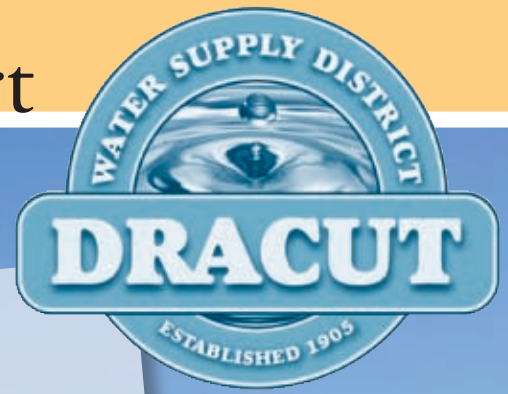


2005 Water Quality Report



Dear Ratepayers and District Customers;

In the following pages you will read about different items related to your water system regarding water quality. Along with these items, that are required to be provided to you, we will take the opportunity to inform you of many other valuable bits of information.

I am indeed pleased and proud to be part of the team here at the District that brings your water service. The dedicated men and women of the Dracut Water Supply are a credit to the Town and those served. All of your water operators are Massachusetts Licensed Water Operators and maintain their status with annual training.

Within this report you will find valuable information for a service called "Meter to Main." This program protects your water line leading into your property from the street. In the event that anything happens, customers with this program will be covered 100% for labor and material to repair the break as described in the brochure. If you have not taken advantage of this program like so many others I encourage you to take another look. Call for a brochure and enroll today. This coverage costs barely 16 cents a day and is billed on your water bill. Several customers to date have benefited and saved thousands of dollars in repair costs.

I would like to congratulate our new "Employee of the Year", Mrs. Kelley Chasse. This honor is voted by employees who vote for the person they feel made that extra effort over the past year. Kelley works in our offices at Hopkins Street.

Conservation efforts will continue annually and are described in this report. Take a moment to check from time to time around your home for dripping faucets, leaking toilets or excessive outside water use. Automated sprinklers should have moisture control devices. Unattended leaks and excessive outside use can cost hundreds of dollars.

Our goals and efforts here at the District will remain high as we provide you with the best service and water quality possible.

Thank you for your support and comments. I am always happy to discuss with any customer issues regarding our department and enjoy meeting with many during my travels throughout the community.

Respectfully yours,

Gary W. McCarthy
Executive Director-Superintendent

Gary McCarthy



WATER QUALITY TESTING RESULTS

Several times each year, your water is collected and tested for over 120 possible impurities. The following table (page 3) provides information about substances that have been detected in the most recent water quality testing. Some of the tests were completed in years other than 2005. Because the water delivered to you could have come from either Lowell or Dracut or be a mix of the two, the data presented in the table represents the results of testing done by the Lowell Regional Water Utility and the Dracut Water Supply District. If you are interested in more information about the source of your water, contact the Dracut Water Supply District (978-957-0441).

WATER QUALITY INFORMATION

In order to ensure that tap water is safe to drink, the DEP and EPA prescribe regulations that limit the amount of certain contaminants in water provided by public water systems. The Food and Drug Administration (FDA) and the Massachusetts Department of Public Health (DPH) regulations establish limits for contaminants in bottled water that must provide the same protection for public health. We treat our water according to EPA's regulations.

The 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.

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).

HOW DO WE TREAT YOUR WATER?

In order to ensure that tap water is safe to drink and in compliance with federal and state regulations, your water receives a variety of treatments including potassium hydroxide and phosphate for corrosion control as well as fluoride for oral health. Lowell water is filtered and treated by the City of Lowell.

SEWER PROGRAM

Some of you have experienced temporary shutdowns due to the sewer project. This program continued through 2005 and into 2006. Both the Water Department and the Town try very hard to minimize any shutdowns and give notification whenever possible at least two days in advance. Sometimes emergencies happen and service is restored as soon as possible. During this time we wish to apologize for any inconvenience and thank you for your patience. The sewer program is a vital one to the health and welfare of thousands of residents.



