About Your Drinking Water

South Freeport Water District (SFWD) is pleased to provide you with its 2018 Consumer Confidence Report for the South Freeport water system (public water supply ID# ME0091480), which contains important information about your drinking water. The report summarizes the quality of water SFWD provided in 2018 including details about water sources, what the water at your tap contains, and how it compares to standards set by regulatory agencies.

Although this report lists only those regulated substances that were detected in your water, we test for more than what is reported. This report is only a summary of our activities during 2018. If you have any questions about the information in this report, please call 207.865.1474.

Sources of Supply

SFWD uses a groundwater supply. Sodium silicate, a corrosion inhibitor, is used to combat corrosion in the distribution system. Fluoride is also added to promote dental health. Two interconnections with Maine Water Company exist to provide emergency assistance in the event of major problems. Certified operators ensure the quality of the water and that all primary and secondary drinking water regulations are met.

Sources of drinking water include rivers, lakes, ponds, and wells. As water flows either on the surface or through the ground, it dissolves naturally occurring minerals and radioactive material and can also accumulate substances resulting from human and animal activity. The Maine Drinking Water Program (DWP) has evaluated all public water supplies as part of the Source Water Protection Program. The assessments included geology, hydrology, land uses, water testing information, and the extent of land ownership or protection by local ordinance to see how likely our drinking water source is to being contaminated by human activities in the future. The source overall has a low to moderate risk of significant contamination. Assessment results are available at town offices, public water suppliers, and from the DWP (207.287.2070).

In 2017, SFWD was granted a three year “Synthetic Organics Waiver” from monitoring/reporting requirements for the following industrial chemicals: Toxaphene/Chlordane/PCB, herbicides, Carbamate pesticides, and Semivolatile organics. This waiver was granted due to the absence of these potential sources of contamination within a half mile radius of the water source.

Contaminants that may be present in source water include:

- (A) Microbial contaminants, such as viruses and bacteria, which may come from sewage treatment plants, septic systems, agricultural livestock operations, and wildlife.
- (B) Inorganic contaminants, such as salts and metals, which can be naturally occurring or result from urban storm runoff, industrial or domestic wastewater discharges, oil and gas production, mining, or farming.
- (C) Pesticides and herbicides, which may come from a variety of sources such as agriculture, stormwater runoff, and residential uses.
- (D) Organic chemical contaminants, including synthetic and volatile organics, are byproducts of industrial processes and petroleum production, and can also come from gas stations, urban stormwater runoff, and septic systems.
- (E) 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, EPA prescribes regulations that limit the amount of certain contaminants in water provided by public water systems. FDA regulations establish limits for contaminants in bottled water, which must provide the same protection for public health.

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 Environmental Protection Agency’s (EPA) Safe Drinking Water Hotline (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 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 (800.426.4791).

ME0091480

South Freeport Water District  Water Source: One well serving the village of South Freeport.

The following table lists the level of contaminants that were detected for the year 2018 in your water system. The Safe Drinking Water Act allows us to monitor for some contaminants less than once per year because the concentrations of these contaminants do not change frequently. Some of our data, though representative, are more than one year old.

Microbiological Contaminants: During 2018, none of the 8 distribution system samples tested positive for coliform bacteria.

Violations/Notifications:

Notification: Fluoride interruption of service – Fluoride addition has been off line since June 2018. Upgrades to the South Freeport Water system will begin spring 2019 which includes improvements to the fluoride feed system.

Violation: State Exceedance Copper Action Levels: In 2018, samples taken from the distribution system indicated that copper levels exceeded the Action Level of 1.3 mg/L in over 10% of the samples collected. Routine sampling detected Copper in excess of the maximum level allowed. Twelve (12) out of Forty Four (44) sites sampled, exceeded the action level for copper. Drinking water regulations require that samples are taken from homes with a high risk potential for Lead/Copper in the plumbing. Public education material was distributed to all residents, shortly thereafter. A
corrosion control plan was submitted to the State Drinking Water Program. We propose to install pH control to reduce the corrosivity of the water, thereby reducing the copper levels in household plumbing. Lead/Copper sampling will resume in 2019. Results of subsequent future Lead/Copper testing will be made available to all residents.

Lead/Copper sampling will resume in 2019. Results of subsequent future Lead/Copper testing will be made available to all residents. Copper Health Effects: Copper is an essential nutrient, but some people who drink water containing copper in excess of the action level over a relatively short time could experience gastrointestinal distress, or suffer liver or kidney damage. People with Wilson’s Disease should consult their doctor.

