2011 WATER QUALITY REPORT
WATERTOWN WATER AND SEWER AUTHORITY
PWS ID# CT1530021

The Quality of Your Drinking Water

The Watertown Water and Sewer Authority (WSA) is pleased to provide its consumers with this report on the drinking water supplied to its customers in Watertown. The information contained in this report explains where your water comes from, what tests are performed to insure the safety of your water as well as where you can acquire additional information about your water supply. We trust you will find this information both interesting and helpful. We want you to know more about the quality of your drinking water.

The Watertown Water and Sewer Authority System

The primary source of your water is the City of Waterbury's surface reservoirs located in two separate and distinct watersheds in Litchfield County. The Shepaug and Cairns Reservoirs are located in the Shepaug Watershed and the Wigwam, Morris, and Pitch Reservoirs are located in the West Branch Watershed.

Before the water is sent to you, it receives complete conventional treatment at Waterbury's Harry P. Danaher Water Treatment Plant located in Thomaston, CT. Watertown paid 7.85% of the Waterbury Treatment Plant capital cost.

To insure that our sources of supply remain protected, the Waterbury Bureau of Water conducts annual Watershed Sanitary Surveys as well as semi-annual Water Quality and Pollution Source Assessments. This information is available by contacting the Waterbury Bureau of Water at 203-574-8251.

The Authority also purchases water from the Watertown Fire District to serve its customers in the Westgate/Dunrobin/Platt Road and Circuit and Grandview areas. This water is pumped from the Fire District's Hart Farm Well Field in Woodbury where it is chlorinated and the pH is adjusted.

WATERBURY TREATMENT PLANT WATER QUALITY DATA – 2011

PARAMETER

MICROBIALS	MCL	MCLG	HIGHEST LEVEL FOUND	RANGE	SOURCE
TURBIDITY (NTU)	TT=<0.30 NTU 95% of the time T Plant Eff.	0	100%	N/A	SOIL RUNOFF
INORGANIC COMPOUNDS	**RANGE DETECTED**	**HIGHEST DETECTED**	**MCL**	**MCLG**	**SOURCE**
FLUORIDE (PPM)	0.80-1.04	1.04	4	4	WATER ADDITIVE WHICH PROMOTES STRONG TEETH
BARIUM (PPM)	0.009	0.009	2	2	EROSION OF NATURAL DEPOSITS
NITRATE as NITROGEN (PPM)	0.053	0.053	10	10	RUNOFF FROM FERTILIZER USE; EROSION OF NATURAL DEPOSITS
ORGANIC COMPOUNDS	**RANGE DETECTED**	**AVERAGE THAA**	**MCL**	**MCLG**	**SOURCE**
TOTAL HALOACETIC ACIDS*1 (THAA)(PPB)	23-57	38.7	60	N/A	BY-PRODUCT OF DRINKING WATER CHLORINATION
	RANGE DETECTED	**AVERAGE TTHM**	**MCL**	**MCL GOAL**	
TOTAL TRIHALOMETHANES*1 (PPB)	41	41	80	0	BY-PRODUCT OF DRINKING WATER CHLORINATION
RADIOCHEMICAL	**RANGE DETECTED**	**HIGHEST DETECTED**	**MCL**	**MCLG**	**SOURCE**
GROSS BETA*1 (pCI/L)	1.21	1.21	4 MREM/YR*	0	DECAY OF NATURAL AND MAN MADE DEPOSITS
RADIUM 226 & 228*1 (pCI/L)	0.82	0.82	5 (pCI/L)	0	
GROSS APHPA *1 (pCI/L)	1.56	1.56	15 (pCI/L)	0	EROSION OF NATURAL DEPOSITS

* The State of Connecticut measures for the radiochemical gross beta in picocuries per liter (pCi/L),p the Federal measurement is in millirems per year (MREM/YR).

*1 Last data available.

*2 The State of Connecticut Department of Public Health requires us to monitor for some contaminants less than once per year because the concentrations of these contaminants do not change frequently.

