

Alfred Water District 2020 Consumer Confidence Report

April 16, 2021

The District is announcing that we are placing a *REFEREDUM* on the June 8th ballot to *RAISE OUR DEBT LIMIT*.

You may have heard rumors that the District is planning a rate increase, this is **NOT** true, we are not going for a rate increase. The Debt Limit and a rate increase are two different things. Raising the *DEBT LIMIT* allows us to borrow money for unexpected circumstances and a *RATE INCREASE* is to cover borrowing to do a project.

We need to raise the debt limit to be able to borrow money if an emergency were to occur. Things such as new treatment processes caused by new EPA regulation regarding contaminants in drinking water. At present all of our tests are below current standards but with a new administration, the situation can change. Limits can be lowered or new contaminants discovered, regulated and removal treatment mandated. These treatment processes can be very expensive. The processes have to be engineered, approved by the Maine Department of Health, installed and maintained.

We currently remove Iron and Manganese (through filtration) and raise the pH with soda ash and sanitize the water with chlorine at an annual cost of \$100,916.00.

Currently our finances are in good shape and not requiring a rate increase. Our Office Manager, Savanna Thompson, has done an outstanding job getting our finances in order.

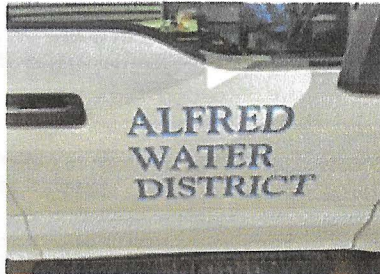
She refinanced six USDA loans we had at 4.3% into a 3.3% loan. In doing so we were able to access money, required as a surety in the form of CD's, released back to the District. The total in CD's that we got back was \$159,639.00. This money would have been locked up and not allowed to be touched until the USDA loans had been paid off, in which some were forty-year loans! Savanna set up an improvement fund with that money and part of it went, to finally, purchase a new *UTILITY BODY WORK TRUCK*. Since 2003 we have spent around \$8,100.00 to purchase very used vehicles and spent \$73,400.00 to maintain those (money pit) vehicles. Our new truck has a warranty and modern safety features to protect our employees and the public.

The following paragraph is a breakdown of the improvements completed since 2000. The total spent was around \$4,500,000.00 but because we got some grants and a 40% loan forgiveness on the Kennebunk and Mouse lane project, the total amount that we currently owe is \$3,220,128.00. We do however have to add the loan forgiveness to the total owed for our debt limit cap, even though it doesn't get paid back. This makes our *TOTAL DEBT* \$3,533,201.00. Our current debt limit, approved in 2004, is \$3,700,000.00, therefore we only have a cushion of \$166,799.00 for emergency borrowing.

Since the Alfred Water District was formed in 2000 the system that was originally built in 1911 has now been completely rebuilt. The following is a list of the improvements: 2002 replace cast iron mains that were in Jordan Spring Rd. and Oak St., 2003 replaced treatment plant that removes iron and Manganese, 2003 drilled two new production wells replacing the old dug well that would go dry, 2004 replaced cast iron mains in Saco Rd., part of Kennebunk Rd. and part of Biddeford Rd., 2005 replace main in part of Depot St. that would be run to new storage tank, 2007 built new underground storage tank on Brackett Hill., 2009 replaced cast iron mains in part of Kennebunk Rd. and the main that ran to Alfred Elementary School and Sanford Road also replaced cast iron main in Brackett Hill Rd. and private developer extended main down Waterboro Rd. adding fire protection to an area of town that had none, 2011 replaced cast iron main in part of Kennebunk Rd., 2014 a new housing development was built off of Kennebunk Rd. adding more fire protection, 2014 and spring of 2015 mains in part of Biddeford Rd and Depot St. were replaced as well as replaced cast iron main in part of Kennebunk Rd., and finally in 2018 and 2019 replaced over a mile of main in Kennebunk Rd. and Mouse Ln.

