

Understanding the Consumer Confidence Report- What do the numbers mean?

The CCR is a document that the State of Maine requires water systems provide to their customers showing the results of the water quality monitoring tests required of the system.

The Contaminant list shows what the test is for and what type of contaminant it is. The contaminants on BWD's report are:

Coliform- a microbiological contaminant

Arsenic, Barium, and Fluoride- inorganic contaminants

Radium- radionuclide contaminant

Lead/Copper- heavy metals

Disinfection Byproducts- byproducts of disinfecting the water with Chlorine

Chlorine-byproduct of disinfecting the water

Turbidity- a measure of water clarity

The District also adds secondary contaminants that are more aesthetic, non-health threatening

The date shows when the test for the contaminant in question was taken.

The result is the amount of the contaminant in question that was detected and the units in which it was measured.

The MCL is a State or Federally set Maximum Contaminant Level and is defined by the EPA as "the highest level of a contaminant that is allowed in drinking water".

The MCLG is the a State or Federally set Maximum Contaminant Level Goal and is defined by the EPA as "the level of a contaminant in drinking water below which there is no known expected risk to health".

The source explains how these contaminants came to be present in the water, such as it may be a naturally occurring contaminant or a byproduct of the treatment process.

