

Consumer Confidence Report – 2021
Covering Calendar Year – 2020

This brochure is a snapshot of the quality of the water that we provided last year. Included are the details about where your water comes from, what it contains, and how it compares to Environmental Protection Agency (EPA) and state standards. We are committed to providing you with information because informed customers are our best allies. If you would like to learn more about our decision-making processes that affect drinking water quality, please call MICHAEL KIRKWOOD at 401-568-6222, extension 1266.

Our drinking water is supplied from another water system through a Consecutive Connection (CC). To find out more about our drinking water sources and additional chemical sampling results, please contact our office at the number provided below. Your water comes from:

Source Name	Source Water Type
WELL #5	Ground Water

Buyer Name	Seller Name
PASCOAG UTILITY DISTRICT, WATER DIVISION	HARRISVILLE FIRE DISTRICT

We have one drilled well, Well #5, which provides a portion of our water. It is 700 feet deep and is located in the area of Reservoir Road and George Eddy Drive. Well #5's pump station is equipped with a sodium hypochlorite injector which allows for improved chlorine levels in the Reservoir Road service area. We maintain the prescribed wellhead protection area and consider the well to be at low risk of contamination.

We purchase the remainder of our water from the Harrisville Fire District. The Harrisville Fire District's water source is seven wells, three near their office, three in Eccleston Field, and one across the Clear River from Eccleston Field. The RI Department of Health, in cooperation with other state and federal agencies, has assessed the threats to the Harrisville's water supply sources. The assessment considered the intensity of development, the presence of businesses and facilities that use, store or generate potential contaminants, how easily contaminants may move through the soils in the Source Water Protection Area (SWPA), and the sampling history of the water.

Our monitoring program continues to assure that the water delivered to your home is safe to drink. However, the assessment found that Harrisville's water source is at MODERATE RISK of contamination. This does NOT mean that the water cannot become contaminated. Protection efforts are necessary to assure continued water quality. The complete Source Water Assessment Report is available from the Harrisville Fire District or the Department of Health at (401) 222-6867.

Some people may be more vulnerable to contaminants in drinking water than the general population. Immuno-compromised persons such as those 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).

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 EPA's Safe Drinking Water Hotline (800-426-4791).

The sources of drinking water (both tap water and bottled water) included 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 sources water before we treat it include:
Microbial contaminants, such as viruses and bacteria, which may come from sewage treatment plants, septic systems, 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 and herbicides, which may come from a variety of sources such as storm water run-off, agriculture, and residential users.
Radioactive contaminants, which can be naturally occurring or the result of mining activity.
Organic contaminants, including synthetic and volatile organic chemicals, which are by-products of industrial processes and petroleum production, and also come from gas stations, urban storm water run-off, and septic systems.

In order to ensure that tap water is safe to drink, EPA prescribes regulation which limits the amount of certain contaminants in water provided by public water systems. Food and Drug Administration regulations establish limits for contaminants in bottled water, which must provide the same protection for public health.

Our water system is required to test a minimum of 3 samples per month in accordance with the Total Coliform Rule for microbiological contaminants. Coliform bacteria are usually harmless, but their presence in water can be an indication of disease-causing bacteria. When coliform bacteria are found, special follow-up tests are done to determine if harmful bacteria are present in the water supply. If this limit is exceeded, the water supplier must notify the public.

Water Quality Data

The following tables list all of the drinking water contaminants which were detected during the 2020 calendar year. The presence of these contaminants does not necessarily indicate the water poses a health risk. Unless noted, the data presented in this table is from the testing done January 1- December 31, 2020. The state requires us to monitor for certain contaminants less than once per year because the concentrations of these contaminants are not expected to vary significantly from year to year. Some of the data, though representative of the water quality, is more than one year old. **Our water system makes every effort to provide you with safe drinking water.**



Terms & Abbreviations

Maximum Contaminant Level Goal (MCLG): the "Goal" is the level of a contaminant in drinking water below which there is no known or expected risk to human health. MCLGs allow for a margin of safety.
Maximum Contaminant Level (MCL): the "Maximum Allowed" MCL is 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.
Secondary Maximum Contaminant Level (SMCL): recommended level for a contaminant that is not regulated and has no MCL.
Action Level (AL): the concentration of a contaminant that, if exceeded, triggers treatment or other requirements.
Treatment Technique (TT): a required process intended to reduce levels of a contaminant in drinking water.
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.

Non-Detects (ND): lab analysis indicates that the contaminant is not present.

Parts per Million (ppm) or milligrams per liter (mg/l)

Parts per Billion (ppb) or micrograms per liter (µg/l)

Picocuries per Liter (pCi/L): a measure of the radioactivity in water.

Millirems per Year (mrem/yr): measure of radiation absorbed by the body.

Monitoring Period Average (MPA): An average of sample results obtained during a defined time frame, common examples of monitoring periods are monthly, quarterly and yearly.

Nephelometric Turbidity Unit (NTU): a measure of the clarity of water. Turbidity in excess of 5 NTU is just noticeable to the average person. Turbidity is not regulated for groundwater systems.

