

WATER QUALITY INFORMATION

CONSUMER CONFIDENCE REPORT



ISSUED
JUNE 2015
UNITED WATER RHODE ISLAND

Dear Customer,



At United Water our goal is to provide you with water that meets or surpasses all the standards for safe drinking water. These health and safety standards are set by the United States Environmental Protection Agency (EPA) and the Rhode Island Department of Health (RIDOH). Our United Water team works hard to provide you and your family with top quality water and premier service 24 hours a day, 365 days a year.

As part of this commitment, we regularly test water samples to be sure that your water meets the safety standards. All the test results are on file with the RIDOH, the agency that monitors and regulates drinking water quality in our state. Both the EPA and the RIDOH require water suppliers to produce a Consumer Confidence Report (CCR) for customers on an annual basis. This CCR provides important information about your drinking water. It shows how your drinking water measured up to government standards. Please read it carefully and feel free to call us at 401.789.0271, if you have any questions about your water or your service. Or, you can call the EPA Safe Drinking Water Hotline at 800.426.4791. If you have specific questions about water as it relates to your personal health, we suggest that you contact your health care provider.

Sincerely,

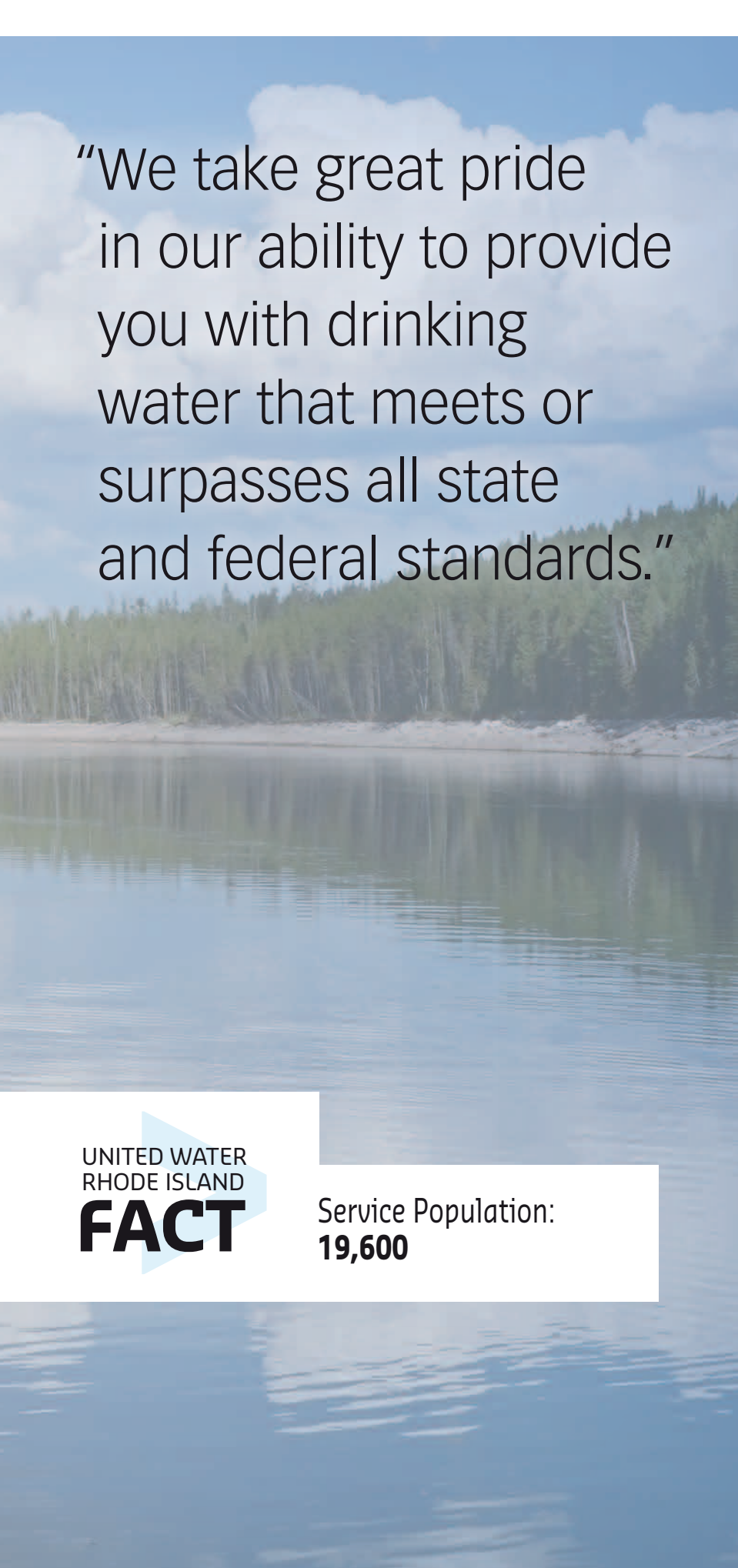
A handwritten signature in black ink that reads "Chris Graziano". The signature is fluid and cursive.

