BRIGGSVILLE WATER DISTRICT
111 RIVER ROAD, CLARKSBURG, MA 01247
CLEBE W SCOTT 413-663-3985

2023 DRINKING WATER QUALITY REPORT*

CONSUMER CONFIDENCE REPORT

YOUR DRINKING WATER SOURCE

The Briggsville Water Districts' water comes from an underground spring located on the east side of Massachusetts Route 8 approximately 1/5 mile north of the center of Clarksburg. The spring flows into a 3000 gal. concrete cistern located at the source. From the source the water flows through approximately one mile of 6" underground pipe supplying 60 residences, one industry, one municipal building (Town Hall), and one commercial facility (R.I. Baker Inc.).

Our system meets all water quality standards set forth by the United States Environmental Protection Agency and The Massachusetts Department of Environmental Protection.

Staff continues to participate in training programs sponsored by The Massachusetts Department of Environmental Protection. Our systems' latest Comprehensive Compliance Evaluation was conducted by the Department of Environmental Protection on October 19, 2022 and evaluated the adequacy of our water source facilities, equipment, operation and maintenance for the supply and distribution of safe drinking water. As a result of the inspection and discussion DEP has again recommended

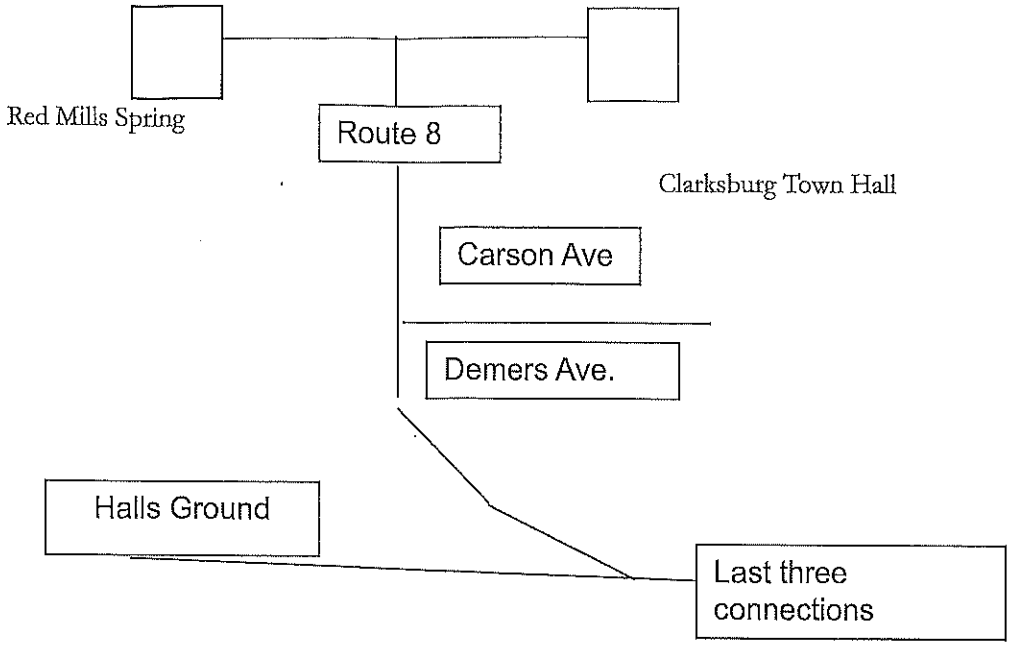
1. that we consider a rate increase. The current rates do not appear to have the capability to make significant upgrades as they are needed.

2. we develop a capital improvement plan for the system. Increase storage capacity.

3. we continue to investigate opportunities for the water district to expand control and protection of the land surrounding the Red Mills Spring. Complete inspection results are available.

Please continue to conserve water and eliminate any excessive use. Please contact the Clarksburg Volunteer Fire department and they will be glad to fill your pool for a reasonable donation.

There will be a meeting in June of the Briggsville Water District. Notice of the meeting will be posted at Clarksburg Town Hall and on the town website. All consumers will be notified and are urged to attend.



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 mineral, and in some cases, radioactive material. It 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, or farming.

