



Shelburne Falls Fire District

121 State Street

Shelburne Falls, MA 01370-1017

413.625.6392 fax 413.625.6718

February 11, 2022

To: Shelburne, Colrain and Buckland Board's of Health

Re: 2021 Consumer Confidence Reports for Shelburne Falls Fire District

Dear Shelburne, Colrain and Buckland Board's of Health,

Enclosed is a copy of the Shelburne Falls Fire District 2021 Consumer Confidence Report (CCR). The Environmental Protection Agency (EPA) and the Massachusetts Department of Environmental Protection (MassDEP) requires all public water systems to report any contaminants or violations of drinking water standards during the previous year to the local Board of Health.

The Shelburne Falls Fire District respectfully requests the Board of Health to please post the front and back (both sides) of the CCR on the Town's post board. Please also keep a copy for your records.

Best regards,

Rebekah McDermott

Rebekah McDermott – Superintendent
Shelburne Falls Fire District

Shelburne Falls Fire District

Consumer Confidence Report (CCR)

2021

Public Water Supply #1268000

121 STATE STREET SHELburne FALLS, MA 01370

Phone 413-625-6392 Fax 413-625-6718

The Water Commissioners meet the 1st and 3rd Tuesday of each month and more information about this report can be obtained by calling Water Superintendent Rebekah McDermott at 413-625-6392

Shelburne Falls Fire District Water Department (SFFD) 2021 Projects and upcoming 2022 Projects

- A Community Development Block Grant (CDBG) for the Town of Shelburne replaced the old 10" cast iron (CI) water main on Bridge Street with a new 10" ductile iron (DI) water main. All the buildings on Bridge Street from the Iron Bridge to Baker's Alley received a 6" sprinkle service and upsized water pipes to better service the businesses and residences. The SFFD, in coordination with the Town of Shelburne also installed a Bottled Water Filling Station in front of the Shelburne Town Hall during this project.
- A CDBG Grant also replaced the undersized Ashfield Street extension with a 12" DI water main that improves the flow of water to and from the Buckland Water Storage Tank on Walker Road. The SFFD, in coordination with the Town of Buckland, also installed the service for a future Bottled Water Filling Station during this project in front of McCusker's Market.
- Residential service leaks were detected and repaired on Call Rd., Frankton Rd., Wilde Rd., Elm St., South Maple St., Ashfield St., North St. and Kratt Ave.
- In the Spring of 2022, the SFFD in coordination with the Town of Buckland and the Mass Department of Transportation will install new water main and services on Conway St. from the State St. intersection to the RR tracks on Conway Road.
- In the fall of 2022, a CDBG project will replace the remainder of the old 10" CI water main on Bridge St. to Mechanic St. with new 10" DI water main.

Water Sources for the Shelburne Falls Fire District (SFFD)

The Shelburne Falls Fire District serves approximately 2000 people in portions of Buckland, Colrain and Shelburne. The groundwater supply comes from two wells (Well #1-03G and Well #2-02G) located between Call Road and the North River in Colrain. The treated water is pumped to storage tanks in Shelburne and Buckland. In order to help protect water quality, the SFFD owns about 14 acres around the wells. A Source Water Assessment Plan (SWAP) was completed in 2003 with help from the Mass Department of Environmental Protection (MassDEP) and is available for inspection.

The SFFD well water has a natural pH of 6.7. Many drinking water sources in New England are naturally corrosive (i.e. they have a pH of less than 7.0). So, the water supply has a tendency to corrode and dissolve the metal piping as it flows through. This not only damages the pipes but can also add harmful metals such as lead and copper to the water. For this reason it is beneficial to add chemicals that make the water neutral or slightly alkaline. The Shelburne Falls Fire District adds sodium hydroxide (NaOH) to its water. This adjusts the water to a non-corrosive pH. All chemicals used are approved by one of the following organizations: National Sanitation Foundation (Now known as NSF International), or UL, both accredited by the American National Standards Institute (ANSI). Chemicals also have to meet performance standards established by the American Water Works Association.

Drinking Water is Regulated for Contaminants to Keep People Safe

In order to ensure that tap water is safe to drink, EPA and MassDEP prescribe regulations that limit the amount of certain contaminants in water provided by public water systems. FDA and Massachusetts Department of Public Health regulations establish limits for contaminants in bottled water that 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 EPA's Safe Drinking Water Hotline (1-800-426-4791). 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.

