

NORTH HERO WATER SYSTEM WATER QUALITY REPORT



**North Hero Water System
c/o Larry Dupont
P.O. Box 38
North Hero, VT 05474
802-372-6926**

Meetings are held on the 2nd Monday of each month at the North Hero Town Office Board Room.

North Hero Water System is classified and permitted as a surface, non-purchased water system, operating under water system identification #20562. Water is supplied for North Hero Water System by an approved surface water source, Lake Champlain, and consists of one lake intake.

January – December 2016

The purpose of this report is to satisfy the EPA and DEC requirements for Consumer Confidence Reporting. Although some of the items may not be of interest to you personally, we feel that this is an important aspect of our overall commitment to supply you with the safest quality drinking water possible.

Terms to Become Familiar With:

Maximum Contaminant Level (MCL): This is the highest allowable level of contaminant in drinking water. MCLs are set as close to MCLGs as feasible using the best available technology.

Maximum Contaminant Level Goals (MCLGs): These goals are set at levels that are below where there is no known health risk. MCLGs are considered a margin of safety.

Maximum Residual Disinfectant Level (MRDL): The highest level of a disinfectant allowed in drinking water. Addition of a disinfectant may help control microbial contaminants.

Maximum Residual Disinfection Level Goal (MRDLG): The level of a drinking water disinfectant below which there is no known or expected risk to health. **MRDLG's** do not reflect the benefits of disinfectants in controlling microbial contaminants.

Locational Running Annual Average (LRAA): The average of sample analytical results for samples taken at a particular monitoring location during four consecutive calendar quarters.

Running Annual Average (RAA): The average of 4 consecutive quarters (when on quarterly monitoring); values in table represent the highest RAA for the year.

PPM: Parts per million or mg/L. **PPB:** Parts per billion or ug/L. **pCi/L:** Pico curies per liter.

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

90th Percentile: Ninety percent of the samples are below the action level. (Nine of ten sites' sampled were at or below this level.)

Health Information Regarding Drinking Water:

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 microbiological contaminants are available from EPA's Safe Drinking Water Hotline (1-800-426-4791).

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 the water poses a health risk. More information about contaminants and potential health effects can be obtained by calling the Safe Drinking Water Hotline.

Simon Operation Services, Inc. Your Water Professionals

Simon Operation Services, Inc. (SOS) is responsible for the operation of the system. SOS's staff includes the following certified operators: Kevin Knapp, Mark Simon.

A Source Protection Plan (SPP) for the North Hero water supply system was approved on September 30, 2008 and updated in June 2015. A copy of the SPP is on file with the North Hero town office. The system's susceptibility to Potential Sources of Contamination (PSOC) is confined to a 3,000 foot radius of our lake intake. The majority of property along the shoreline is zoned residential and agricultural. The approved SPP identifies all of the risks in this area to be low to moderate in nature. Informational letters were sent to all landowners.

SOS prepared this report. If you have any questions about North Hero Water System's water quality, call 1-888-767-1885 or email us at SimonOp@aol.com.

COMPLIANCE: This report is a snapshot of the quality of water that we provided for the year 2016. It also includes the date and results of any contaminants that were detected within the past five years tested less than once a year. Any contaminants detected within the past five years are listed along with the date of detection and concentration.
No violations occurred during 2016.

<u>Disinfection Residual</u>	<u>RAA</u>	<u>Range</u>	<u>MRDL</u>	<u>MRDLG</u>
Chlorine	0.873 mg/L	0.080 - 1.400	4.0	4.0
<u>Contaminants</u>	<u>Level Detected</u>	<u>MCL</u>	<u>MCLG</u>	<u>Sample Date</u>
Combined Radium	1.034 pCi/L	5	0	3/11/15
Gross Alpha	0.428 pCi/L	15	0	12/14/12
Nitrate	0.19 ppm	10	10	2/3/16
<u>Disinfection By Products</u>	<u>LRAA</u>	<u>MCL</u>	<u>MCLG</u>	<u>Sample Date</u>
Haloacetic Acids, Total	33 ppb	60.0	0	7/12/16
Trihalomethanes, Total	60 ppb	80.0	0	7/12/16

Possible Sources of Contamination

Chlorine – water additive to control microbes.

Combined Radium – erosion of natural deposits.