Pesticides and herbicides -which may come from a variety of sources such as agricultural, urban stormwater runoff, and residential uses.

** You may refer to this report as an annual water quality report or a consumer confidence report.*

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 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, the U.S. Environmental Protection Agency (EPA) prescribes regulations that limit the amount of certain contaminants in water provided by public water systems. The Food and Drug Administration (FDA) regulations establish limits for contaminants in bottled water that must provide the same protection for public health. All 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 Safe Drinking Water Hotline at 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 some infants can be particularly at risk from infections. These people should seek advice about drinking water from their health care providers. EPA/Centers for Disease Control guidelines on appropriate means to lessen the risk of infection by Cryptosporidium are available from the Safe Drinking Water Hotline at 800-426-4791.

The data presented in this report is based on tests primarily conducted in the 2021-23 calendar year. Although only contaminants that tested positive are represented in this chart, numerous other laboratory analyses were completed.

NOTE

Source Water Protection -- The Massachusetts Department of Environmental Protection has completed a source water assessment for the Briggsville Water District. This report identifies land uses within water supply protection areas that may be potential sources of contamination. A copy of this report can be made available. Contact the Briggsville Water District.

Regarding 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. The Briggville Water Destrict 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 Safe Drinking Water Hotline or at http://www.epa.gov/safewater/lead.

PLEASE RESPOND TO THE PREVIOUSLY MAILED REQUEST, BY THE DISTRICT STAFF, FOR A PHOTO OF YOUR HOMES INCOMING WATER SERVICE LINE. INSTRUCTIONS AND AN ADDRESS FOR YOUR RESPONCE ARE POSTED ON THE TOWN WEBSITE AND AT TOWN HALL.

IMPORTANT DEFINITIONS

Maximum Contaminant Level (MCL) – the highest level of a contaminant that is allowed in drinking water. **Minimum Detectable Level (MDL)**

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

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

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

Variances and Exemptions – State or EPA permission not to meet an MCL or a treatment technique under certain conditions.

Parts per million (ppm) Parts per billion (ppb) MILLIGRAMS PER LITER (MG/L)

WATER QUALITY TESTING RESULTS

CONTAMINANT	HIGHEST DETECT VALUE	RANGE DETECTED	AVERAGE DETECT	MCL	MCLG	VIOLATION (Y/N)	POSSIBLE SOURCE OF CONTAMINATION
NITRATE 4/12/23	0.182 MG/L	—	—	10.0 MG/L	10.0 MG/L	N	Runoff from fertilizer
BARIUM SODIUM 4/12/23	0.0068 MG/L 3.84 MG/L		—	2.0 MG/L 20 MG/L	2.0 MG/L 20 MG/L	N N	Erosion of Natural Deposits
TETRACHLOROETHYLEN 4/12/23 10/24/23	0.58 MG/L 0.90 MG/L	0.58-0.90 MG/L	0.79	5.0	5.0	N	Vinyl lined asbestos cement pipe
PERCHLORATE	0.055 MG/L	—	—	2.0	2.0	N	IMPURITY IN HYPOCHLORITE SOLUTIONS
GROSS ALPHA	0.925	—	—	15 PICOCURIES PER LITER (PCi/L)		N	Erosion of natural deposits
CONTAMINANT	UNIT	ACTION LEVEL	MCLG	# SITES	90TH PERCENTILE	#SITES ABOVE ACTION LEVEL	—
LEAD ** 7/31/21	PPB	0.00150 0.00196	0.00173	5	0.00173	0	Household plumbing and service connections
COPPER 7/31/21	PPM	0.0510 0.0538	0.033334	5	0.0524	0	Household plumbing and service connections