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. (1-800-426-4791)

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 18 materials and components associated with service lines and home plumbing. The Shelburne Falls Fire District 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 <http://www.epa.gov/safewater/lead>

Contaminants that may be present in source water (wells and reservoirs) 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 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 agriculture, urban storm water runoff, and residential uses.
- Organic chemical contaminants, including synthetic and volatile organic chemicals, which are byproducts of industrial processes and petroleum production, and can also come from gas stations, urban storm runoff and septic systems.

The SFFD samples Wells #1 and #2 for coliform bacteria every month and many other contaminants on a quarterly schedule throughout the year. These include: Asbestos, Inorganics, Sodium, Iron, Lead, Copper, Manganese, Nitrate, Nitrite, Perchlorate, Per and Polyfluoroalkyl Substances (PFAS), Synthetic Organic Compounds (SOC's) and Volatile Organic Compounds (VOC's). If you don't see it in the table below it was NOT DETECTED (ND) in the well water we sampled. We are required to report any detection of a contaminant no matter how small.

Helpful Definitions

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.

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.

SMCL: Secondary Maximum Contaminant Level

ORSG—Massachusetts Office of Research and Standards Guidelines: 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. If exceeded, it serves as an indicator of the potential need for further action.

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

90th Percentile: Out of every 10 homes sampled, 9 were at or below this level. This number is compared to the action level to determine lead and copper compliance.

Ppm/ppb: parts per million/billion

Regulated Contaminant	MCL – Maximum Contaminant Level	MCLG—Maximum Contaminant Level Goal	Level Found	Range of Detections	Violations	Date	Possible Source of Contaminant
Barium (ppm)	2.0	2.0	0.014	0.014	No	11/2/2020	Erosion of natural deposits
Nitrate (ppm)	10	10	0.23	0.23	No	10/5/2021	Run off from fertilizer
Coliform (monthly)	1	0	1	Present / Absent	No	9/7/2021 positive 9/9/2021 absent	Naturally present in environment. The Buckland storage tank had a positive coliform sample. A resample was absent of Coliform. No Violation.
Secondary Contaminant	SMCL		Level Found	Range of Detections	Violations	Date	Possible Source of Contaminant
Iron (ppb)	300		158	25 — 158	No	4/9/2021	Natural and industrial sources pipes
Manganese (ppb)	50		3	<1 — 3	No	4/9/2021	Erosion of natural deposits
Unregulated Contaminant	ORSG Recommendation		Level Found	Range of Detections	Violations	Date	Possible Source Of Contaminant
Sodium (ppm)	20		16.6	16.5 — 16.6	No	11/2/2020	Natural Deposits & NaOH for pH Treatment (mineral salt)
Nickel (ppm)	0.1		0.002	0.002	No	11/2/2020	Discharge from domestic wastewater, landfills, and mining and smelting operations
Lead and Copper Results 2019	ACTION LEVEL	MCLG	# of sites above action level	Range of Detections	90th % - Average of samples.	Date	Possible Source of Contaminant
Lead (ppb)	15	0	0 sites of 10 None	0 — 4.6	2.6	Sept. 2019	Household plumbing corrosion
Copper (ppm)	1.3	1.3	0 sites of 10 None	0.0163 — 0.179	0.148	Sept. 2019	Household plumbing corrosion



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

Consumer Confidence Report Certification

For calendar year 2021

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.



Shelburne Falls Fire District

1268000

PWS Name

PWS ID

Shelburne, Buckland, Colrain

2200

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.

Rebekah McDermott

Name

Superintendent

Title

413-625-6392

Phone

rmcdermott@shelburnefallsfiredistri

E-Mail

2/11/2022

Date

Rebekah McDermott

Signature of Owner/Responsible Party or Certified Operator

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.

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 1st.

Instructions for customers to request a hard copy must also be included in

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

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E. Consumer Delivery Methods – Based on Population Served

For systems serving fewer than 500 persons:

(Choose #1 or #2)

Date of delivery/publication: mm/dd/yyyy

- ☐ 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).
☐ eDelivered the CCR

☐ 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: 5/30/2022

- ☒ 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

Continued on next page



Massachusetts Department of Environmental Protection
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Consumer Confidence Report Certification

For calendar year 2021

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.

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 attached):

☐ 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.

- ☒ Posted at Shelburne Falls Fire District Office Building, Buckland, Colrain and Shelburne Town Halls
Other

G. Mandatory Agency Delivery Requirements

All systems must submit CCR to these three agencies

- ☒ 1. Local Board of Health

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.)

