge from steel and pulp mills; erosion of natural deposits	Some people who use water containing chromium well in excess of the MCL over many years could experience allergic dermatitis

INORGANIC CONTAMINANTS									
Contaminant (units)	Level Detected	Range	MCL	MCLG	Violation Yes/No	Year	Likely Source of Contamination	Heath Effects of Contaminant	
Barium (ppm)	0.048	0.016 - 0.056	2	2	No	2025	Discharge of drilling wastes; discharge from metal refineries; erosion of natural deposits	Some people who drink water containing barium in excess of the MCL over many years could experience an increase in their blood pressure.	
Chlorine (ppm)	0.92 average	0.30 - 1.67	MRDL = 4	MRDLG = 4	No	Monthly 2025	Water additive used to control microbes	Some people who use water containing chlorine well in excess of the MRDL could experience irritating effects to their eyes and nose. Some people who drink water containing chlorine well in excess of the MRDL could experience stomach discomfort.	
Arsenic (ppb)	0.9 average	ND - 8.1	5	0	No	2025	Erosion of natural deposits; runoff from orchards; runoff from glass and electronics production wastes	While your drinking water meets EPA's standard for arsenic, it does contain low levels of arsenic. EPA's standard balances the current understanding of arsenic's possible health effects against the costs of removing arsenic 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.	
RADIOACTIVE CONTAMINANTS									
Contaminant (units)	Level Detected	Range	MCL	MCLG	Violation Yes/No	Year	Likely Source of Contamination	Heath Effects of Contaminant	
Compliance Gross Alpha (pCi/L)	0.95 average	ND - 2.6	15	0	No	2025	Erosion of natural deposits	Certain minerals are radioactive and may emit a form of radiation know as alpha radiation. Some people who drink water containing alpha emitters in excess of the MCL over many years may have an increased risk of getting cancer.	
Combined Radium 226 + 228 (pCi/L)	0.45 average	ND - 1.2	5	0	No	2025	Erosion of natural deposits	Some people who drink water containing radium 226 or 228 in excess of the MCL over many years may have an increased risk of getting cancer.	
Uranium (ug/L)	2.33 average	1 - 5	30	0	No	2025	Erosion of natural deposits	Some people who drink water containing uranium in excess of the MCL over many years may have an increased risk of getting cancer and kidney toxicity	
VOLATILE ORGANIC CONTAMINANTS									
Contaminant (units)		Level Detected	Range	MCL	MCLG	Violation Yes/No	Year	Likely Source of Contamination	Heath Effects of Contaminant
Total Trihalomethanes (TTHM) (Bromodichloro-methane Bromoform Dibromochloro-methane Chloroform) (ppb)		25.73 average	3 - 79.7	80	N/A	No	2025	By-product of drinking water chlorination	Some people who drink water containing trihalomethanes in excess of the MCL over many years may experience problems with their liver, kidneys, or central nervous systems, and may have an increased risk of getting cancer.
Haloacetic Acids (HAA) (ppb)		20.29 average	4.5 - 60.7	60	N/A	No	2025	By-product of drinking water chlorination	Some people who drink water containing haloacetic acids in excess of the MCL over many years may have an increased risk of getting cancer.

PER- AND POLYFLUOROALKYL SUBSTANCES (PFAS) CONTAMINANTS								
Contaminant (units)	Level Detected	Range	MCL	MCLG	Violation Yes/No	Year	Likely Source of Contamination	Heath Effects of Contaminant
Perfluorooctane sulfonic acid (PFOS) (ppt)	3.05 average	ND - 5.05	15	0	No	2025	Discharge from industrial processes, wastewater treatment, residuals from firefighting foam, runoff/leachate from landfills and septic systems	Some people who drink water containing perfluorooctane sulfonic acid (PFOS) in excess of the MCL over many years could experience problems with their liver, endocrine system, or immune system, may experience increased cholesterol levels, and may have an increased risk of getting certain types of cancer. It may also lower a women's chance of getting pregnant.
Perfluorooctanoic acid (PFOA) (ppt)	6.54 average	ND - 9.39	12	0	No	2025	Discharge from industrial processes, wastewater treatment, residuals from firefighting foam, runoff/leachate from landfills and septic systems	Some people who drink water containing perfluorooctanoic acid (PFOA) in excess of the MCL over many years could experience problems with their liver, endocrine system, or immune system, may experience increased cholesterol levels, and may have an increased risk of getting certain types of cancer. It may also lower a women's chance of getting pregnant.
SECONDARY CONTAMINANTS								
Secondary MCLs (SMCL)	Level Detected	Range	Date	Treatment technique (if any)	SMCL	50 % AGQS (Ambient groundwater quality standard)	AGQS (Ambient groundwater quality standard)	Specific contaminant criteria and reason for monitoring
Iron (ppm)	0.12 average	0.05 - 0.283	2025	N/A	0.3	N/A	N/A	Geological
Sodium (ppm)	21.95 average	6.3 - 51.0	2025	N/A	100-250	N/A	N/A	We are required to sample for sodium
Zinc (ppm)	0.01 average	ND - 0.033	2025	N/A	5	N/A	N/A	Galvanized pipes
Chloride (ppm)	50 average	14 - 98	2025	N/A	250	N/A	N/A	Wastewater, road salt, water softeners, corrosion
Manganese (ppm)	0.0028 average	ND - 0.02	2025	N/A	0.05	0.15	0.3	Geological
Nickel (ppm)	0.0015 average	0.003 - 0.005	2025	N/A	Not established; reporting is required for detections	0.05	0.1	Geological; electroplating, battery production, ceramics
PH (ppm)	7.25 average	6.66 - 7.68	2025	N/A	6.5 - 8.5 (Normal Range)	N/A	N/A	Precipitation and geology
Sulfate (ppm)	20.35 average	13.9 - 41.4	2025	N/A	250	250	500	Naturally occurring

## ADDITIONAL TESTING

Additional Tests	Description of data requested	Date	Level Detected	Range	MCL	Site ID	Specific contaminant criteria and reason for monitoring
UCMR detects (if participant)	PFOA (ug/L)	2024	0.0063 average	0.0023-0.0063	0.012	502,512, 515,522, 523,526, 529	<i>Unregulated contaminant monitoring helps EPA to determine where certain contaminants occur and whether the Department should consider regulating those contaminants in the future</i>
	PFOS (ug/L)	2024	0.0038 average	0-0.0038	.0015	504	<i>Unregulated contaminant monitoring helps EPA to determine where certain contaminants occur and whether the Department should consider regulating those contaminants in the future</i>

In August 2020, the Hampstead Area Water System began receiving water from The Southern New Hampshire Regional Water System through the Town of Salem. Information regarding the Town of Salem water source is available at: <https://www.salemnh.gov/512/Annual-Water-Quality-Reports>.

Fluoride: Your water system is fluoridated. According to the centers for Disease Control and Prevention, if your child under the age of 6 months is exclusively consuming infant formula reconstituted with fluoridated water, there may be an increased chance of dental fluorosis. Consult your child's health care provider for more information.

\*Fluoride is added to the water for the purpose of promoting community oral health, though, the fluoride levels in the Manchester source water (0.7 mg/L) are diluted upon mixing with Salem's water supply prior to entry into HAWC's distribution system since Salem does not fluoridate its water supply. With the SNHRW water supply entering HAWC's system, fluoride concentrations are equal to or lower than the naturally occurring fluoride levels experienced in HAWC's existing water supplies. As a result, the fluoride added by MWW for promoting community oral health may be too low to effectively prevent tooth decay for HAWC's core system water users in Atkinson and Hampstead.