Violation: State Reporting Copper Summary—In the first half of 2018 testing period, our water system failed to report copper results in the required format. We are required to notify South Freeport Water District customers of the Copper Exceedance during each 6 month testing period. In 2018, we provided this information to our customers in the time required but we failed to notify the State with a checklist for performing the copper public notice within 10 days of completion for the sampling period January 1, 2018 through June 30, 2018. Customers were notified on July 24, 2018 which is within the required 60 days.

Public Notification for the second half of the 2018 testing period was completed on February 7, 2018 to all South Freeport Water District customers.

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Compounds</th>
<th>Test Date</th>
<th>Violation Y / N</th>
<th>Detection Value</th>
<th>Range of Detection</th>
<th>Federal/State Standard MCL/MRDL</th>
<th>MCLG/MRDLG</th>
<th>Major Sources in Drinking Water</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Inorganics</td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Fluoride, ppm</td>
<td>2018</td>
<td>N</td>
<td>0.65</td>
<td>0.00-0.65</td>
<td>4</td>
<td>4</td>
<td>Water additive which promotes strong teeth</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Nitrate, ppm</td>
<td>2018</td>
<td>N</td>
<td>0.63</td>
<td>NA</td>
<td>10</td>
<td>10</td>
<td>Runoff from fertilizer use</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Barium, ppm</td>
<td>2016</td>
<td>N</td>
<td>0.0056</td>
<td>NA</td>
<td>2</td>
<td>2</td>
<td>Erosion of natural deposits</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Radionuclides</td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Combined Radium (226 &amp;228)</td>
<td>2018</td>
<td>N</td>
<td>0.51</td>
<td>NA</td>
<td>5</td>
<td>0</td>
<td>Erosion of natural deposits</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Radium (226), pCi/L</td>
<td>2018</td>
<td>N</td>
<td>0.16</td>
<td>NA</td>
<td>5</td>
<td>0</td>
<td>Erosion of natural deposits</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Radium (228), pCi/L</td>
<td>2018</td>
<td>N</td>
<td>0.35</td>
<td>NA</td>
<td>5</td>
<td>0</td>
<td>Erosion of natural deposits</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

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. SFWD 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 the Safe Drinking Water Hotline or at http://www.epa.gov/safewater/lead.

Notes:

Action Level (AL): The concentration of a contaminant which, if exceeded, triggers treatment or other requirements.

Fluoride: Fluoride may help prevent tooth decay if administered properly to children, but can be harmful in excess. US Dept of Health and Human Services recommends a level of 0.7 ppm.

Maximum Contaminant Level (MCL): The highest level of a contaminant that is allowed in drinking water. MCLs are set as close to the MCLGs as feasible using the best available treatment technology. Some levels are based on a running annual average.

Maximum Contaminant Level Goal (MCLG): The level of a contaminant in drinking water below which there is no known or expected risk to health. MCLGs allow for a margin of safety.

Maximum Residual Disinfectant Level (MRDL): The highest level of a disinfectant allowed in drinking water. There is convincing evidence that addition of a disinfectant is necessary for control of microbial contaminants.

Maximum Residual Disinfectant Level Goal (MRDLG): The level of a drinking water disinfectant below which there is no known or expected risk to health. MRDLGs do not reflect the benefits of the use of disinfectants to control microbial contaminants.

NA: Not applicable.

NTU: Nephelometric turbidity unit (cloudiness of water)

Turbidity: Monitored as a measure of treatment efficiency for removal of particles

pCi/L, picocuries/Liter: A unit of concentration for radioactive contaminants.

ppb: A unit of concentration equal to one part per billion.

ppm: A unit of concentration equal to one part per million.

PWSID: Public water supply identification number.

Running Annual Average (RAA): The average of all monthly or quarterly samples for the last year at all sample locations. The average detection value is the highest running quarterly average value obtained for all four quarters.
Our water systems are designed and operated to deliver water to our customers’ plumbing systems that complies with state and federal drinking water standards. Customers’ plumbing, including treatment devices, might remove, introduce or increase contaminants in tap water. All customers, and in particular operators of facilities like hotels and institutions serving susceptible populations (like hospitals and nursing homes), should properly operate and maintain the plumbing systems in these facilities. You can obtain additional information from the EPA’s Safe Drinking Water Hotline at 800.426.4791.

South Freeport Water District
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