Running Annual Average (RAA): an average of sample results obtained over the most current 12 months and used to determine compliance with MCLs.

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

Testing Results for: PASCOAG UTILITY DISTRICT, WATER DIVISION

Microbiological	Result	MCL	MCLG	Typical Source
COLIFORM (TCR)	In the month of December, 2 sample(s) returned as positive	Treatment Technique Trigger	0	Naturally present in the environment

Regulated Contaminants	Collection Date	Highest Value	Range (low/high)	Unit	MCL	MCLG	Typical Source
BARIUM	3/27/2019	0.002	0.002	ppm	2	2	Discharge of drilling wastes; Discharge from metal refineries; Erosion of natural deposits
FLUORIDE	3/27/2019	0.95	0.95	ppm	4	4	Natural deposits; Water additive which promotes strong teeth

Disinfection Byproducts	Sample Point	Monitoring Period	Highest LRAA	Range (low/high)	Unit	MCL	MCLG	Typical Source
No Detected Results were Found in the Calendar Year of 2020								

Lead and Copper	Monitoring Period	90 th Percentile	Range (low/high)	Unit	AL	Sites Over AL	Typical Source
COPPER, FREE	2020	0.16	0.006 - 0.46	ppm	1.3	0	Corrosion of household plumbing systems
LEAD	2020	17	0 - 28	ppb	15	2	Corrosion of household plumbing systems

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. Your 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 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>.

Maximum Disinfection Level	MPA	MPA Units	RAA	RAA Units
2020 - 2020	1.0400	MG/L	0.6	MG/L

Radiological Contaminants	Collection Date	Highest Value	Range (low/high)	Unit	MCL	MCLG	Typical Source
No Detected Results were Found in the Calendar Year of 2020							

During the 2020 calendar year, we had the below noted violation(s) of drinking water regulations.

Federal Compliance Period	Analyte	Comments
9/1/2020 - 9/30/2020	TOTAL HALOACETIC ACIDS (HAA5)	Failed to monitor/report as required for chlorine or disinfection by-products
12/11/2020 - 1/4/2021	REVISED TOTAL COLIFORM RULE (RTCR)	Failed to provide coliform sample results to the state or provide notification that a monitoring violation occurred

Additional Required Health Effects Language:

Infants and children are typically more vulnerable to lead in drinking water than the general population. It is possible that lead levels at your home may be higher than at other homes in the community as a result of materials used in your home's plumbing. If you are concerned about elevated lead levels in your home's water, you may wish to have your water tested and flush your tap for 30 seconds to 2 minutes before using tap water. Additional information is available from the Safe Drinking Water Hotline (800-426-4761).

Coliforms are bacteria that are naturally present in the environment and are used as an indicator that other, potentially-harmful, bacteria may be present. Coliforms were found in more samples than allowed and this was a warning of potential problems. There are no additional required health effects violation notices.

Pascoag Utility District (PUD) is taking the following corrective actions for improvement regarding the above items:

Lead Action Level – Typically lead enters the water supply by leaching from lead or brass pipes with lead plumbing components. New lead pipes and plumbing components containing lead are no longer allowed for this reason. However, many older homes may contain lead pipes. Your water is more likely to contain high lead levels if water pipes in or leading to your home are made of lead or contain lead solder. Due to lead service lines or lead plumbing in certain premises in the District, lead has been found above the Action Level in two homes during 2020. Subsequent to this finding, PUD conducted a water quality analysis and found that its treatment process is appropriate and working to minimize corrosion of our system. PUD has also cleaned and lined between 40 and 50% of our cast iron mains, which has significantly improved water quality. Since several PUD customers still have lead service lines to their individual residences, however, PUD is carrying out a program that began in 2020 and will be completed this year to replace all known remaining lead service lines.

Total Haloacetic Acids – PUD tested/monitored for these disinfection byproducts, but due to an internal miscommunication, did not obtain the samples during the required timeframe of September 1 through September 30. PUD staff has reinforced as the importance of samples being taking during the proper monitoring period, and has scheduled them appropriately for 2021.

Revised Total Coliform Rule – This violation was due to our staff and sampling laboratory mislabeling the required samples. PUD staff has reviewed the use of the proper sampling point labels both internally and with the laboratory performing the work.

Coliforms are bacteria that are naturally present in the environment and are used as an indicator that other, potentially harmful, waterborne pathogens may be present or that a potential pathway exists through which contamination may enter the drinking water distribution system. We found coliforms indicating the need to look for potential problems in water treatment or distribution. When this occurs, we are required to conduct assessment(s) to identify problems and to correct any problems that were found during these assessments.

During the past year, two Level 2 assessments were required to be completed for our water system. Two Level 2 assessments were completed. In addition, we were required to take zero corrective actions.

Some of our drinking water is supplied from another water system. The table below lists all of the drinking water contaminants, which were detected during the 2020 calendar year from the water systems that we purchase drinking water from.

