



# MIDDLETON WATER DIVISION

## ANNUAL WATER QUALITY REPORT TO CONSUMERS

January 2010 to December 2010

The Middleton Water Division is pleased to provide you with this year's Annual Water Quality Report. This report is designed to inform you about the quality of the water and service that we deliver to you. The Middleton Water Division's goal and commitment is to provide you with a safe and dependable supply of high quality drinking water. The annual report is required under the Federal Safe Drinking Water Act amendments and provides us with an opportunity to communicate with Middleton water consumers.

Although the Danvers Water Department is responsible for the treatment and supply of the potable water, the Middleton Water Division is responsible for the water quality during transmission throughout the distribution system. The Commonwealth of Massachusetts has enacted regulations requiring that any person with the responsibility to provide drinking water to the public must attain certification for the system they are operating. We now have three certified operators who meet these requirements.

### ABOUT THE MIDDLETON WATER SYSTEM

The distribution system now consists of 36 miles of water lines, of which ninety percent is cement lined ductile iron pipe. There are 398 fire hydrants, which are regularly flushed in the spring and painted and lubricated in the summer. The Town of Middleton's water is purchased from the Town of Danvers, which meets or exceeds the federal standards for water quality. The water is drawn from the Middleton Pond where Danvers operates the water treatment plant. The Middleton Water System has 1385 residential service connections and 141 commercial and institutional service connections delivering on the average of 516,387 gallons of water per day to Middleton customers. This is an increase of 2,983 gallons per day from last year.

### ANNUAL WATER FLUSHING PROGRAM

The Flushing Program was put on hold for 2010 due to a rehabilitation project by the Town of Danvers at the State Hospital in the spring and Folly Hill storage tank in the fall. Some flushing was necessary due to the effects of the monochloramine based disinfection system at the water treatment plant. Some replacement of older cast iron lines has taken place and more is scheduled in 2011.

### WATER SYSTEM IMPROVEMENTS:

|  |                       |
|--|-----------------------|
| Lake Street - North of Treatment Plant | 120' of 8" water main |
|--|-----------------------|

### WATER QUALITY DATA

The water quality data reflected in this insert is in addition to the data found in the 2010 Danvers Water Quality Report. The Town of Middleton tests weekly for coli form bacteria as well as every three years for lead and copper content as required by the regulations governing drinking water.

| INORGANIC COMPOUNDS | AL        | MCLG    | RESULTS   | MAJOR SOURCE   |
|---------------------|-----------|---------|-----------|--|
| Copper (ppm)        | 1.3mg/l   | 1.3mg/l | 0.16mg/l  | Corrosion of household plumbing systems, erosion of natural deposits |
| Lead (ppm)          | 0.015mg/l | 0       | 0.009mg/l |  |

**All lead and copper were detected by analysis performed in September 2009, per approved sampling plan.**

### KEY of the terms.

AL= Action Level      MCLG = Maximum Contaminant Level Goal      ppm= parts per million or milligram per liter

The Danvers Water Quality Report includes definitions of these terms along with other E.P.A. consumer information.

If present, elevated levels of lead can cause serious health problems, especially for pregnant women and young children. Lead in drinking water is caused primarily from materials and components associated with service lines and home plumbing. The Middleton Water Division 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, test methods, and steps to take to minimize exposure are available from the Safe Drinking Water Hotline or at [http:// www.epa.gov/safewater/lead](http://www.epa.gov/safewater/lead).

### **IMPORTANT INFORMATION ABOUT YOUR DRINKING WATER**

#### **Monitoring Requirements Not Met for the Middleton Water Division**

Our water system did not comply with a drinking water standard on a single occasion during the past year. Even though it was not an emergency, as our customers, you have a right to know what happened and what we did to correct the situation.

*We are required to monitor 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. During December of 2010 we did not complete all testing for total coliform 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.

The table below lists the contaminant we did not properly test for during the last year, how often we are supposed to sample for this contaminant 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 taken.

| Contaminant | Required sampling frequency  | Number of samples taken  | When samples should have been taken                 | When samples were taken                 |
|-------------|--|--|---|---|
| Coliform    | Repeat samples within 24 hour of being notified of a positive result | A repeat set of three samples were taken four days after positive notification | Samples should have been taken on December 25, 2010 | Samples were taken on December 28, 2010 |

#### **What happened? What is being done?**

On December 21, 2010 the Middleton Water Division conducted routine sampling for total coliform at a location pre-approved by the MassDEP. The samples were taken to an approved laboratory where the sample was analyzed. The laboratory notified the Town on December 24, 2010 of a positive result. If a routine sample is total coliform-positive, the public water system must collect a set of repeat samples within 24 hours of being notified (may be extended on a case-by-case basis by the DEP). Repeat samples could not be collected within 24 hours because the sample location was closed for the holidays; however, the repeat samples could have been collected prior the December 28, 2010 sampling date. The repeat samples from the 28<sup>th</sup> were total coliform-negative. The Middleton Water Division is working with a consultant to review standard operating procedures and action items required by the DEP.

For more information, please contact Bob LaBossiere at (978)777-0407 or 195 North Main Street.

*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 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.*

This notice is being sent to you by the Middleton Water Division. PWS ID#: 3184000 July 1, 2011

### **D.E.P. SOURCE WATER ASSESSMENT PROGRAM**

In the year 2003 the Massachusetts Department of Environmental Protection completed its Source Water Assessment Program (SWAP) report for all Danvers and Middleton's local water supply sources. Copies of this report are now available upon request to the Middleton Water Division. The purpose of the report is to be used as a planning tool to support local and state efforts to improve water source protection. The assessment helps focus protection efforts on appropriate best management practices and drinking water source protection measures. The report commends the water system for conducting annual watershed inspections, controlling access to the reservoirs and the watershed, educating school children on protection issues and conducting a source protection study that identifies storm drains in the watershed.