KEY

MCL = Maximum Contaminant Level
MCLG = Maximum Contaminant Level Goal
NTU = Nephelometric Turbidity Units
pCi/L = Picocuries per Liter (a measure of radioactivity)
MREM/ YR = Millirems per Year (a measure of radiation absorbed by the body)
ppm = Parts per Million, or milligrams per liter (mg/l)
ppb = Parts per Billion, or micrograms per liter (ug/l)
TT = Treatment Technique
N/A = Not Applicable
N/R = Not Regulated

DEFINITIONS OF TERMS USED:

MCL = Maximum Contaminant Level. The highest level of a contaminant that is allowed in drinking water. MCL's are set as close to MCLG's as feasible using the best available treatment technology.

MCLG = Maximum Contaminant Level Goal. The level of a contaminant in drinking water below which there is no known or expected health risk. MCLG's allow for a margin of safety.

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

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

WATERTOWN WATER DISTRIBUTION SYSTEM

The Watertown Water and Sewer Authority distribution system contains 60.90 miles of 16-inch to 1.5-inch diameter water mains, three water booster pumping stations and over 657 fire hydrants. In 2011 980 feet of new water main was added to the distribution system. It serves 4,097 water customers and 10,550 people.

The Connecticut Department of Public Health reviewed the WSA lead and copper tap water test results from 1994, 1995 and 1996. Since the 90th percentile lead and copper levels reported were less than or equal to the required Action Levels, the WSA was allowed to reduce the frequency of monitoring from annually to once every three (3) years. Lead and copper samples were taken in 2010 and were within the limits as set by the State of Connecticut Department of Health—Drinking Water Section. The next sampling period will be January 1, 2010 through December 31, 2014.

The WSA took over 278 samples in its distribution system during 2011 on which more than 1,263 analyses were performed. All WSA samples were analyzed by the South Central Connecticut Regional Water Authority Laboratory and were in compliance with regulatory requirements including the total trihalomethane samples. The WSA also was compliant for total haloacetic acids for 2011. The quarterly concentrations of both parameters are based on the running annual average.

The Water and Sewer Authority Office is located at 747 French Street, Oakville, CT 06779 and is open Monday through Friday, 8:30 A.M. to 5:00 P.M. Customers may also drop off payments 24-hours a day, 7 days a week in our 'drop box' at the Authority Office. Consumers with a question about their water or the WSA water works should contact us at (860) 945-5299 or (860) 945-5298 (Fax), by email at caterino@watertownct.org.

WATER CONSERVATION FACT SHEET

Many people have asked for tips on conserving water for environmental reasons, as well as when drought conditions threaten. The following tips were developed by a coalition of specialists on water conservation in Florida and are also consistent with the recommendations that were developed through the National Disaster Education Coalition's "Drought Forum."

INDOOR USE

General

- Never pour water down the drain when there may be another use for it. Use it to water your indoor plants or garden.
- Make sure your home is leak-free. When you are certain that no water is being used in your home, take a reading of the water meter. Wait 30 minutes and then take a second reading. If the meter reading changes, you have a leak!
- Repair dripping faucets by replacing washers. One drop per second wastes 2,700 gallons of water per year!

Bathroom

- Check for toilet leaks by adding food coloring to the tank. If you have a leak, the color will appear in the bowl within 30 minutes. (Flush immediately to avoid stains.)
- If the toilet handle frequently sticks in the flush position letting water run constantly, replace or adjust it.
- Leaky toilets usually can be fixed inexpensively by replacing the flapper.
- Install a toilet displacement device to cut down on the amount of water needed for each flush. (Contrary to popular opinion, a brick should **not** be used because it can dissolve and the loose pieces can cause damage to the internal parts. Instead, place a one-gallon plastic jug of water into the tank to displace toilet flow or purchase a device available at most hardware and home centers designed for this purpose.) Be sure installation does not interfere with the operating parts.
- 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.*
- Take shorter showers.
- Replace your showerhead with an ultra-low-flow version.
- Place a bucket the shower to catch excess water for watering plants.
- In the shower, turn the water on to get wet, turn off to lather up, then turn the water back on to rinse. Repeat when washing your hair.
- Don't let the water run while brushing your teeth, washing your face or shaving.
- Avoid flushing the toilet unnecessarily. Dispose of tissues, insects and other similar waste in the trash rather than the toilet.