Chris Graziano
General Manager

Who We Are

United Water is one of the nation's leading environmental companies, providing water and wastewater services to over 5.3 million people in the United States. In addition to owning and operating 16 water and wastewater utilities, United Water operates 84 municipal and industrial water and wastewater systems through innovative public-private partnerships and contract agreements. Founded in 1869, United Water is a subsidiary of SUEZ ENVIRONNEMENT.

United Water Rhode Island provides an average of 3 million gallons of water per day to customers.



“We take great pride in our ability to provide you with drinking water that meets or surpasses all state and federal standards.”

About Your Water Supply

Our customers in Narragansett and South Kingstown receive water from our two well fields located off Tuckertown Road in South Kingstown. Both well fields draw water from the Mink Brook Aquifer. These wells can produce up to 7 million gallons of water per day.

United Water Rhode Island has initiated a very aggressive wellhead protection program which has identified a well protection area around both of our well fields. We are also conducting an inventory regarding land use within this wellhead area and are keeping a vigilant eye on protecting this area. The wellhead protection project is a joint effort by United Water, Rhode Island Water Resources Board, Rhode Island Department of Environmental Management and the Rhode Island Department of Health.

EPA Safe Drinking Water Hotline: 800.426.4791

About the Treatment Process

At United Water Rhode Island, we take great pride in our ability to provide you with drinking water that meets or surpasses all federal and state standards. Sodium hypochloride is used for disinfection. Water treated at each well field is also aerated to make your water less aggressive. We add lime for pH adjustment and zinc orthophosphate for corrosion control. This reduces the possibility of lead and copper in household plumbing from dissolving in the water. To further ensure the safety of your water, we monitor it before, during and after the treatment process. We take samples at our well fields and out in the distribution system to monitor the dosage of treatment chemicals and potential contaminants. We do this to be sure that your water remains safe as it travels through our mains and into your home.

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Service Population:
19,600

Source Protection

The Rhode Island Department of Health (RIDOH), in cooperation with other state and federal agencies, has assessed the threats to United Water's water supply sources. The assessment considered the intensity of development, the presence of businesses and facilities that use, store or generate potential contaminants, how easily contaminants may move through the soils in the Source Water Protection Area (SWPA), and the sampling history of the water.

Our monitoring program continues to assure that the water delivered to your home is safe and wholesome. The assessment found that the water source is at LOW RISK of contamination. This does NOT mean that the water cannot become contaminated. Protection efforts are necessary to assure continued water quality. The complete Source Water Assessment Report is available from United Water or from the RIDOH at 401.222.6867. The Emergency Response Plan (ERP), developed in 2004 in accordance with the National Homeland Security Act, has been followed up annually since 2006 with practice sessions and drills on emergency procedures conducted each year. This ERP outlines procedures to follow should anything unusual occur, as well as areas where more frequent monitoring is encouraged. Please call us if you see anything unusual, such as fire hydrants being used by anyone other than firefighters or United Water personnel or non-company vehicles entering or leaving the well fields or storage tank properties.