BRIGGSVILLE WATER DISTRICT
CROSS-CONNECTION CONTROL AND BACKFLOW PREVENTION

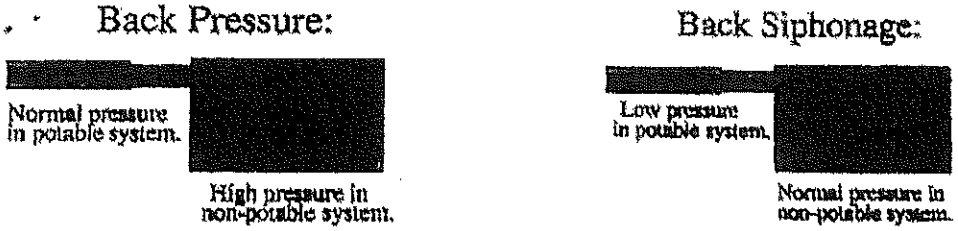
The Briggsville Water District makes every effort to ensure that the water delivered to you home and business i clean, safe and free of contamination. Our staff works very hard to protect the quality of the water delivered t our customers from the time the water is extracted via deep wells from underground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

What is a cross-connection?

A cross-connection occurs whenever the drinking water supply is or could be in contact with potential sources o pollution or contamination. Cross-connections exist in piping arrangements or equipments that allowed the drinkin water to come in contact with non-potable liquids, solids or gases (hazardous to humans) in event of a backflow.

What is a backflow?

Backflow is the undesired reverse of the water flow in the drinking water distribution lines. This backward flow o water can occur when the pressure created by an equipment or system such as a boiler or air-conditioning is highe than the water pressure inside the water distribution line (backpressure), or when the pressure in the distributio 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 (backsiphonage). 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 proventer.
- Buy and install a hose bibb vacuum breaker in 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. If your property has NOT been surveyed for cross-connection contact your water department to schedule a cross-connection survey.

The Massachusetts Drinking Water Regulations, 310 CMR 22.00, requires all public water systems to have an approved and fully implemented Cross-connection Control Program (CCCP). The [PWS Name] 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.

The following chart shows how the Briggsville Water District's CCCP is being implemented:

Cross-connection Surveys Information:

Type of Facilities	Total # Facilities Served	# Facilities Surveyed for Cross-connection	# Facilities Remaining to be Surveyed for Cross-connection	# Facilities Surveyed for the First Time in [year]	# Facilities Re-surveyed in [year]
Commercial	2	2	0	1998	No Change
Industrial	1	1	0	1998	No Change
Institutional	0	0	0	1998	No Change
Municipal	1	1	0	1998	No Change

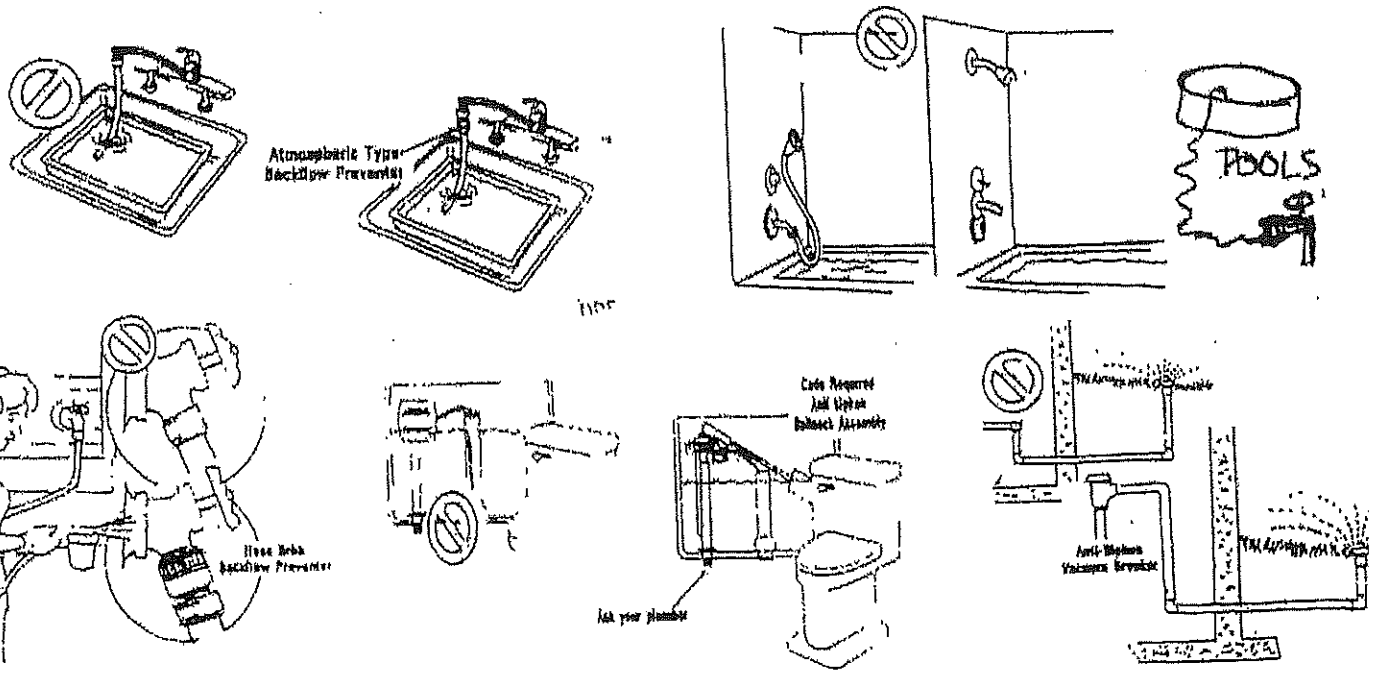
Backflow Prevention Devices and Assemblies Testing Information:

Type of Backflow Preventer	# Devices or Assemblies	Test Frequency	Total # of Routine Test	# Test Failures	# Re-test
RPBP	0	Semi-annual*	0	0	0
DCVA	0	Annual*	0	0	0
PVB (if applicable)		Annual **			

* Required frequency ** Recommended

If you have any questions, please contact Mr. Clebe Scott at (413)663-3985

Some Examples Where Cross-connections Occur



IMPORTANT INFORMATION ABOUT YOUR DRINKING WATER

Briggsville Water District Does Not Meet Treatment Requirements

Our water system has been violating a drinking water standard. Although this situation does not require that you take immediate action, as our customers, you have a right to know what happened, what you should do, and what we are doing to correct this situation. Although we have a licensed primary operator for distribution services, we have had no licensed primary operator for treatment services. A treatment operator must hold a treatment license. Since we don't have a treatment operator with the required license, we are in violation of the regulations. Federal requirements for community public water systems with chlorine disinfection require an appropriately licensed operator. We are required to provide public notice due to the violation.

We operate a water treatment facility that disinfects our source water with chlorine treatment and a distribution system that brings the treated water to your homes. Our certified operator has a distribution license and is knowledgeable, although unlicensed, in the operation of our treatment plant, ensuring the continued operation of the treatment plant. Our operator is required to take the day-to-day water quality measurements related to treatment operations.

What should I do?

- **You do not need to boil your water or take other corrective actions.** However, if you have specific health concerns, consult your doctor.
- People with severely-compromised immune systems, infants, and some elderly may be at increased risk. These people should seek advice about drinking water from their health care providers. General guidelines on ways to lessen the risk of infection by microbes are available from EPA's Safe Drinking Water Hotline at 1 (800) 426-4791.

What does this mean?

This situation does not require that you take immediate action. If it did, you would have been notified immediately. Tests taken since the amended regulations went into effect did not indicate the presence of any bacteria in the treated water. We are required to provide the following information:

Inadequately-treated water may contain disease-causing organisms. These organisms include bacteria, viruses, and parasites which can cause symptoms such as nausea, cramps, diarrhea, and associated headaches. These symptoms, however, are not caused only by organisms in drinking water, but also by other factors. If you experience any of these symptoms and they persist, you may want to seek medical advice.

What happened? What is being done?

We have sought additional operator coverage but have been unable to obtain the required services. We will be providing this notice repeatedly until we are in compliance. We do not know when we will meet this requirement. This notice is required to be distributed every 3 months for as long as this violation exists.

For more information, please contact Briggsville Water District, 111 River Road, Clarksburge, MA 01247. Operator: Clebe W. Scott (413) 663-3985

Please share this information with all the other people who drink this water, especially those who may not have received this notice directly. You can do this by posting this notice in a public place or distributing copies by hand or mail.

This notice is provided by:	PWS ID#:	Date distributed:
Briggsville Water District	1063003	January 6, 2023

Carl Lackenney Owner
Briggsville Water District