

CHIMNEY HILL OWNERS ASSOCIATION, INC.
CONSUMER CONFIDENCE REPORT
2016

(For the period January 1 through December 31, 2015)

*A CLOSER LOOK AT THE CHIMNEY HILL
WATER SYSTEM*

*Prepared by Chimney Hill Owners Association, Inc.
in cooperation with the
Vermont State Water Supply Division*

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**CHIMNEY HILL OWNERS ASSOCIATION, INC.
 CONSUMER CONFIDENCE REPORT 2016
 WATER SYSTEM IDENTIFICATION (WSID) # 5312
 For the period January 1 through December 31, 2015**

Since 1967 Chimney Hill has been supplying safe drinking water for its full and part time residents. Its commitment to safe and adequate supplies of drinking water is and will continue to be a priority for its users. This report is an overview of your water system and the quality of water that we provided for January 1 through December 31, 2015. This is the eighteenth of a yearly report, to comply with the Safe Drinking Water Act, which Chimney Hill Owners Association, Inc. issues annually. This report will update our membership on monitoring/testing and other issues concerning our drinking water supply. The purpose of this and subsequent reports is to advance consumers' understanding of drinking water and heighten awareness of the need to protect our precious water resources. Included in this report are details about where your water comes from, what it contains, and how it compares to U.S. Environmental Protection Agency (EPA) and state standards and other useful information concerning our water system.

This report was sent to email addresses on file of those owners who supplied Chimney Hill with their email addresses. Those owners without email addresses were mailed copies of the report by US Mail. All copies were mailed or emailed on June 15, 2016. Furthermore, a copy of the report was posted on the Chimney Hill website: www.chimneyhill.com. Copies are also available at the Chimney Hill Administrative office located at # 9 Haystack Road, Wilmington, Vermont or copies can be requested via mail, send your request to: Chimney Hill Consumer Confidence Report, P.O. Box 415, Wilmington, Vermont 05363.

HEALTH INFORMATION REGARDING DRINKING WATER

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 microbiological contaminants are available from EPA's Safe Drinking Water Hotline (1-800-426-4791).

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 the water poses a health risk. More information about contaminants and potential health effects can be obtained by calling the Safe Drinking Water Hotline.

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. Chimney Hill 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 drinking 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>.

Public Notice - Uncorrected Significant Deficiencies: The system is required to inform the public of any significant deficiencies identified during a sanitary survey conducted by the Drinking Water and Groundwater Protection Division that have not yet been corrected. For more information please refer to the schedule for compliance in the system's Operating Permit.

Date Identified	Deficiency	Facility
	None	

WATER SOURCE INFORMATION - WHERE IT COMES FROM

Chimney Hill water comes from two main sources, springs and bedrock wells. Water is fed to 6 major storage and distribution areas throughout the Hill. Chimney Hill's water comes from groundwater sources. Following is a brief description of our sources:

Vermont Source Type: **Spring**
EPA Source Type: **Groundwater**
Source Name: **Brown Spring**

Vermont Source Type: **Spring**
EPA Source Type: **Groundwater**
Source Name: **Big Bend Spring**

Vermont Source Type: **Rock well**
EPA Source Type: **Groundwater**
Source Name: **Bedrock Well #5**

Vermont Source Type: **Rock well**
EPA Source Type: **Groundwater**
Source Name: **Bedrock Well #7**

Vermont Source Type: **Rock well**
EPA Source Type: **Groundwater**
Source Name: **Bedrock Well #9**

Vermont Source Type: **Rock well**
EPA Source Type: **Groundwater**
Source Name: **Bedrock Well #10**

Vermont Source Type: **Rock well**
EPA Source Type: **Groundwater**
Source Name: **Bedrock Well #11**

Vermont Source Type: **Rock well**
EPA Source Type: **Groundwater**
Source Name: **Bedrock Well #12**

Vermont Source Type: **Rock well**
EPA Source Type: **Groundwater**
Source Name: **Bedrock Well #14**

Drinking Water Contaminants

The sources of drinking water (both tap water and bottled water) include surface water (streams, lakes) and ground water (wells, springs). As water travels over the land's surface or through the ground, it dissolves naturally-occurring minerals. It also picks up substances resulting from the presence of animals and human activity. Some "contaminants" may be harmful. Others, such as iron and sulfur, are not harmful. Public water systems treat water to remove contaminants, if any are present.