Lead Information

If present, elevated levels of lead can cause serious health problems, especially for pregnant women and young children. Your water is lead-free when it leaves our treatment plant. Lead in drinking water stems primarily from materials and components associated with service lines and home plumbing. United Water Rhode Island 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 and 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 at 800.426.4791 or by visiting the EPA website at www.epa.gov/safewater/lead.



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MILES OF MAINS: **113.5**

The heart of our mission is providing water that is safe to drink and protecting the nation's waterways.



To Serve You Better

At United Water we make regular investments to ensure water quality, service reliability and regulatory compliance.

In 2013, we placed the new Tower Hill Tank in service. The new one million gallon storage tank is double the size of the original tank and located at a higher elevation.

The tank was constructed using “glass-fused-to-steel” technology which is essentially corrosion-free. It should never have to be painted and requires substantially less maintenance and associated costs. The technology also reduces the need for the tank to be removed from service for routine upkeep.

In 2014 we made many more improvements to serve you better. We continued our meter upgrade replacement program which helps reduce estimated bills and improve billing accuracy.

We also continued our water main infrastructure improvement program. In 2014, we replaced 2,100 feet of pipe in the Narragansett Pier area. By replacing smaller diameter pipe with a larger 8-inch main, we improved water quality, reliability and fire service for our customers in that area.

Register for eBilling

By choosing paperless eBilling you will help protect and preserve our natural resources. Your eBill will be sent directly to your email inbox. It has the added benefit of allowing you to pay the bill directly from your bank account free of charge. To register for eBilling visit unitedwater.com or call the customer service number listed on your bill.

Drinking Water Quality

The water quality table shows how the quality of your drinking water compared to the standards set by the United States Environmental Protection Agency (USEPA) and the Rhode Island Department of Health (RIDOH). When standards differed, the more stringent standard was used for the Maximum Contaminant Level (MCL).

Test Results From United Water Rhode Island

The ranges listed are results from UWRI's wells. Test results are from 2014 unless otherwise noted.

Inorganic Contaminants	Violation Y/N	Levels Detected	Unit of Measurement	MCLG	MCL	Likely Source of Contamination
Barium	N	0.012 Range: 0.003 - 0.012	ppm	2	2	Discharge of drilling waste; discharge of metal refineries; erosion of natural deposits
Chromium	N	0.003 Range: ND - 0.003	ppm	1	1	Discharge from iron and pulp mills, erosion of natural deposits
Nitrate (as Nitrogen)	N	2.76 Range: 0.54 - 2.76	ppm	1	1	Runoff from fertilizer use; leaching from septic tanks, sewage; erosion of natural deposits
Unregulated Contaminants	Violation Y/N	Levels Detected	Unit of Measurement	MCLG	MCL	Likely Source of Contamination
Metolachlor	N	0.2 Range: ND - 0.2	ppb	0	NA	Runoff from herbicides
Dacthal	N	4.2 Range: ND - 4.4	ppb	0	NA	Runoff from herbicides
DCPA	N	7.8 Range: ND - 7.8	ppb	0	NA	Runoff from herbicides

Distribution System Test Results

Lead and Copper	Violation Y/N	90th Percentile	Samples Above AL	Unit of Measurement	MCLG	AL	Likely Source of Contamination
Copper (2012 Data)	N	0.15	0	ppm	1.3	1.3	Corrosion of household plumbing systems; erosion of natural deposits; leaching from wood preservatives household plumbing
Lead (2012 Data)	N	3	0	ppb	0	15	
Disinfectant Residual	Violation Y/N	Levels Detected	Unit of Measurement	MCLG	MCL	Likely Source of Contamination	
Distribution Disinfectant Residual ppm (RAA)	N	0.18 Range*: 0.11 - 0.25	ppm	MRDLG 4	MRDL 4	Water additive used to control microbes	
Disinfection By-Products	Violation Y/N	Levels Detected	Unit of Measurement	MCLG	MCL	Likely Source of Contamination	
TTHM (Total Trihalomethanes) (RAA)	N	39.5 Range*: 24.9 - 54.4	ppb	0	80	By-product of drinking water chlorination	
HAA5s (Total Haloacetic acids) (RAA)	N	5.9 Range*: 1.3 - 10.4	ppb	0	60	By-product of drinking water chlorination	

*The "Range of Results" represent the lowest and highest detection during the monitoring year from individual sampling locations.