Regulated Contaminants	Collection Date	Water System	Highest Value	Range (low/high)	Unit	MCL	MCLG	Typical Source
BARIUM	4/6/2020	HARRISVILLE FIRE DISTRICT	0.05	0.005 - 0.05	ppm	2	2	Discharge of drilling wastes; Discharge from metal refineries; Erosion of natural deposits
CHROMIUM	4/6/2020	HARRISVILLE FIRE DISTRICT	2	0 - 2	ppb	100	100	Discharge from steel and pulp mills
NITRATE	4/6/2020	HARRISVILLE FIRE DISTRICT	1.21	0.12 - 1.21	ppm	10	0	Runoff from fertilizer use; Leaching from septic tanks, sew age; Erosion of natural deposits
COMBINED RADIUM (-226 & -228)	2/19/2018	HARRISVILLE FIRE DISTRICT	2.4	2.4	pCi/l	5	0	Erosion of natural deposits
GROSS ALPHA, INCL. RADON & U	2/19/2018	HARRISVILLE FIRE DISTRICT	3	3	pCi/l	15	0	Erosion of natural deposits
PENTACHLOROPHENOL	9/21/2020	HARRISVILLE FIRE DISTRICT	0.24	0 - 0.24	ppb	1	0	Discharge from wood preserving factories
PERFLUOROCTANOIC ACID (PFOA)	5/17/2019	HARRISVILLE FIRE DISTRICT	4.85	0 - 4.85	NG/L	70		Perfluorinated aliphatic carboxylic acid; used for its emulsifier and surfactant properties in or as fluoropolymers, fire-fighting foams, cleaners, cosmetics, greases and lubricants, paints, polishes, adhesives and photographic films.
PERFLUOROHEPTANOIC ACID (PFHPA)	5/17/2019	HARRISVILLE FIRE DISTRICT	8.9	0 - 8.9				Manmade chemical; used in products to make them stain, grease, heat and water resistant

Please Note: Because of sampling schedules, results may be older than 1 year.

During the 2020 calendar year, the water systems that we purchase water from had the below noted violation(s) of drinking water regulations.

Water System	Type	Category	Analyte	Compliance Period
No Violations Occurred in the Calendar Year of 2020				

Additional Required Health Effects Notices:

Some PFAS compounds have been shown to cause development toxicity, immunological toxicity, and effects on cholesterol metabolism, particularly PFOA, PFOS, PFHxS, PFHpA, PFNA, and PFDA. The toxicity of other PFAS compounds is currently not well understood, although they remain in the blood for shorter periods of time. Rhode Island is in the process of developing regulations for PFAS in drinking water.

There are no additional required health effects violation notices.

TIER 3 PUBLIC NOTICE
IMPORTANT INFORMATION ABOUT YOUR DRINKING WATER

Reporting Requirements Not Met for Pascoag Utility District

PWS# RI1592020

The Pascoag Utility District water system violated two drinking water standards over the past year. Although this was not an emergency, as our customers, you have the right to know what happened and what we did to correct the situation.

We are required to monitor and report the monitoring results of your drinking water for specific contaminants on a regular basis. Results of regular monitoring are an indicator of whether or not our drinking water meets health standards. For our November 2020 routine Total Coliform (bacteria) sample results, we did not upload them in the correct format by the due date. In addition, between the dates of 9/1/2020 to 9/30/2020, we did not monitor for disinfection byproducts (TTHM and HAAS) on time and therefore cannot be sure of the quality of our drinking water during that time.

What should I do?

There is nothing you need to do at this time. You do not need to boil your water or take other actions.

The table below lists the contaminant(s) we did not properly test for during the last year, how often we are supposed to sample for the contaminant(s) and how many samples we are supposed to take, how many samples we took, when samples should have been taken, and the date on which follow-up samples were (or will be) taken.

Contaminant	Required Sampling Frequency	Number of Samples Taken	When Samples Should Have Been Taken	When Samples Will be Taken
Coliform	5 samples per month	5	Some samples were mislabeled in November, 2020	Each month 2021
TTHM & HAA5	2 samples per year (in the period September 1-30, 2020	0	Month of September 2020	September 2021

What is being done?

- Coliform – requirements of Revised Total Coliform Rule missed – this violation was due to our staff and laboratory mislabeling the required samples. PUD staff has reviewed the use of the proper sampling point labels both internally and with the laboratory performing the work, and reinforced the importance of proper labeling on all forms including those submitted to the Department of Health.
- Total Haloacetic Acids – PUD tested/monitored for these disinfection byproducts, but due to an internal miscommunication, did not obtain the samples during the required timeframe of September 1 through September 30. PUD staff has reinforced the importance of samples being taken during the proper monitoring period, and has scheduled them appropriately for 2021.

For more information, please contact Michael Kirkwood at 401-568-6222 ext. 1266.

Please share this information with all the other people who drink this water, especially those who may not have received this notice directly (for example, people in apartments, nursing homes, schools, and businesses). You can do this by posting this notice in a public place or distributing copies by hand or mail.

DATED: May 12, 2021