



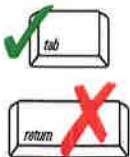
Massachusetts Department of Environmental Protection  
Bureau of Resource Protection – Drinking Water Program

# Consumer Confidence Report Certification

For calendar year 2020

## A. PWS Information

**Important:** When filling out forms on the computer, use only the tab key to move your cursor - do not use the return key.



Ashmere Water Service

1132008

PWS Name

PWS ID

Hinsdale, MA

66

City /Town

Max population

The community water system named above hereby certifies that its Consumer Confidence Report (CCR) was distributed to customers, appropriate agencies, and notices of availability have been given in compliance with 310 CMR 22.16A. Furthermore, the system certifies that the information contained in the report is correct and consistent with the compliance monitoring data previously submitted to MassDEP.

Gertrude Drosehn

Name

Owner

Title

413-655-8308

Phone

gdrosehn@gmail.com

E-Mail

4/29/2021

Date

*I certify under penalty of law that I am the person authorized to fill out this form and the information contained herein is true, accurate, and complete to the best of my knowledge and belief.*

Signature of Owner/Responsible Party or Certified Operator

## B. Public Notice Certification

VSS PWS note: if you deliver your CCR by newspaper or postings, that method will not meet PN requirements. You must directly deliver your PN by hand, land, or electronic.

Is this system using this CCR to provide **Tier 3** Public Notice to their customers? ☐ Yes ☒ No

The PN is for a: Violation ☐ UCMR ☐ Other ☐

List other

Did you have a consultation with MassDEP? ☐ Yes ☐ No

Consultation date

The PN can be found on page \_\_\_\_ of the CCR.

Date of PN Occurrence NON Number

☐ I am reporting multiple Tier 3 PNs. I have listed the additional PN information at the end of this form.

The public water system indicated above hereby affirms that a Tier 3 public notice has been provided within this CCR to consumers in accordance with 310 CMR 22.16(4) including: delivery, content, format requirements, notification deadlines, and that the public water system will meet future requirements for notifying new billing units and new customers of the violation.

If you did not sell water to another community PWS skip Section C.

## C. For Systems Selling Water to Other Community Water Systems

☐ My system delivered the applicable information required at 310 CMR 22.16A(3), to the buying system(s) no later than April 1st of this year, or by the mutually agreed upon date specifically included in a written contract between the parties.

## D. Annual Cross Connection Education

Is this CCR being used for your system's annual cross-connection education? ☒ Yes ☐ No  
If no, what methods did you use to meet your annual CCCP requirements (citation)?

Continued on next page

ALL distribution (posting, land mail, or e-delivery, publication, and good faith efforts) must be completed on or before July 1<sup>st</sup>.

Instructions for customers to request a hard copy must also be included in e-delivery.

When a URL is used it must be a *direct* link to the document; no other clicks allowed.

## E. Consumer Delivery Methods – Based on Population Served

### For systems serving fewer than 500 persons:

(Choose #1 or #2)

Date of delivery/publication: 04/13/21  
mm/dd/year

- ☐ 1. My system used one or more of the following methods to notify customers that their CCR would not be mailed directly to them but is available to them upon request. (the notice is attached)

☐ Land-mail    ☐ Door-to-door    ☐ Newspaper    ☐ eMail    ☐ Posted notices

Locations of posted notices

- ☒ 2. My system provided a CCR to each customer by the following method(s):

☐ Published the full CCR in a local newspaper (the published report from newspaper is attached).

☒ Land-mailed or hand-delivered the CCR to consumers.

☐ e-Mailed with the CCR either embedded in the email or attached as a PDF. (e-mail is attached)

☐ Posted the CCR on the web and sent the direct URL to customers by way of land-mail or email (notice/postcard is attached).

