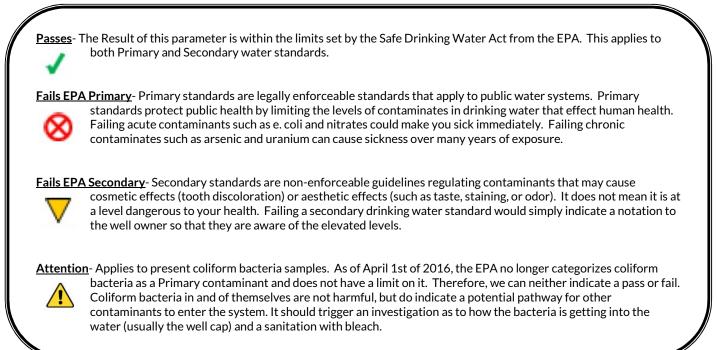


NASHOBA ANALYTICAL A DIVISION OF GRANITE STATE ANALYTICAL SERVICES, LLC

31A Willow Road Ayer, Massachusetts 01432 Phone: 978-391-4428 | website: www.nashobaanalytical.com

Contaminant Fact Sheet



pH – Recommended range is 6.5 to 8.5. A pH of 7.0 is considered neutral. Below 7.0 the water is considered acidic and above 7.0 the water is considered basic. At a pH of less than 6.5, corrosive effects may transpire and the leaching of toxic metals such as copper and lead may occur. A pH greater than 8.5 may cause mineral incrustations and bitter tasting water.

HARDNESS – Hardness is the result of segregation of minerals such as calcium, magnesium and silica. Excessive hardness can cause scale formation in heating systems and combined with soap may leave insoluble particles. (Soft 0-75 mg/L) (Somewhat Hard Water 76-150 mg/L) (Hard Water 151-300 mg/L) (Very Hard Water 300+ mg/L)

CHLORIDE – Recommended range is less than 250 mg/L. Chloride can cause corrosion above 250 mg/l and above 400 mg/L chloride causes an objectionable salty taste.

NITRATE-N – The maximum contaminant level is 10 mg/L. Major sources of nitrate are fertilizer runoff, soil, organic matter, leaching from landfills, and municipal and industrial wastewaters. Excessive concentrations can indicate septic tank pollution. Under certain conditions nitrates can be chemically reduced in the body to form Nitrite-N.

NITRITE-N – The maximum contaminant level is 1.0 mg/L. Water with high nitrite levels should not be used for infants under 6 months of age due to the potential risk of methemoglobinemia (blue baby syndrome). Water with high nitrite concentrations usually are heavily polluted and bacteriological unacceptable.



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SODIUM – The recommended maximum level is 250 mg/L. For people on low sodium diets the recommended maximum level is 20 mg/L.

IRON – The recommended level is less than 0.3 mg/L. Iron can cause discoloration in laundered goods and can cause a bitter or astringent taste in the water.

MANGANESE –.The recommended level is less than 0.05 mg/L. Manganese can cause discoloration in laundered goods and impair taste in drinking water and beverages. At high concentrations it may cause brown spots in laundry items and leave unaesthetic black precipitates

COLIFORM – The recommended level is 0 per 100 ml or absence / 100 ml sample. Coliform bacteria are used as indicator organisms to ascertain quality of potable water. The presence of coliform bacteria indicates that disease-causing bacteria may be present.

COPPER – The recommended maximum level is 1.3 mg/L. Copper can cause adverse taste effects or stain porcelain. Extremely high concentrations of copper may cause gastrointestinal tract irritation.

ARSENIC – The recommended maximum level is less than 0.010 mg/L. Arsenic in water occurs naturally as well as from industrial activities. Excessive ingestion of arsenic may cause severe poisoning.

LEAD – The recommended maximum level is less than 0.015 mg/L. Lead can occur due to corrosion of lead containing household plumbing and by industrial pollution. Major toxic effects include anemia, neurological dysfunction/damage and renal impairment.

FLUORIDE – The recommended maximum primary level is 4.0 mg/L. Possibility of skeletal fluorosis may occur when the fluoride level exceeds the recommended limits. Fluoride will fail secondary standards at 2.0 mg/L, at this level it can cause teeth staining. A fluoride concentration of approximately 1.0 mg/L in drinking water effectively reduces dental cavities without harmful effects on health. Fluoride may occur naturally in water.

URANIUM- The maximum contaminant level is $30 \mu g/L$. Uranium is a naturally occurring radioactive element which is found in almost all forms of soil, rocks and water sources. Uranium is a tasteless, colorless, and odorless contaminant. Drinking water with high uranium amounts exceeding $30 \mu g/L$ can lead to increased cancer risk, liver damage, or both. If you have high uranium result we recommend that you test your water for radon and arsenic.

RADON- Radon is a radioactive gas that exists naturally in bedrock. This gas can enter you home though your foundation and your well water. Radon in the air has a limit of 4.0 pCi/L. Radon dissolved in water has a Massachusetts limit of 10,000 pCi/L. Exposure to radon when dissolved in water can come from drinking the water and more directly when showering which releases the gas. Since gases are volatile and susceptible to environmental factors, it is recommended to test for radon several times throughout the year and average that number for a better indication of your radon exposure.