Because of the pandemic our *OFFICE IS CLOSED* until the crisis is over but this has allowed us to be available more days than just our Tuesday office hours. You can call and leave a message at the office that we can listen to remotely and respond to or you can e-mail Savanna, the Office Manager, at managerawd@roadrunner.com. Also, as always, in an emergency call Kerry, the Superintendent, at 432-3212. Hopefully this situation will be resolved soon—stay safe!

More information regarding compliance and test conducted by the district are in the following pages. We participated in a voluntary test of our water supply for the presence of PFAS. The test showed no PFAS in our supply, copies of results available on request.



PWSID ME0090020
ALFRED WATER DISTRICT
2020 Consumer Confidence Report

General Information

Water System Contact Name: Alfred Water District

Address: PO Box 803, 32 Waterboro Rd.

City, State, Zip Code: Alfred, Maine 04002

Telephone #: 324-3823 Or 432-3212

Fax#: 324-8126

Email: klsmart82@yahoo.com

Report Covering Calendar Year: Jan 1 - Dec 31, 2020

Upcoming Regularly Scheduled Meeting(s): 2nd and 4th Wednesday of each month 4pm at District office

Source Water Information

Description of Water Source: Wells: 2

two shallow gravel packed wells

Water Treatment & Filtration Information:

We filter out Iron and Manganese. We add Soda Ash to raise pH and Chlorine for sanitizing water and to oxidize Iron in filtration process

Source Water Assessment:

The sources of drinking water include rivers, lakes, ponds, and wells. As water travels over the surface of the land or through the ground, it dissolves naturally occurring minerals and radioactive material and can pick up substances resulting from human or animal activity. The Maine Drinking Water Program (DWP) has evaluated all public water supplies as part of the Source Water Assessment Program (SWAP). The assessments included geology, hydrology, land uses, water testing information, and the extent of land ownership or protection by local ordinance to see how likely our drinking water source is to being contaminated by human activities in the future. Assessment results are available at town offices and public water systems.

Definitions:

Maximum Contaminant Level (MCL): The highest level of a contaminant that is allowed in drinking water.

Maximum Contaminant Level Goal (MCLG): The level of a contaminant in drinking water below which there is no known or expected risk to health.

Running Annual Average (RAA): A 12 month rolling average of all monthly or quarterly samples at all locations. Calculation of the RAA may contain data from the previous year.

Locational Running Annual Average (LRAA): A 12 month rolling average of all monthly or quarterly samples at specific sampling locations. Calculation of the RAA may contain data from the previous year.

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

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.

Units:

ppm = parts per million or milligrams per liter (mg/L).

ppb = parts per billion or micrograms per liter (µg/L).

pCi/L = picocuries per liter (a measure of radioactivity).

pos = positive samples.

MFL = million fibers per liter

Water Test Results

Contaminant	Date	Results	MCL	MCLG	Possible Sources of Contamination
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Microbiological

COLIFORM (TCR) (1)	2020	0 pos	1 pos/mo or 5%	0 pos	Naturally present in the environment.
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Lead/Copper

COPPER 90TH% VALUE (4)	1/1/2016 - 12/31/2018	0.183 ppm	AL = 1.3 ppm	1.3 ppm	Corrosion of household plumbing systems.
LEAD 90TH% VALUE (4)	1/1/2016 - 12/31/2018	4 ppb	AL = 15 ppb	0 ppb	Corrosion of household plumbing systems.

Disinfectants and Disinfection Byproducts

DISTRIBUTION SYSTEM

TOTAL HALOACETIC ACIDS (HAA5) (9)	LRAA(2020)	5.3 ppb Range (5.3-5.3 ppb)	60 ppb	0 ppb	By-product of drinking water chlorination.
TOTAL TRIHALOMETHANE (TTHM) (9)	LRAA(2020)	6 ppb Range (6-6 ppb)	80 ppb	0 ppb	By-product of drinking water chlorination.