List URL

### For systems serving 500 to 9,999 persons:

(Choose either #1 or #2)

Date of delivery/publication: mm/dd/yyyy

- ☐ 1. My system provided a copy of the CCR to each customer by:

☐ Land-mail    ☐ e-Mail with PDF of CCR    ☐ e-Mail with embedded CCR

☐ Sent a notice (by land or e-mail) containing a *direct* URL to customers (copy is attached)

List the URL if used.

- ☐ 2. My system provided the CCR to each customer by publishing the full report in a newspaper (a copy of the published CCR is attached) and provided notice to consumers of this action by either:

☐ Published a notice of this in a local newspaper

☐ Land mailed a notice of this to consumers.

☐ e-Mailed a notice of this to consumers.

### For systems serving 10,000 or more persons:

Date of delivery/publication: mm/dd/yyyy

- ☐ My system provided a copy of the CCR to each customer by:

☐ Land mail    ☐ e-Mail with PDF    ☐ e-Mail with embedded CCR

☐ Sent a notice (by land or e-mail) containing a *direct* URL to customers

List the URL if used.

- ☐ For systems serving greater than 100,000 population: In addition to one of the delivery methods checked above, we have posted the CCR on a publicly accessible Internet site as required.

www.

List the URL used

## F. Good Faith Delivery Methods (minimum of 3 is required for any sized systems)

Good Faith efforts are in addition to your primary method of delivery.

To reach people who drink our water but are not billed customers the following were conducted in addition to the required delivery:

- ☒ Posted the CCR on a publicly accessible Internet site at the following address. (Only for systems under 100,000 population who did not use this method as their primary method)  
www.HousatonicBasin.com  
List the URL used.
- ☐ Mailed the CCR to all postal patrons within the service area (list of zip codes used is attached).
- ☐ Mailed a postcard listing the URL where the CCR can be found, to all postal patrons within the service area (list of zip codes used is attached).  
www.  
List the URL used.
- ☐ Advertised availability of the CCR in the following news media (the announcement is attach):  
☐ Radio    ☐ Newspaper    ☐ Television / cable    ☐ Social media    ☐ Digital signboard
- ☐ Published the CCR in local newspaper (attach the published CCR).
- ☐ Posted the CCR in public places i.e., post office, town hall, library (list of locations is attached).
- ☐ Delivered multiple CCR copies to single-bill addresses serving several persons i.e., apartments, businesses, large private employers (list of locations is attached).
- ☒ Delivered multiple CCR copies to community organizations ( list of organizations is attached.)
- ☒ Posted the CCR or a notice of availability at locations within the apartment/condo complex (list of the locations is attached).
- ☐ Deliver CCR to new residents when they move in.
- ☒ Delivered copies of CCR to local Board of Health, posted notice at pump house  
Other \_\_\_\_\_

## G. Mandatory Agency Delivery Requirements

All systems must submit CCR to these three agencies

- ☒ 1. **Local Board of Health** 4/29/2021  
Date completed  
Deliver 1 copy of CCR and the Certification Form (Contact your board of health as to whether they would prefer hardcopy or e-delivery of CCR.)
- ☒ 2. **MA Dept. of Public Health** 4/29/2021  
Date completed  
Deliver 1-copy of CCR and the Certification Form  
☒ PDF emailed to: dph.ccr@massmail.state.ma.us  
or  
☐ Hardcopy to: 250 Washington St.; Boston, MA 02108
- ☒ 3. **MassDEP Boston Office\*** 4/29/2021  
Date completed  
Deliver 1 copy of CCR, the Certification Form, and all needed attachments  
☒ PDF emailed to: Program.Director-DWP@state.ma.us.  
Label it [PWSID-PWS Name-year-CCR]  
or  
☐ Hardcopy to: MassDEP-CCR Program, 1 Winter St. -5th Fl.; Boston, MA 02108

Agencies and consumers must receive CCR on or before July 1.

For e-delivery, scan documents into 1 PDF file. Make sure Cert Form is first with CCR following it.