Substance	Highest Level Detected	Highest Level Allowed (Epa's Mcl) *	Ideal Goals (Epa's Mclg) *	Range	Violation	Date	Major Sources
Radium 228	2.1 pCi/L *	5 pCi/L	0 pCi/L	n.d. * to 0.7	NO	9/28/2004 ^C	Erosion of natural deposits
Radium 226	0.9 pCi/L *	5 pCi/L	0 pCi/L	n.d. * to 0.9	NO	9/28/2004 ^C	Erosion of natural deposits
Gross Alpha	1.1 pCi/L	15 pCi/L	0 pCi/L	n.d. * to 1.1	NO	9/28/2004 ^C	Erosion of natural deposits
Fluoride	2.0	4 ppm	4 ppm	n.d. to 2.0	NO	Sep-05	Water additive which promotes strong teeth; Erosion of natural deposits; Discharge from fertilizer and aluminum factories
Copper	0 of 60 ^B	1,300 ppb (Action Level)*	1,300 ppb	n.d. to 507	NO	Aug-05	Corrosion of household plumbing systems; Erosion of natural deposits; Leaching from wood preservatives.
	507 ppb * ^D						
Lead	0 of 60 ^B	15 ppb (Action Level)*	0	n.d. to 8.0	NO	Aug-05	Corrosion of household plumbing systems; Erosion of natural deposits
	8.0 ppb ^D						
Sulfate	19.0	no MCL	none set	n.d. to 19.0	NO	Sep-05	Erosion of natural sources
Nitrate	2.0 ppm *	10 ppm	10 ppm	n.d. to 2.0	NO	Sep-05	Runoff from fertilizer use; Leaching from septic tanks sewage; Erosion of natural deposits
Total Trihalomethanes (TTHM)	33.0 ppb ^D	80 ppb	0	6.2 to 58.9 ^D	NO	2005	By-product of drinking water chlorination
Turbidity ^A	97.0%	TT = percentage of samples less than 0.5 NTU	TT	0.04 to 1.33	NO	2005	Soil runoff
	1.33						
Haloacetic Acids (HAA5)	9.94 ppb ^D	60 ppb	0	n.d. to 26.1 ^D	NO	2005	By-product of drinking water chlorination
Chlorine Residual	1.2	4 ppm	4	0.31 to 1.12	NO	2005	By-product of drinking water disinfection
Chlorite	0.57	1.0 ppm	0.8 ppm	0.17 to 0.57	NO	2005	By-product of drinking water disinfection
Nitrate	0.7	10 ppm	10 ppm	N/A	NO	2005	Runoff from fertilizer use; Leaching from septic tanks sewage; Erosion of natural deposits
Fluoride	1.28	4 ppm	4 ppm	0 to 1.28	NO	2005	Water additive which promotes strong teeth; Erosion of natural deposits; Discharge from fertilizer and aluminum factories
Gross Alpha	0.5pCi/L	15 pCi/L	0 pCi/L	N/A	NO	2005	Erosion of natural deposits
Radium	0.1pCi/L	5 pCi/L	0 pCi/L	N/A	NO	2005	Erosion of natural deposits
Methyl Tertiary Butyl Ether (MtBE)	1.3 ppb	no MCL	none set	n.d to 1.3	NO	2005	Discharge from leaking UST or gasoline spill
Sulfate	6.0 ppm	no MCL	none set	n.d. to 6.0	NO	2004	Erosion of natural sources
Chloroform	27.0 ppb	no MCL	none set	1.9 to 27.0	NO	2005	By-product of drinking water chlorination
Bromodichloromethane	1.1 ppb	no MCL	none set	1.1 to 7.4	NO	2005	By-product of drinking water chlorination
Chlorodibromomethane	1.1 ppb	no MCL	none set	n.d. to 1.1	NO	2005	By-product of drinking water chlorination
Sodium	32	no MCL	none set	n.d. to 32.0	NO	2005	Erosion of natural deposits; Runoff from orchards; Waste from electric and glass production.

(Listed above are 18 regulated & unregulated contaminants for which monitoring was required and detected in Dracut's drinking water. Not listed are over 100 other contaminants monitored but not detected.)

*** 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.

ppm – One part per million.

ppb – One part per billion.

n.d. – none detected

Action Level – The concentration of a contaminant which triggers a treatment or other requirement that a water system must follow.

Treatment Technique (TT) – A required process intended to reduce the level of a contaminant in drinking water. The City is required under the Surface Water Treatment Rule to filter the source of the City's drinking water, the Merrimack River, to reduce contaminant levels such as turbidity.

NTU – Nephelometric Turbidity Unit measures the characteristic or property of water that causes it to scatter or absorb light. This is usually caused by very small particulate matter suspended in the water.

SPECIAL EXPLANATIONS:

■ Results represent water pumped from Dracut Water Supply District (DWSD) wells.

■ Results represent water purchased from City of Lowell.

A Turbidity is a measure of the cloudiness of the water. It is monitored because it is a good indicator of the effectiveness of the Water Treatment Plant filtration system.

B This is the number of sites above the action level.

C This is the most recent test result required by EPA Regulations.

D Highest Level Detected & Range are not always the same because results are averages or 90th percentile.

The Dracut Water Supply District Working for You!