In order to ensure that your water is safe to drink, we test it regularly according to regulations established by the U.S. Environmental Protection Agency and the State of Vermont. These regulations limit the amount of various contaminants:

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, 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.

Water Quality Data

The table below lists all the drinking water contaminants that we detected during the past year. It also includes the date and results of any contaminants that we detected within the past five years if tested less than once a year. The presence of these contaminants in the water does not necessarily show that the water poses a health risk.

Terms and abbreviations - In this table you may find terms you might not be familiar with. To help you better understand these terms we have provided the following definitions:

Maximum Contamination 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. MCLG’s allow for a margin of safety.

Maximum Contamination Level (MCL): The “Maximum Allowed” MCL is the highest level of a contaminant that is allowed in drinking water. MCL’s are set as close to the MCLG’s as feasible using the best available treatment technology.

Maximum Residual Disinfectant Level Goal (MRDLG): The level of a drinking water disinfectant below which there is no known or expected risk to health. MRDLG’s do not reflect the benefits of disinfectants in controlling microbial contaminants.

Maximum Residual Disinfectant Level (MRDL): The highest level of a disinfectant allowed in drinking water. Addition of a disinfectant may help control microbial contaminants.

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

90th Percentile: Ninety percent of the samples are below the action level. (Nine of ten sites sampled were at or below this level).

Treatment Technique (TT): A process aimed to reduce the level of a contaminant in drinking water.

Parts per million (ppm) or Milligrams per liter (mg/l): (one penny in ten thousand dollars)

Parts per billion (ppb) or Micrograms per liter (ug/l): (one penny in ten million dollars)

Picocuries per liter (pCi/L): a measure of radioactivity in water

Nephelometric Turbidity Unit (NTU): NTU is a measure of the clarity of water. Turbidity in excess of 5 NTU is just noticeable to the average person.

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

Running Annual Average (RAA): The average of 4 consecutive quarters (when on quarterly monitoring); values in table represent the highest RAA for the year.

Detected Contaminants

Disinfection Residual	RAA	Range	Unit	MRDL	MRDLG	Typical Source
Chlorine	0.585	0.100 - 1.200	mg/l	4.0	4.0	Water additive to control microbes

Microbiological	Result	MCL	MCLG	Typical Source
Total Coliform Bacteria	In the month of September, 1 sample(s) returned as positive	No more than 1 positive monthly sample	0	Naturally present in the environment

Chemical Contaminants	Collection Date	Highest Value	Range	Unit	MCL	MCLG	Typical Source
Manganese	12/08/2015	0.033	0 - 0.033	ppm			
Nitrate	02/24/2015	0.62	0.083 - 0.62	ppm	10	10	Runoff from fertilizer use; Leaching from septic tanks, sewage; Erosion of natural deposits

Detected Contaminants (continued):

Radionuclides	Collection Date	Highest Value	Range	Unit	MCL	MCLG	Typical Source
Combined Radium	03/06/2013	0.7	0.1 - 0.7	pCi/L	5	0	Erosion of natural deposits
Gross Alpha including Radon and Uranium	03/06/2013	3.3	3.3 - 3.3	pCi/L	10	0	Erosion of natural deposits
Radium-226	03/06/2013	0.3	0.1 - 0.3	pCi/L	5	0	Erosion of natural deposits
Radium-228	03/06/2013	0.7	0.7 - 0.7	pCi/L	5	0	Erosion of natural deposits

Disinfection ByProducts	Monitoring Period	LRAA	Range	Unit	MCL	MCLG	Typical Source
Total Haloacetic Acids (HAA5)	2015	12	11.7 - 11.7	ppb	60	0	By-product of drinking water disinfection
Total Trihalomethanes	2015	12	12.1 - 12.1	ppb	80	0	By-product of drinking water chlorination