Copper – corrosion of household plumbing systems; erosion of natural deposits.

Gross Alpha – erosion of natural deposits.

Nitrate – runoff from fertilizer use; leaching from septic tanks, sewage; erosion of natural deposits.

Total Haloacetic Acids and Total Trihalomethanes – by-product of drinking water disinfection.

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. North Hero Water System 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 drinking 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 the Safe Drinking Water Hotline (1-802-426-4791) or at <http://www.epa.gov/safewater/lead>.

Sources of Drinking Water and Contaminants

The sources of drinking water (both tap water and bottled water) include surface water (streams, lakes) and ground water (wells, springs). It also picks up substances resulting from human activity and from animals. Some “contaminants” may be harmful. Others, such as iron and sulfur, are not harmful. Public water systems treat water to remove contaminants if they are present.

In order to ensure that your water is safe to drink, we test it regularly according to regulations established by the U.S. Environmental Protection Agency and by the State of Vermont. These regulations limit the amount of various contaminants:

- *Microbial organisms* (viruses and bacteria) may come from sewage treatment facilities, septic systems, agricultural livestock operations, and wildlife.
- *Inorganic chemicals* (salts and metals) can be naturally occurring or result from urban storm water runoff, industrial or domestic wastewater discharges, or farming.
- *Synthetic Organic chemicals* (pesticides and herbicides) may come from agriculture, urban storm water runoff, residential uses, and careless disposal of household chemicals.
- *Volatile Organic chemicals* (gasoline and solvents) may come from gas stations, urban storm water runoff, septic systems, industrial processes, and careless disposal of household chemicals.
- *Naturally occurring radioactivity*

Lead and Copper Action Levels

<u>Contaminant</u> <u>Detected</u>	<u>Action Level</u>	<u>90th Percentile</u>	<u>Sampling Date</u>	<u># of Sites that Exceeded</u> <u>the Action Level</u>	<u>Total # of Sites</u> <u>Sampled</u>
Copper	1.3 ppm	0.17	2015	0	10
Lead	15 ppb	0	2015	0	10



**North Hero
2017/2018
Water & Property Tax
Payment Options**

AutoPay
(ACH direct debit program)**

or

**MasterCard/Visa/Discover/eCheck
(credit/debit - Internet only)**

(Please go to: <http://www.northherovt.com/faces/payment.xhtml> further details)

Check or Cash

****AutoPay****

**Already signed up? Thank you!
Your authorization remains in effect indefinitely.
Want to sign up?? Please see attached!!**



NORTH HERO WATER BOARD

SUMMER WATER CONSERVATION PROGRAM

A **voluntary** Summer Conservation program begins July 1st through September 5th. During the timeframe, Friday at 1:00 PM through Monday at 8:00 AM and holidays, we ask that you reduce the following use of water:

- **LAWN OR GARDEN WATERING**
- **CAR OR BOAT WASHING**
- **OTHER OUTSIDE WATERING**

During all other times, we ask that you consider doing outside watering between 8:00 PM and 8:00 AM.

If we experience extended hot, dry periods with poor lake water quality or a large leak, we will post the following: “**CONSERVE WATER**”. These signs will be displayed at prominent places in the community. This will indicate that all non-essential use of water should stop until the signs are removed.

THEFT OF WATER SERVICES

It has come to our attention that some property owners may be receiving water without proper documentation or inspections. Therefore, they may not be charged accordingly.

If you are getting water in your home, small business, guest cottage, garage, etc. and are not receiving a bill for this use, please notify the North Hero Water Department.

Sometimes plumbers or contractors turn on water without knowing the Town policies and completing the proper paperwork. If this is done accidentally, we would be glad to rectify this with no repercussions. If this is done intentionally, it may qualify as “Theft of Services” and appropriate consequences could follow.

VT-ALERT NOTIFICATION SERVICE

The North Hero Water Board has enrolled with VT-ALERT, a Vermont state system for emergency notifications, which can be used to notify you in the event of **water safety issues** in the community. If you haven't previously enrolled please see the ‘**yellow**’ insert for further details.

Thank you for your help and continued support of our water system.

North Hero Water Board

Larry Dupont, Chair

Bryan McCarthy

Chad Wimble

Nick Kinney

Rob Cunningham