The Dracut Water Supply District provides water to most of the resident and businesses in almost two thirds of Dracut as well as areas in Tyngsboro. The District has 3 sources of water—one well field in Dracut, one well field in Tyngsboro and we purchase supplemental water from the City of Lowell. To deliver the water we have 3 water storage tanks, 6 booster pump stations, 6 pressure zones with over 100 miles of mains. Our water system has been in the process of and continues to upgrade, add and install new water distribution improvements to better serve you—our customers. We are excited to present our 2005 Water Quality Report. The report presents important information about our operations, the quality of the water provided and useful tips on water use. This report will be sent every year to keep you updated with system upgrades and your most recent water quality information. A special thanks to our staff and our customers who help to continue the success story of the ‘New and Improved Dracut Water Supply District’.

Senior Administrative Staff

The Senior Staff at the District are responsible for all operations from field service to daily office and customer relations. Mr. John Hudzik is the lead man in the Field. John oversees the Field Staff in the daily work load of the outside operations. John has a vast knowledge of the system and its dynamics. Gary W. McCarthy is the District’s principal Senior Staff member directing all operations with the aid of a talented office and field staff. Gary brings over thirty years of municipal experience to the District. Debra Vinal is the District’s Treasurer and oversees all matters financial. Debbie’s skill in finance has earned her high marks from the Auditing Firm. Mark Riopelle, the District’s Assistant Super-intendent and Primary Operator brings a vast knowledge of water industry operations. Mark’s attention to detail and discipline has brought the District high marks with all State Agencies.



LEFT TO RIGHT:
John Hudzik Secondary Operator for Distribution and Treatment,
Gary W. McCarthy Executive Director-Superintendent, Debra Vinal
District Treasurer and Mark Riopelle Primary Operator for
Distribution and Treatment.



Board of Water Commissioners
 The Dracut Water Commissioners, from left to right, Mr. William Morin, Mr. Robert Corey, Mr. William “Zee” Zielinski

Important Information About Your Drinking Water

Monitoring Requirement Not Met for Dracut Water Supply District

Our water system violated a monitoring requirement over the past year. Even though this was not an emergency, as our customers, you have a right to know what happened and what we did to correct this situation. 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. During calendar year 2005 we **monitored but did not report** lead and copper results from two school bubblers and kitchen faucets.

What should I do?

There is nothing you need to do at this time. The table below lists the contaminant we did not report for the last year, how often we are supposed to sample for these contaminants and how many samples we are supposed to take, how many samples we took, when samples should have been reported to DEP.

Contaminant	Required Sampling Frequency at Schools	Number of samples taken	When all samples were taken	When sample results should have been reported	When sample results were reported
Lead	4 per year	7	July and August 2005	by 10/10/05	2/1/06
Copper	4 per year	7	July and August 2005	by 10/10/05	2/1/06

What happened?

In 2005, the District took more than the required number of school bubbler and kitchen faucet lead and copper samples but failed to report all the results to DEP. Due to a clerical issue not all sample results from the lab were reported to DEP by the appropriate deadline in 2005.

What is being done?

The District has established a better procedure for tracking the multiple lead and copper samples results between the laboratory and our reporting forms for DEP. For more information, please contact Mark R. Riopelle 978 957-0441 at 59 Hopkins Street Dracut, MA.

Please share this information with all the other 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.

While we regret this clerical error, we wish to assure our customers that all results for lead and copper were below levels that would affect your health. Chemicals continue to be added to your water to protect your plumbing and your health.

Gary W. McCarthy

EXECUTIVE DIRECTOR – SUPERINTENDENT
DRACUT WATER SUPPLY DISTRICT

Field Services Staff

The Field Service Staff are the personnel dealing with the daily routine operations of the system and responding to customer service calls. Each of these men are licensed Massachusetts Water Operators.

Stephen Dehney serves as the Field Foreman assisting Senior Staff with daily operations and directing Field Operators. John Laffey, Mark Basnett and Tim Germain are Field Operators. Each works with the daily maintenance of pumps, wells and customer calls. Their efforts see to the daily needs that keep the system up and running smoothly by coordinating their efforts with the Primary and Secondary Operators. In addition each assists in keeping the facilities and buildings in good repair.



Stephen Dehney Field Foreman, Operators John Laffey, Mark Basnett and Timothy Germain.

Office Staff

The Office Staff deals with the daily assignments, calls from customers and processing of all requests, meter installations, billing and collections. Each assists customers and is a vital part of the operation.

Kelley Chasse, also our “Employee of the Year”, is the principal billing clerk and expert in our billing system. Kelley’s exceptional understanding of the billing and meter system helps maintain the Field Staff efforts and timely billing to customers. Maureen Donnelly our Customer Service Manager oversees the efforts of Office Staff so that customer requests and needs are met. Maureen coordinates office staffing to assure the Office runs smoothly. Matt Gill is our front desk person taking calls, coordinating payments and assists with appointments.