\*Because of COVID-19 restrictions, the preferred delivery method is email

--Do not send to MassDEP regional offices--  
Only Boston is accepting CCRs

APRIL 2021

# 2020 Consumer Confidence Report

## Ashmere Water Service

UNDER 310 CODE OF MASSACHUSETTS REGULATION, SECTION 22.16A, NOTICE OF AVAILABILITY TO OBTAIN THE 2020 CCR REPORT PERTAINING TO WATER QUALITY IS PUBLICLY POSTED.



**PLEASE CONTACT:**  
**Gertrude Drosehn**  
**(413)655-8308**  
**PO Box 843**  
**Hinsdale, MA 01235**

**IF YOU WOULD LIKE TO RECEIVE A COPY OF THE  
FULL REPORT OR DISCUSS ANY INFORMATION  
CONCERNING THIS WATER SYSTEM. COPIES ALSO  
AVAILABLE AT YOUR LOCAL BOARD OF HEALTH.**

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# 2020 Consumer Confidence Report

## Your Annual Drinking Water Quality Information



### Ashmere Water Service

P.O. Box 843, Hinsdale, MA 01235

Massachusetts Department of Environmental Protection Public Water Supply ID #1132008

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This report provides a snapshot of the drinking water quality that was achieved last year. Included are details about where your water comes from, what it contains and how its quality compares to state and federal standards. We are committed to providing you with information because informed customers are our best allies.

#### **PUBLIC WATER SYSTEM INFORMATION**

Our water system is routinely inspected by the Massachusetts Department of Environmental Protection (MassDEP). MA DEP inspects our system for its technical, financial, and managerial capacity to provide safe drinking water to you. To ensure that we provide the highest quality of water available, your water system is operated by Massachusetts certified operators who oversee the routine operations of our system. Your water is constantly monitored by us and MassDEP to determine the effectiveness of existing water treatment and to determine if any additional treatment is required.

#### **OPPORTUNITIES FOR PUBLIC PARTICIPATION**

While we do not have regularly scheduled meetings regarding our water system, we welcome any opportunity to discuss concerns or issues. Please contact us if you would like to publicly discuss your drinking water

#### **YOUR DRINKING WATER SOURCE**

##### ***Where Does My Drinking Water Come From?***

The drinking water for Ashmere Water Service comes from two deep wells. These groundwater sources are designated by MassDEP Source Name and ID Source Number as the Well #1 [1132008-01G] and Well #2 [1132008-02G]. These wells are located just to the west of the Shore Drive corner.

##### ***How are These Sources Protected?***

MassDEP has prepared a Source Water Assessment Program (SWAP) Report for the water supply sources serving this water system. The SWAP Report assesses the susceptibility of public water supplies. A susceptibility ranking of “moderate” was assigned to this system using the information collected during the assessment by MassDEP. The complete SWAP report is available online at <https://www.mass.gov/service-details/the-source-water-assessment-protection-swap-program>.

Ashmere Water Service makes every effort to provide you with safe and uncontaminated drinking water. The water quality achieved with our system is monitored by us and MassDEP to determine if any future treatment may be required. Our Licensed Contract Water Operator and maintenance staff routinely inspect the system. In addition, MassDEP inspects the system approximately every 3 years to evaluate compliance with current state and federal regulations. Our last Sanitary Survey inspection was conducted by MassDEP on September 19, 2018. We are currently working on improvements to our storage tank and wells, including bringing Well #1 above ground level.



*Residents can help protect sources by:*

- *practicing good septic system maintenance,*
- *supporting water supply protection initiatives at the next town meeting*
- *taking hazardous household chemicals to hazardous materials collection days,*
- *contacting the water department or Board of Health to volunteer for monitoring or education outreach to schools,*
- *Limiting pesticide and fertilizer use, etc.*

## **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, and 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, and farming.

**Pesticides and herbicides** - which may come from a variety of sources such as agriculture, 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.