Lead and Copper	Date	90 th Percentile	95 th Percentile	Range	Unit	AL	Sites Over AL	Typical Source
Copper	2015	0.56	0.72	0.051 - 0.87	ppm	1.3	0	Corrosion of household plumbing systems; Erosion of natural deposits; Leaching from wood preservatives
Lead	2015	6	31	0 - 56	ppb	15	1	Corrosion of household plumbing systems; Erosion of natural deposits

Violation(s) that occurred during the year

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. The below table lists any drinking water violations we incurred during 2015. A failure to perform required monitoring means we cannot be sure of the quality of our water during that time.

Type	Category	Analyte	Compliance Period
No Violations Occurred in the Calendar Year 2015			

Operating Permit and System Enhancements

Approximately every three years the State of Vermont Water Supply Division conducts a complete Chimney Hill Water System Sanitary Survey. The survey reviews all aspects of our system including tank inspections, distribution line inspections, well and spring inspections, chemical applications, pumps, record keeping, operation manuals and water quality. In July of 2015 a Sanitary Survey was conducted and we are pleased to report that no deficiencies were noted in the survey and no changes were made to our permit to operate.

Chimney Hill works diligently to assure clean and ample water for all of our users. This has required both great financial and manpower resources to assure this goal. Our current major capital expense will be to increase our storage capacity at all of our distribution areas and to proactively install concrete storage tanks that will take the place of our aging metal storage tanks when they are taken out of service. This program started in 2008 and we are in the ninth year of our ten year project. To date we have completed our Tank # 2 project which consisted of the construction of a 100,000 gallon concrete storage tank and removal of three 30,000 steel storage tanks and the addition of a 50,000 gallon concrete storage tank and distribution house upgrades to our Tank # 1 facility. In 2016 we plan on completing the addition of a 30,000 gallon concrete storage tank and distribution house upgrades to our Tank # 3 facility.

Chimney Hill Water Commission

In November of 2004 The Chimney Hill Board of Directors established a Chimney Hill Water Commission to learn, understand, oversee and report back to the Chimney Hill Board of Directors all facets of the Chimney Hill Water System. In addition, they (the Commission) will assure that all State of Vermont Water Supply Division rules and regulations are adhered to and all records and reports are prepared and filed properly. The Commission, in an emergency, will also be able to assist in the operation of the water system.

The commission, appointed by the Chimney Hill Board of Directors' President, is currently comprised of seven Chimney Hill owners who have the time and expertise to devote to the Water Commission. Commission members meet periodically to assess, assist and review all aspects of the Chimney Hill water system. Commission members, from time to time, accompany the Chimney Hill licensed water system operators during scheduled testing periods, announced and unannounced, to make sure all testing locations and procedures are strictly adhered to. Meeting dates and times are listed on our website: chimneyhill.com or by calling the Administrative office at: (802) 464-2181.

Following are the current members of the Chimney Hill Water Commission:

William Evasick, Chairperson
Lawrence Christian
Dennis Heberlein
Paul DiPietro

James Bogard, Vice Chairperson
Eugene Clark
Roy J. Schluter

A full report of the activities of the Chimney Hill water system for the 2015/2016 fiscal year (and what is planned for the 2016/2017 fiscal year) can be found in the 2016 Notice of Annual Meeting which was mailed to all owners in April of 2016 and can be found on the Association's website, chimneyhill.com.

SOURCE PROTECTION PLAN

In January of 2015 Chimney Hill, in cooperation with Vermont Rural Water Association, completed a Source Protection Plan update as required by the Vermont Department of Environmental Conservation, Drinking Water and Groundwater Protection Division. A copy of this is available at the Chimney Hill Owners Association Administrative office, # 9 Haystack Road, Wilmington, VT. The updated plan was approved on March 16, 2015 and our next required updated plan is due on February 1, 2018.