Chlorine Residual (Add chlorine residual information)

CHLORINE RESIDUAL	Range (0.50 - 1.75 ppm)	MRDL=4 ppm	MRDLG=4 ppm	By-product of drinking water chlorination.
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Notes:

- 1) Total Coliform Bacteria: Reported as the highest monthly number of positive samples, for water systems that take less than 40 samples per month.
- 2) E. Coli: E. coli are bacteria whose presence indicates that the water may be contaminated with human or animal wastes. Human pathogens in these wastes can cause short-term effects, such as diarrhea, cramps, nausea, headaches, or other symptoms. They may pose a greater health risk for infants, young children, the elderly, and people with severely-compromised immune systems.
- 3) Fluoride: For those systems that fluoridate, fluoride levels must be maintained between 0.5 to 1.2 ppm. The optimum level is 0.7 ppm.
- 4) Lead/Copper: Action levels (AL) are measured at consumer's tap. 90% of the tests must be equal to or below the action level.
- 5) Nitrate: Nitrate in drinking water at levels above 10 ppm is a health risk for infants of less than six months of age. High nitrate levels in drinking water can cause blue baby syndrome. Nitrate levels may rise quickly for short periods of time because of rainfall or agricultural activity. If you are caring for an infant you should ask advice from your health provider.
- 6) Arsenic: While your drinking water may meet EPA's standard for Arsenic, if it contains between 5 to 10 ppb you should know that the standard balances the current understanding of arsenic's possible health effects against the costs of removing it from drinking water. EPA continues to research the health effects of low levels of arsenic, which is a mineral known to cause cancer in humans at high concentrations and is linked to other health effects such as skin damage and circulatory problems. Quarterly compliance is based on running annual average.
- 7) Gross Alpha: Action level over 5 pCi/L requires testing for Radium 226 and 228. Action level over 15 pCi/L requires testing for Uranium. Compliance is based on Gross Alpha results minus Uranium results = Net Gross Alpha.
- 8) Radon: The State of Maine adopted a Maximum Exposure Guideline (MEG) for Radon in drinking water at 4000 pCi/L, effective 1/1/07. If Radon exceeds the MEG in water, treatment is recommended. It is also advisable to test indoor air for Radon.
- 9) TTHM/HAA5: Total Trihalomethanes and Haloacetic Acids (TTHM and HAA5) are formed as a by-product of drinking water chlorination. This chemical reaction occurs when chlorine combines with naturally occurring organic matter in water. Compliance is based on running annual average.

All other regulated drinking water contaminants were below detection levels.

Secondary Contaminants (You are not required to list detects for secondary contaminants, but this information, particularly sodium levels, might be useful to your customers. The decision to supply this information in your CCR is up to you.)

SULFATE	13 ppm	6/8/2020
CHLORIDE	26 ppm	6/8/2020
MAGNESIUM	2.68 ppm	6/8/2020
NICKEL	0.001 ppm	6/8/2020
SODIUM	16 ppm	6/8/2020

Health Information

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. 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, or 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 runoff, and septic systems.

Radioactive Contaminants, which can be naturally-occurring or be the result of oil and gas production and mining activities.

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) or at the following link:

<https://www.epa.gov/ccr/forms/contact-us-about-consumer-confidence-reports>

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. Alfred Water 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 at the following link:

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

Violations

No Violations in 2020

Waiver Information (to be included in the CCR for systems that were granted a waiver)

In 2019, our system was granted a 'Synthetic Organics Waiver.' This is a three year exemption from the monitoring/reporting requirements for the following industrial chemical(s): TOXAPHENE/CHLORDANE/PCB, HERBICIDES, CARBAMATE PESTICIDES, SEMIVOLATILE ORGANICS. This waiver was granted due to the absence of these potential sources of contamination within a half mile radius of the water source(s).