Kelley Chasse, Maureen Donnelly and Matthew Gill

Employee of the Year 2006

KELLEY CHASSE



Mrs. Kelley Chasse has been selected as the District’s Employee of the Year for 2006. This recognition is bestowed by the staff of the District by vote each year. Employees choose that fellow worker they feel has given above and beyond.

Kelley is married to Armand Chasse, with three children Jordyn, Cory and Chelsey. They reside in Dracut.

Kelley started her career here at the District while still in High School. Kelley is instrumental in our billing system. Kelley helps guide the mailing of some 28,000 water bills annually. Kelley oversees the auto-meter reading system with our field staff so that your meter reads now are always actual reads. By the end of this year she will assist with the final phases bringing our Tyngsboro Customers on auto read as well.

We congratulate Kelley on a well deserved honor as Dracut Water Supply District’s Employee of the Year.

Water Conservation Tips

Weather continues to be a factor all over the nation. Water, once thought of as an unlimited resource, now proves itself to be more precious and vital than ever. Given that it is upon all of us to use it wisely. To that end the Dracut Water Supply District encourages all its consumers to use water conservation measures, some of which are listed below.



Water conservation outside

- Minimize the size of your lawn as lawn watering may consume more than 30% of summer residential water use
- Use mulch around plants and shrubs and choose plants that don't need much water.
- Use water from a bucket to wash your car, and save the hose for rinsing.
- Sweep clippings and leaves from walks and driveways rather than using the hose.
- Dracut's Outside Watering Guidelines allow odd numbered houses on Wed, Fri, and Sun and even numbered houses on Tue, Thu, and Sat. No watering on Mondays. In the event time restrictions are required customers will be notified in the local news media along with community signs
- Underground sprinkler systems require moisture sensors.

Water conservation in your home

- Fixing leaking faucets, pipes, toilets, etc.
- Install water-saving devices in faucets, toilets and appliances.
- Wash only full loads of laundry.
- Don't use the toilet for trash disposal.
- Take shorter showers.
- When washing hands, brushing teeth or shaving, use only as much water as you need.

Water Supply Sources

Well Name	Source ID#
Tyngsboro Well Field #5	3079000 08G
Tyngsboro Well Field #4	3079000 07G
Tyngsboro Well Field #3	3079000 06G
Tyngsboro Well Field #2	3079000 05G
Tyngsboro Well Field #1	3079000 04G
New Boston Well Field #2	3079000 02G
New Boston Well Field #1	3079000 03G
Lowell Regional Water Utility (Additional Supplemental Source)	3079000 01P

Billing News

Our pay by phone program has been a big success for us and our customers. If you need to make a payment, a simple call can do the trick. Office staff will take your information and make a one time charge to your credit card.

Pay by Phone: Many have used our pay by phone program using Visa/Mastercard. No time to get to our office? Forget to mail your payment? Call us at 978-957-0441 and we can take a payment right over the phone and mail your receipt to you. Its easy, fast and accurate.

Senior Citizen Discount Program

The District recognizes and assists Senior Citizen home-owners with an annual discount on each billing cycle. This discount gives seniors \$5.00 off each quarterly bill. In order to qualify for this discount a person must be:

- 65 Years of age
- the homeowner of record
- offer proof of age (i.e. license)

.....
**Le rapport contient des informations concernant la qualité de l'eau de votre communauté.
 Faites-le traduire, ou parlez-en à un ami qui le comprend bien.**

Meter to Main Enrollment Form

- YES**, please sign me up for the **Meter to Main Service Plan**
 - Bill my account in full \$60.00
 - I have enclosed a check for \$60.00 (*made payable to Dracut Water Supply District*)
 - Bill my account \$15.00 each billing cycle

Name _____

Address _____

Account Number, if known _____

Signature _____ Date _____



If interested and NOT currently enrolled, complete the form and mail it to the District Office OR call to enroll today 978-957-0441

Want More Information?

Do you want to learn more about your drinking water? Do you have questions regarding this report? The Dracut Water Supply District responds to all concerns, questions and comments. Please contact Mr. Gary W. McCarthy, Executive Director-Superintendent of the Dracut Water Supply District at 978-957-0441. Internet access to information about your District will soon be available at www.DracutWater.com. You may email Mr. Gary W. McCarthy at (Gary.McCarthy@dracutwater.com). Our main office is located at 59 Hopkins Street in Dracut. Our meetings are usually held the 2nd and 4th Wednesdays of the month. The first Wednesday meeting is usually at the High School Library the second here at our Offices. Our meetings are broadcast on cable too. Our office receives calls 24 hours a day with after business "Emergency Call Service." Whenever you need us, we are just a phone call away for any of your water needs.

Billing
Clerk,
Kelley
Chasses's
Children
Cory and
Jordyn



Water Quality Information Enclosed!

Presorted
Standard
U.S. Postage
PAID
Permit No. 211
Dracut, MA