Kitchen

- Operate automatic dishwashers only when they are fully loaded. Use the "light wash" feature if available to use less water.
- When hand-washing dishes, save water by filling two containers—one with soapy water and the other with rinse water containing a small amount of chlorine bleach.
- Most dishwashers can clean soiled dishes very well, so dishes do not have to be rinsed before washing. Just remove large particles of food and put the soiled dishes in the dishwasher.
- Store drinking water in the refrigerator. Don't let the tap run while you are waiting for water to cool.

- Do not use running water to thaw meat or other frozen foods. Defrost food overnight in the refrigerator or use the defrost setting on your microwave.
- Do not waste 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.
- Clean vegetables in a pan filled with water rather than running water from the tap. Re-use the water that vegetables are washed in for cleaning or watering plants.
- Kitchen sink disposals require lots of water to operate properly. Start a compost pile as an alternate method of disposing of food waste, or simply dispose of food in the garbage.

Laundry

- Operate automatic clothes washers only when they are fully loaded or set the water level for the size of your load.

Long-Term Indoor Water Conservation

- Retrofit all household faucets by installing aerators with flow restrictors.
- Consider installing an instant hot water heater on your sink.
- Insulate your water pipes to reduce heat loss and prevent them from breaking if you have a sudden and unexpected spell of freezing weather.
- If you are considering installing a new heat pump or air-conditioning system, the new air-to-air models are just as efficient as the water-to-air type and do not waste water.
- Install a water-softening system only when the mineral in the water would damage your pipes. Turn the softener off while on vacation.
- When purchasing a new appliance, choose one that is more energy and water efficient.

Car Washing

- Use a shut-off nozzle on your hose that can be adjusted down to a fine spray, so that water flows only as needed. When finished, turn it off at the faucet instead of at the nozzle to avoid leaks. Check hose connectors to make sure plastic or rubber washers are in place to prevent leaks.
- Consider using 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

- Don't over water your lawn. Lawns only need to be watered every five to seven days in the summer, and every 10 to 14 days in the winter. 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. Buy a rain gauge so that you can better determine when to water.
- Water in several short sessions rather than one long one in order for your lawn to better absorb moisture. For example, water in ten-minute sessions spaced 30 minutes apart, rather than one straight 30-minute session.
- Water lawns during the designated hours.
- Position sprinklers so water lands on the lawn and shrubs and not on paved areas.
- Avoid sprinklers that spray a fine mist; most of the mist evaporates before it reaches the lawn. Check sprinkler systems and timing devices regularly to be sure they operate properly.
- Raise the lawn mower blade to at least three inches, or to its highest level. A higher cut encourages grass roots to grow deeper, shades the root system, and holds soil moisture.

- Avoid over fertilizing your lawn. Applying fertilizer increases the need for water. Apply fertilizers that contain slow-release, water-insoluble forms of nitrogen.
- Use a broom or blower instead of a hose to clean leaves and other debris from your driveway or sidewalk.
- Do not leave sprinklers or hoses unattended. A garden hose can pour out 600 gallons or more in only a few hours. Use a bell timer to remind yourself to turn sprinklers off.

Pool

- If you have a swimming pool, consider installing a new water-saving pool filter. A single backflushing with a traditional filter uses 180 to 250 gallons of water.
- Cover pools and spas to reduce evaporation of water.

Long-Term Outdoor Conservation

- Plant it smart. Plant native and/or drought-tolerant grasses, ground covers, shrubs and trees. Once established, they do not need water as frequently and usually will survive a dry period without watering. They also require less fertilizer or herbicides. Landscape with plants that are heat and drought tolerant and that do not require much water to live. Small plants require less water to become established. Group plants together based on similar water needs.
- Install irrigation devices that are the most water efficient for each use. Micro and drip irrigation and soaker hoses are examples of efficient devices.
- Use mulch to retain moisture in the soil. Mulch also helps control weeds that compete with landscape plants for water. Avoid purchasing recreational water toys that require a constant stream of water.
- Avoid installing ornamental water features (such as fountains) unless they use recycled water.