

# 2025 Consumer Confidence Report

## Bristol Water Department

PWS ID #0301010

### Introduction

Like any responsible public water system, our mission is to deliver the best-quality drinking water and reliable service at the lowest, appropriate cost.

Aging infrastructure presents challenges to drinking water safety, and continuous improvement is needed to maintain the quality of life we desire for today and for the future.

When considering the high value we place on water, it is truly a bargain to have a water service that protects public health, fights fires, supports businesses and the economy, and provides us with the high-quality of life we enjoy.

### Please submit Water & Sewer payments using the following methods:

- Mail: Bristol Water & Sewer, 180 Ayers Island Rd. Bristol, NH 03222
- 24 hr. drop box located at 5 School Street outside of the tax collector office or drop off a payment and obtain a receipt inside the tax collector's office
- Pay at the water & sewer office
- Make a payment over the phone
- On-line bill pay located on the Town's website: <https://www.bristolnh.gov/home/pages/online-payments>

### What is a Consumer Confidence Report?

The Consumer Confidence Report (CCR) details the quality of your drinking water, where it comes from, and where you can get more information. This annual report documents all detected primary and secondary drinking water parameters and compares them to their respective standards known as Maximum Contaminant Levels (MCLs).

**The 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, and can pick up substances resulting from the presence of animals or from human activity.

**Contaminants that may be present** in source water include:

- **Contaminant**, any physical, chemical, biological, or radiological substance or matter in water.
- **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 storm water runoff, industrial or domestic wastewater discharges, oil and gas production, mining or farming.
- **Pesticides**, generally, any substance or mixture of substances intended for preventing, destroying, repelling, or mitigating any pest.
- **Herbicides**, any chemical(s) used to control undesirable vegetation.
- **Organic chemical contaminants**, including per- and polyfluoroalkyl substances, 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,

EPA prescribe regulations which limit the amount of certain contaminants in water provided by public water systems. The US Food and Drug Administration (FDA) regulations establish limits for contaminants in bottled water, which must provide the same protection for public health.

### What is the source of my drinking water?

We have three wells in the Town of Bristol; there are two, Fowler Wells I & II, located on West Shore Road. Our third well is known as the Storm Center Well, this is located on Danforth Brook Road.

### Why are contaminants in my water?

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 mean that water poses a health risk. More information about contaminants and potential health effects can be obtained by contacting the Environmental Protection Agency by calling the Safe Drinking Water Hotline ([1-800-426-4791](tel:1-800-426-4791)) or visit the website [epa.gov/safewater](http://epa.gov/safewater).

### Do I need to take special precautions?

Some people may be more vulnerable to contaminants in drinking water than the general population. Immunocompromised 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 at [1-800-426-4791](tel:1-800-426-4791).

### Source Water Assessment Summary

DES prepared drinking water source assessment reports for all public water systems between 2000 and 2003 in an effort to assess the vulnerability of each of the state's public water supply sources. Included in the report is a map of each source water protection area, a list of potential and known contamination sources, and a summary of available protection options. The results of the assessment, prepared on April 18, 2000 are noted below.

- The Fowler River Wells I & II, 2 susceptibility factors were rated high, 0 were rated medium, and 10 were rated low.
- For the Storm Center Well, 1 susceptibility factor was rated high, 1 was rated medium, and 10 were rated low.

Note: This information is over ten years old and includes information that was current at the time the report was completed. Therefore, some of the ratings might be different if updated to reflect current information. At the present time, DES has no plans to update this data.

The complete Assessment Report is available for review at the Bristol Water Department, 180 Ayers Island Rd. For more information, call **Jeff Chartier at 603-744-8411** or visit the DES Drinking Water Source Assessment website at <http://des.nh.gov/organization/divisions/water/dwgb/dwspp/dwsap.htm>.

### How can I get involved?

For more information about your drinking water, please call the Town of Bristol at 603-744-3354 or Jeffrey Chartier, Superintendent, at 603-744-8411. Although we do not have specific dates for public participation events or meetings, feel free to contact us with any questions you may have or call for a facility tour.

**Violations and Other information:** Please refer to the Water Quality Results table.

### Definitions:

**Ambient Groundwater Quality Standard** or **AGQS:** The maximum concentration levels for contaminants in groundwater that are established under RSA 485-C, the Groundwater Protection Act.

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

**Level I Assessment:** A study of the water system to identify potential problems and determine, if possible, why total coliform bacteria have been found in our water system.

**Maximum Contaminant Level** or **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.

**Maximum Contaminant Level Goal** or **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** or **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** or **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.

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

***THE FOLLOWING APPLIES if these contaminants are present - see table for detected levels.***

### Drinking Water Contaminants:

**Lead** can cause serious health effects in people of all ages, especially pregnant people, infants (both formula-fed and breastfed), and young children. Lead in drinking water is primarily from materials and parts used in service lines and in home plumbing. The Bristol Water & Sewer Department is responsible for providing high quality drinking water and removing lead pipes but cannot control the variety of materials used in the plumbing in your home. Because lead levels may vary over time, lead exposure is possible even when your tap sampling results do not detect lead at one point in time. You can help protect yourself and your family by identifying and removing lead materials within your home plumbing and taking steps to reduce your family's risk. Using a filter, certified by an American National Standards Institute accredited certifier to reduce lead, is effective in reducing lead exposures. Follow the instructions provided with the filter to ensure the filter is used properly. Use only cold

water for drinking, cooking, and making baby formula. Boiling water does not re-move lead from water. Before using tap water for drinking, cooking, or making baby formulas, flush your pipes for several minutes. You can do this by running your tap, taking a shower, doing laundry or a load of dishes. If you have a lead service line or galvanized requiring replacement service line, you may need to flush your pipes for a longer period. If you are concerned about lead in your water and wish to have your water tested, contact The Bristol Water & Sewer Dept at 603-744-8411. Information on lead in drinking water, testing methods, and steps you can take to minimize exposure is available at

<https://www.epa.gov/safewater/lead>

**Health Effects of Lead Exposure** to lead in drinking water can cause serious health effects in all age groups. Infants and children can have decreases in IQ and attention span. Lead exposure can lead to new learning and behavior problems or exacerbate existing learning and behavior problems. The children of women who are exposed to lead before or during pregnancy can have increased risk of these adverse health effects. Adults can have increased risks of heart disease, high blood pressure, kidney or nervous system problems

### Abbreviations

BDL: Below Detection Limit

mg/L: milligrams per Liter

NA: Not Applicable

ND: Not Detectable at testing limits

NTU: Nephelometric Turbidity Unit

pCi/L: picoCurie per Liter

ppb: parts per billion

ppm: parts per million

RAA: Running Annual Average

TTHM: Total Trihalomethanes

UCMR: Unregulated Contaminant Monitoring Rule

ug/L: micrograms per Liter