Avon Water Department
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2007 Town of Avon Massachusetts
DRINKING WATER QUALITY REPORT

Visit us at Avon Water Department's web site: www.avonmass.org

AVON WATER SOURCES

WELL	SOURCE ID	TYPE
MEMORIAL WELL NO. 1	4018000-01G	This is a 24" diameter gravel packed well that is 57 feet deep.
MEMORIAL WELL NO. 2	4018000-02G	This gravel packed well is inactive due to high levels of manganese, which causes discolored water. This well is scheduled to be redeveloped and put back in service.
WELL NO. 4	4018000-05G	Well No. 4 is a 6" diameter gravel packed well that is 34 feet deep.
TROUT BROOK WELL FIELD	4018000-06G	This well field is a series of seven 8" tubular wells, 31' to 38' deep, interconnected together by ductile iron piping.
WELL NO. 3	4018000-04G	Well No. 3 is a 12" diameter gravel packed well that is 27' deep and is adjacent to Trout Book well field.
PORTER WELL	4018000-03G	This well is a dug well that is 30' in diameter and 22' deep.

SOURCE WATER ASSESSMENT & PROTECTION PROGRAM

What is a SWAP?

The Source Water Assessment and Protection (SWAP) program assesses the susceptibility of public water supplies

What is My System's Ranking?

A susceptibility ranking of high was assigned to this system using the information collected during the assessment by the DEP.

Where Can I See the SWAP Report?

The complete SWAP report is available at The Avon Water Department and online at **www.state.ma.us/dep/brp/dws/.** For more information, call the Avon Water Department at **(508) 588-0414.**

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 minerals, 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.
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.

FACILITIES

The Avon Water Department has six pump stations and three water treatment plants for corrosion control that were completed in December of 1999. We have interconnections with Randolph, Holbrook and Brockton.

WATER COMMISSIONERS MEETINGS

Meetings are open to the public and are held every other Thursday in the Water Department office.
Water Commissioners for the Avon Water Department are: Eugene Guilbault - Chairman, Charles Linfield and Peter Marinelli.

HEALTH INFORMATION

In order to ensure that tap water is safe to drink, the Department of Environmental Protection (DEP) and U.S. Environmental Protection Agency (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. 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 1-800-426-4791.** 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 and Prevention (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).**

TREATMENT TECHNIQUES

All reservoirs and some ground water contain numerous microorganisms, some of which can cause people to be sick. To eliminate disease-carrying organisms it is necessary to disinfect the water. Disinfection does not sterilize the water, but it does destroy harmful organisms. The Avon Water Department uses sodium hypochlorite as it's primary disinfectant. Chlorine destroys organisms by penetrating cell walls and reacting with enzymes. Disinfection with chlorine has been proven effective at ensuring that water is free of harmful organisms and safe to drink. Many drinking water sources in New England are naturally corrosive (i.e. they have a pH of less than 7.0). So the water they supply has a tendency to corrode and dissolve the metal piping it flows through. This not only damages pipes but can also add harmful metals, such as lead and copper, to the water. For this reason, it is beneficial to add chemicals that make the water neutral or slightly alkaline. This is done by adding any one, or a combination of several, approved chemicals. The Avon Water Department adds potassium hydroxide (KOH) to the water. This adjusts the water to a non-corrosive pH. Testing throughout the water system has shown that this treatment has been effective at reducing lead and copper concentrations. All chemicals used for coagulation are approved for water treatment by one of the following organizations: National Sanitation Foundation (NSF) or Underwriters Laboratory (UL), both accredited by the American National Standards Institute (ANSI). Chemicals also have to meet performance standards established by the American Water Works Association.