This plan provides information on potential sources of contamination (PSOC) to our wells and springs. Although some of our water sources are in areas that contain no PSOC the nature of our development does have an impact on our other sources. These PSOC pose a moderate or low risk to our sources: Roads- road salt can have an impact on our water sources from runoff and over application. Septic Systems - for obvious reasons this poses the greatest risk to our water supplies. Please be aware of this fact and maintain your septic systems to the highest possible standards. Above ground storage tanks - some homes have above ground storage tanks, please note any leakage from these tanks and report it to your supplier or the Chimney Hill office. The high toxicity and solubility of these contaminants can have a devastating impact to our water supplies. Although the PSOC in Chimney Hill do not pose a high risk it is important to remember that the items you dispose of may have a direct impact on the quality and cost of water you are used to receiving.

WHERE WE STAND AND WHAT YOU CAN DO

Chimney Hill is committed to making sure that clean, safe drinking water is delivered to your home. This does not come cheap. Federal and State mandates have required Chimney Hill to meet stringent requirements for our current sources and development of new sources. These are fairly recent mandates and were not anticipated when the development was born in 1967. The additional costs for testing, equipment upgrades and new sources of development have put a strain on our budget and reserve funds. Our homes, properties and health are not worth much without clean ample water supplies. Your water conservation measures and environmentally sound practices around your home and within Chimney Hill will assure that clean drinking water will remain an integral part of your visits to Chimney Hill.

OPERATOR AND PUBLIC PARTICIPATION OPPORTUNITIES

If you have any questions about this report or concerning the Chimney Hill water system, please contact:

Ken Spicer, Executive Director, Chimney Hill Owners Association, Inc., # 9 Haystack Rd, Box 415, Wilmington VT 05363, Phone Number: (802) 464-2181 extension 12 or E-mail: kspicer@chimneyhill.com.

We are pleased to report that all operators of our water system (direct or indirect) have their Class 3 Operator licenses. All licensees must maintain their Class 3 license by obtaining at least 20 credit hours of continuing education related to water system operations every three years.

Operator/Official

Kenneth B. Spicer, Class 3 Operator
C/o Chimney Hill Owners Association, Inc.
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Note: Two of our Maintenance employees, Dean Scott and Jared Karsch, are currently obtaining their Class 3 license.

We want our owners to be informed about their water quality. Your participation is welcome at all Board of Directors meetings, Annual meetings, Maintenance Committee meetings and Water Commission meetings. These meetings are held on a regular basis with times, dates and places available by calling the administration office at: (802) 464-2181 or on the owners section of our website: chimneyhill.com.

SOME WATER SAVING TIPS

Lawn and Garden

- ✓ Design your landscape carefully. Grass needs more water than most plants, so minimize the amount you use (try ground cover or native perennials instead). Make sure that plants with the same needs are grouped together. Plants requiring the most water should be planted closest to the house and those requiring less water should be planted on the edge of the property. Also, make a point of selecting native plants, which are adapted to local conditions and generally easier to grow and maintain; they tend to withstand drought and are less prone to disease.
- ✓ Use a rain gauge. This device keeps track of the amount of rain your landscape is receiving.
- ✓ Water early in the morning or late at night and when the winds are calm to minimize evaporation.
- ✓ Mulch to retain water and reduce weeds. Good organic mulches include clipped grass, straw, composted leaves and shredded bark. Lay 3 to 4 inches around plants.
- ✓ Use a rain barrel to collect water and then use for watering gardens and lawns (these can be purchased on line for under \$ 100).

Household

- Turn off your water! Even in the summer months water breaks or leaking toilets/sinks can result in large amounts of water loss. When leaving your home for any extended periods of time – shut off your water main.
- Time to replace that old toilet. If you have an older home you probably do not have a low flow flush toilet. Older toilets use a tremendous amount of water per flush. This not only uses more water than necessary it is not great for your septic and leach field. Replace older toilets with low flow toilets when the time comes.
- Install flow restrictors on all your faucets and shower heads.
- Don't run water while shaving, doing the dishes or brushing teeth (you get the picture); pond water for this purpose. And only run dishwashers when full.
- And don't forget – shower with a friend.

Chimney Hill water is a precious resource that should not be wasted. Your assistance in conservation measures will assure ample water for all of us, now and in the future.