The reservoirs for Danvers and Middleton are located within three water supply protection areas. The Middleton Pond Reservoir water supply protection area is mostly in Middleton, and extends into the Town of North Reading. The Swan Pond Reservoir water supply protection area is in the Town of North Reading. The Emerson Brook Reservoir water supply protection area is in the towns of Middleton, North Andover and North Reading. The wells (Well #1 and

#2) for Danvers and Middleton water supply are located within a single water supply protection area, with portions in the towns of Danvers, Middleton, Peabody and Lynnfield.

The SWAP report notes the key issues of possible activities in the water supply protection areas that typically use, produce, or store contaminants of concern, which, if managed improperly, are potential sources of water supply contamination. In order to improve protection, the SWAP report recommends that the Town develop and implement a Surface Water Supply and Wellhead Protection Plan along with regulations on land use controls including controls on floor drains. The report also recommends that the town boards review and provide recommendations on proposed developments within the water supply protection areas.

Residents can help protect the water supply sources by being careful in the use and storage of hazardous materials such as paints, solvents, pesticides and fertilizers. Practicing good septic system maintenance and disposing of hazardous household chemicals at hazardous material collection events are other methods of water supply protection. Your support of water supply protection initiatives at future town meetings is encouraged. Residents are also encouraged to report any suspicious or inappropriate activities to the local police department (dial 911).

### THE NEED TO CONSERVE WATER

The Massachusetts Department of Environmental Protection has set a standard per capita water conservation threshold for consumers of drinking water. The threshold is 65 gallons of water a day per person. In 2010 Middleton residents were using an average of 64.97 gallons of water per person per day. The highest residential users were homeowners who were irrigating their landscapes. The most effective way to keep the per capita consumption below the state's threshold is to reduce water times on irrigation systems, limit the number of days the system operates, and check the rain sensor for proper operation. Lawns only require an inch of water per week either naturally or by irrigation. Do not water during daylight hours due to loss through evaporation. Make sure your irrigation system is in good working order by checking sprinkler heads for proper direction and spray pattern. Middleton residents must be more aware of the implications of and effect caused to the Ipswich River Watershed by increasing our water withdrawals. We have to be more conscious of how we are using this precious commodity. If the residents of Middleton do not reduce their water consumption, the DEP may impose fines on the Town and tougher restrictions on outside water use.

### IRRIGATION BYLAW

The Town of Middleton adopted an Irrigation Bylaw at Town Meeting on 5/10/2005. The Bylaw is in effect from May 1 until September 30 of each year. It is unlawful to water between the hours of 8:00AM to 7:00PM using town water with a sprinkler or lawn irrigation system. All irrigation system should have some form of rain sensor. There are 6 levels of the Bylaw, which are triggered by the flow of the Ipswich River and the level of the Middleton Reservoir. The current level will be posted on signage around town, on the town website, in local newspapers and on the local cable station. If the Bylaw is violated the first violation is a warning. The second violation is a \$50 fine. The third and any subsequent violation is a \$100 fine.

### BOARD OF WATER COMMISSIONERS

The Board of Selectmen serves as the Water Commissioners. They enact regulations as required to comply with the Federal Safe Drinking Water Act. These regulations provide operational guidance to the Water Division within the Department of Public Works. They meet every other Tuesday evening except during the summer months.

Nancy Jones \* Brian Cresta \* Timothy Houton \* Kosta Prentakis \* Christine Lindberg

Respectfully Submitted  
Robert LaBossiere, Superintendent of Public Works

The Town of Middleton is a Member of American Water Works Association and NE Water Works Association.

#### Names and Numbers:

Ira S. Singer, Town Administrator (978) 777-3617

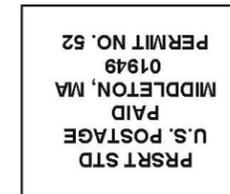
E-mail: [tadministrator@townofmiddleton.org](mailto:tadministrator@townofmiddleton.org)

Robert LaBossiere, Superintendent of Public Works (978) 777-0407

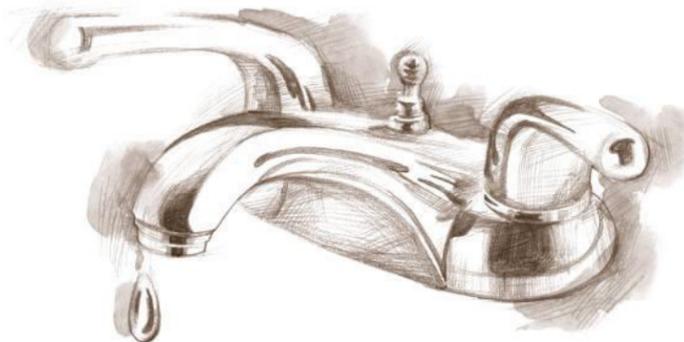
E-mail: [dpwsuperintendent@townofmiddleton.org](mailto:dpwsuperintendent@townofmiddleton.org)

IMPORTANT INFORMATION ABOUT YOUR DRINKING WATER

Resident:



# Annual DRINKING WATER QUALITY REPORT



MIDDLETON  
WATER DIVISION  
PWS ID# 3184000

January 2010 to December 2010