Other Substances

	MCL	Average Result	Range of Results	Likely Source
Sodium ppm	NA	6.95	5.6 - 12.4	Natural mineral, road salt

Health Effects

Sodium – Water containing more than 20 ppm of sodium should not be used for drinking water by people on diets that severely restrict sodium. Water containing more than 270 ppm of sodium should not be used for drinking by people on diets that moderately restrict sodium.

Unregulated Substances – For which the EPA requires monitoring

Unregulated contaminants are those for which the EPA has not established drinking water standards. The purpose of unregulated contaminant monitoring is to assist the EPA and RIDOH in determining the occurrence of unregulated contaminants in drinking water and whether regulation is warranted.

Substance (2014)	MCLG	MCL	Highest Result*	Range of Results	Violation	Likely Source
Chromium ppb	NA	NA	0.20	0.17 - 0.20	No	Prevalent natural element
Strontium ppb	NA	NA	64.9	64.8 - 64.9	No	Naturally occurring element
Vanadium ppb	NA	NA	1.30	0.20 - 1.30	No	Metal occurs in many different minerals and fossil fuel deposits
Chromium, Hexavalent ppb processes	NA	NA	0.085	0.07 - 0.085	No	Industries that process or use chromium compounds or chromium

*Highest results are based upon the highest single sample.

Additional information about unregulated contaminants can be found at the following link, courtesy of American Water Works Association:
<http://www.drinktap.org/home/water-information/water-quality/ucmr3.aspx>

Definitions

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

CU: Color unit.

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.

Maximum Residual Disinfectant Level (MRDL): The highest level of a disinfectant allowed in drinking water. There is convincing evidence that addition of 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 disinfectant to control microbial contamination.

NA: Not applicable.

ND: Not detected.

NTU: Nephelometric Turbidity Unit.

ppb Parts Per Billion: The equivalent of one second in 32 years.

ppm Parts Per Million: The equivalent of one second in 12 days.

pCi/L Picocuries per liter: The equivalent of one second in 32 million years.

Primary Standards: Federal drinking water regulations for substances that are health-related. Water suppliers must meet all primary drinking water standards.

RAA: Running Annual Average

Secondary Standards: Federal drinking water measurements for substances that do not have an impact on health. These reflect aesthetic qualities such as taste, odor and appearance. Secondary standards are recommendations, not mandates.

TON: Threshold Odor Number.

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

>: This means "greater than."

≤: This means "less than or equal to."

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HYDRANTS: **640**



Detected Substances

The State of Rhode Island requires testing for other components not regulated by the EPA. The following components were detected:

Radon

Radon is a radioactive gas that you cannot see, taste or smell. It is found throughout the United States. Radon gas moves up through the ground and into a home through cracks and holes in the foundation. Radon can build up to high levels in all types of homes. Radon can also get into indoor air when released from tap water from showering, washing dishes and other household activities. Compared to radon entering the home through soil, radon entering the home through tap water will, in most cases, be a small source of radon in indoor air. Radon is a known human carcinogen. Breathing air containing radon can lead to lung cancer. Drinking water containing radon may also cause increased risks of stomach cancer. If you are concerned about radon in your home, test the air in your home. For additional information, call the Rhode Island Department of Health Radon Program at 401.222.2438, or call the EPA's Radon Hotline at 800.426.4791.

Health Note

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 EPA Safe Drinking Water Hotline at 800.426.4791.

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 infections by cryptosporidium and other microbial contaminants are available from the Safe Drinking Water Hotline at 800.426.4791.



United Water Rhode Island
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**This report contains
important information
about your drinking water.**

THERE ARE MANY WAYS **TO REACH US:**



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