## **COMPLIANCE WITH REGULATIONS**

### ***Does Drinking Water Meet Current Health Standards?***

We are committed to providing you with the best water quality available. We are proud to report that last year your drinking water met all applicable health standards regulated by the state and federal government.

## **IMPORTANT DEFINITIONS**

**Maximum Contaminant Level (MCL)** - The highest level of a contaminant that is allowed in drinking water. MCL's are set as close to the MCLG's as feasible using the best available treatment technology.

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

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

**90th Percentile** - Out of every 10 homes sampled, 9 were at or below this level.

**Treatment Technique (TT)** - A required process intended to reduce the level of a contaminant in drinking water.

**Secondary Maximum Contaminant Level (SMCL)** - These standards are developed to protect aesthetic qualities of drinking water and are not health based.

**Unregulated Contaminants** - Contaminants for which EPA has not established drinking water standards. The purpose is to assist EPA in determining their occurrence in drinking water and whether future regulation is warranted.

**Method of Detection Limit (MDL)** - The minimum concentration of a substance that can be measured and reported with 99% confidence the analyte concentration is greater than zero and determined from analysis of a sample in a given matrix containing the analyte

**Turbidity** - A measure of the cloudiness of water. Turbidity is monitored because it is a good indicator of the effectiveness of the filtration system.

**Massachusetts Office of Research and Standards Guidelines (ORSG)** - This is the concentration of a chemical in drinking water, at or below which, adverse health effects are unlikely to occur after chronic (lifetime) exposure.

## WATER QUALITY TESTING RESULTS

The water quality tables show the most recent water quality testing results where levels were detected and compares those levels to standards set by the Environmental Protection Agency and Massachusetts Environmental Protection Agency.

MassDEP has reduced the monitoring requirements for inorganic contaminants, synthetic organic contaminants, and perchlorate, because the source is not at risk of contamination. The last samples were collected on 8/4/2020 for Perchlorate and Inorganic Contaminants, and 4/27/2015 for Synthetic Organic Contaminants, and were all found to meet all applicable US EPA and MassDEP standards.

With the exception of those compounds noted on the tables below, all other compounds in the panels reported undetectable levels.

| Regulated Contaminant         | Date(s) Collected | Highest Result                     | Range Detected | MCL | MCLG | Violation (Yes/No) | Possible Source(s) of Contamination   |
|-------------------------------|-------------------|------------------------------------|----------------|-----|------|--------------------|---|
| <b>INORGANIC CONTAMINANTS</b> |                   |                                    |                |     |      |                    |   |
| <i>Nitrate (ppm)</i>          | 08/04/2020        | 0.198 (Well 1)<br>0.628 (Well 2)   | N/A            | 10  | 10   | No                 | Runoff from fertilizer use; leaching from septic tanks; sewage; erosion of natural deposits |
| <i>Barium (ppm)</i>           | 08/04/2020        | 0.0448 (Well 1)<br>0.0568 (Well 2) | N/A            | 2   | 2    | No                 | Discharge of drilling wastes; Discharge from metal refineries; Erosion of natural deposits  |
| <i>Chromium (ppb)</i>         | 08/04/2020        | 1.9 (Well 1)<br>1.3 (Well 2)       | N/A            | 100 | 100  | No                 | Discharge from steel and pulp mills; Erosion of natural deposits                            |