2/11/2022

Date completed

- ☒ 2. MA Dept. of Public Health

Deliver 1-copy of CCR and the Certification Form

☒ PDF emailed to: dph.ccr@mass.gov

or

☐ Hardcopy to: 250 Washington St., Boston, MA 02108

2/11/2022

Date completed

- ☒ 3. MassDEP Boston Office

Deliver 1 copy of CCR, the Certification Form, and all needed attachments

☒ PDF emailed to: Program.Director-DWP@mass.gov.

Label it [(PWSID)(PWS Name)(YEAR)CCR]

or

☐ Hardcopy to: MassDEP-CCR Program, 1 Winter St. -5th Fl., Boston, MA 02108

2/11/2022

Date completed

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

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

CROSS-CONNECTION CONTROL AND BACKFLOW PREVENTION

The Shelburne Falls Fire District makes every effort to ensure that the water delivered to your home and business is clean, safe and free of contamination. Our staff works very hard to protect the quality of the water delivered to our customers from the time the water is extracted via deep wells and throughout the entire treatment and distribution system. But what happens when the water reaches your home or business? Is there still a need to protect the water quality from contamination caused by a cross-connection? If so, how?

What is a cross-connection?

A cross-connection occurs whenever the drinking water supply is or could be in contact with potential sources of pollution or contamination. Cross-connections exist in piping arrangements or equipments that allowed the drinking water to come in contact with non-potable liquids, solids or gases (hazardous to humans) in event of a backflow.

What is a backflow?

Backflow is the undesired reverse of the water flow in the drinking water distribution lines. This backward flow of water can occur when the pressure created by an equipment or system such as a boiler or air-conditioning is higher than the water pressure inside the water distribution line (backpressure), or when the pressure in the distribution line drops due to routine occurrences such as water main breaks or heavy water demand causing the water to flow backward inside the water distribution system (backsiphonage). Backflow is a problem that many water consumers are unaware of, a problem that each and every water customer has a responsibility to help prevent.

Typical Residential Cross-Connections

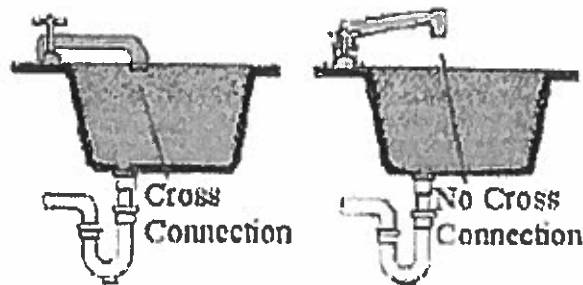
- ♦ Hose Bibs
- ♦ Lawn Irrigation
- ♦ Jacuzzis
- ♦ Swimming Pools
- ♦ Toilet Ball-cocks



What can I do to help prevent a cross-connection?

Without the proper protection something as simple as a garden hose has the potential to contaminate or pollute the drinking water lines in your house. In fact over half of the country's cross-connection incidents involve unprotected garden hoses. There are very simple steps that you as a drinking water user can take to prevent such hazards, they are:

- NEVER submerge a hose in soapy water buckets, pet watering containers, pool, tubs, sinks, drains or chemicals.
- NEVER attached a hose to a garden sprayer without the proper backflow preventer.
- Buy and install a hose bibb vacuum breaker in any threaded water fixture. The installation can be as easy as attaching a garden hose to a spigot. This inexpensive device is available at most hardware stores and home-improvement centers.
- Identify and be aware of potential cross-connections to your water line.
- Buy appliances and equipment with a backflow preventer
- Buy and install backflow prevention devices or assemblies for all high and moderate hazard connections.



If you are the owner or manager of a property that is being used as a commercial, industrial or institutional facility you must have your property's plumbing system surveyed for cross-connection by your water purveyor. If your property has NOT been surveyed for cross-connection contact your water department to schedule a cross-connection survey.

The Massachusetts Drinking Water Regulations, 310 CMR 22.00, requires all public water systems to have an approved and fully implemented Cross-connection Control Program (CCCP). The Shelburne Falls Fire District is working diligently to protect the public health of its drinking water customers from the hazardous caused by unprotected cross-connections through the implementation of its cross-connection survey program, elimination or properly protection of all identified cross-connections, the registration of all cross-connections protected by a reduced pressure backflow preventers (RPBPs) or a double check valve assemblies (DCVAs), and the implementation of a testing program for all RPBPs and DCVAs.

If you have any questions, please contact Superintendent Rebekah McDermott at 413-

625-6392.