| Contaminant (units)   | Dates Collected | Result or Range Detected      | Average Detected | SMCL | ORSG      | Possible Source(s) of Contamination  |
|---|-----------------|-------------------------------|------------------|------|-----------|--|
| <b>UNREGULATED AND SECONDARY CONTAMINANTS</b>   |                 |                               |                  |      |           |  |
| <i>Iron (ppm)</i>   | 04/14/2020      | 1.72 (Well 1)                 | N/A              | 3    | NA        | Natural and industrial sources, as well as aging and corroding distribution systems and household pipes. |
| <i>Manganese (ppb)</i>  | 04/14/2020      | 49.6 (Well 1)                 | N/A              | 50   | HA of 300 | Natural Sources as well as discharges from industrial uses   |
| *EPA has established a lifetime Health Advisory (HA) of 0.3 mg/L (ppm) and an acute HA at 1.0 mg/L.<br>**Use of water containing manganese at concentrations above the secondary MCL may result in aesthetic issues including the staining of laundry and plumbing fixture, and water with an unpleasant bitter metallic taste, odor, and/or black-brown color. |                 |                               |                  |      |           |  |
| <i>Sodium (ppm)</i>   | 08/04/2020      | 9.9 (Well 1)<br>10.2 (Well 2) | N/A              | N/A  | 20        | Natural Sources, runoff from use of salt on roadways, byproduct of water treatment process.              |
| *Some people who drink water containing sodium at high concentrations for many years could experience an increase in blood pressure.  |                 |                               |                  |      |           |  |

| <b>LEAD AND COPPER – Third Quarter 2019</b> |              |                             |                         |  |                                   |                    |
|---|--------------|-----------------------------|-------------------------|--|-----------------------------------|--------------------|
| Contaminant (units)                         | Action Level | 90 <sup>th</sup> Percentile | Number of Sites Sampled | Number of sites above the Action Level | Possible Sources of Contamination | Violation (Yes/No) |
| <i>Lead (ppb)</i>                           | 15           | 0.5                         | 5                       | 0                                      | Corrosion of household plumbing   | No                 |
| <i>Copper (ppm)</i>                         | 1.3          | .073                        | 5                       | 0                                      | Corrosion of household plumbing   | No                 |

ppm = parts per million, or milligrams per liter (mg/l)

ppb = parts per billion, or micrograms per liter (ug/l)

ND = Not Detected

N/A = Not Applicable

## HEALTH NOTES

In order to ensure that tap water is safe to drink, the Department of Environmental Protection (MA 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 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 Environmental Protection Agency Safe Drinking Water Hotline (800-426-4791).

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 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 lowering the risk of infection by cryptosporidium and other microbial contaminants are available from the Safe Drinking Water Hotline (800)-426-4791.

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. Ashmere Water Service 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>.

Cross connections are potentially hazardous situations for public or private potable water supply and a source of potable water contamination. A cross connection is any potential or actual physical connection between potable water supply and any source through which it is possible to introduce any substance other than potable water into the water supply. Common Cross connection scenarios are a garden hose whose spout is submerged in a bucket of soapy water or connected to a spray bottle of weed killer.

Cross connections between a potable water line and a non-potable water system or equipment have long been a concern of the Department of Environmental Protection (MA DEP). MA DEP established regulations to protect the public health of water consumers from contaminants due to back-flow events. The installation of back-flow prevention devices, such as a low-cost hose bib vacuum breaker, for all inside and outside hose connections is recommended. You can purchase this at a hardware store or plumbing supply store. This is a great way for you to help protect the water in your home as well as the drinking water system in your community. For additional information on cross connections and on the status of your water system's cross connection program, please contact:

**Erick Bartlett / Water Operator**

**Phone: (413) 248-4622 / Fax: (877) 335-7282 / [Erick@HousatonicBasin.com](mailto:Erick@HousatonicBasin.com)**

**Gertrude Drosehn / Owner**

**P.O. Box 843 / Hinsdale, MA 01235**

**Phone: (413) 655-8308**

For more information regarding our system you may also visit the EPA website at:

<http://www.epa.gov/enviro/facts/sdwis/search.htm>

*This report is a compilation of best available data sources including: licensed operators' reports, water supply owner's coordination. MA DEP public records and EPA online records. The report represents an accurate account of your water quality to the best of our knowledge. Prepared by Housatonic Basin Sampling & Testing on behalf of your water supplier.*