

# **HARTSTENE POINTE ID #31569 0 WATER SYSTEM CONSUMER CONFIDENCE REPORT 2006**

**June 2007**

## **WATER SYSTEM MANAGER'S STATEMENT**

The Consumer Confidence Rule is a federal requirement created by Congress and the Environmental Protection Agency. As a result the Mason County Department of Utilities and Waste Management is required to provide customers of the Hartstene Pointe Water System with this report. Herein we will provide you with information on the results of our compliance and water quality testing, the health effects of any contaminants found during this monitoring, and who to call in case of emergencies, loss of water service, water leaks, and billing questions. We are reporting results from the monitoring performed during 2006 calendar year.

## **ABOUT THE SYSTEM**

The Mason County Department of Utilities and Waste Management employs five full time operators certified by the State of Washington to operate and maintain the water and wastewater systems the County owns, one of which is Hartstene Pointe. There is a certified operator on duty every day of the week to monitor our systems. Hartstene Pointe gets its water from two wells located on opposite ends of the Community Clubhouse. Well #1 is located near the mailroom and Well #2 near the tennis courts. Both wells are filtered to remove or reduce naturally occurring contaminants. There is an 188,000-gallon water storage tank (standpipe) at the end of the RV storage area off Nantucket.

## **CROSS-CONNECTION CONTROL PROGRAM**

**If you have an automated sprinkler system, a direct method of filling a swimming pool or spa, or any other apparatus, fixture, existing backflow device, or other condition that may cause**

**contaminates to backflow into the water system, you may be affected. Please contact Tom Moore at 360-427-9670 ext. 771.**

## **WHO DO I CALL WITH A PROBLEM?**

To report a problem with your water service, billing statement or to report suspected leaks during regular office hours (8:00 AM to 5:00 PM Mon-Fri) call 360-427-9670 ext. 283. After hours emergency please call 911.

For technical information or water saving tips call Tom Moore at extension 771

## **ARE THERE CONTAMINATES IN MY WATER?**

Drinking water including bottled water, may reasonably be expected to contain at least some small amounts of minerals, organics, or chemicals, called contaminants. **The presence of contaminants does not necessarily indicate that the water poses a health risk.**

Some people are more vulnerable to contaminants than the general population. Immuno-compromised persons, such as persons with cancer undergoing chemotherapy, persons who have 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 the advice of their health care provider about drinking water. EPA/CDC guidelines on appropriate means to lessen the risk and more information about contaminants and their potential health effects can be obtained by calling the Environmental Protection Agency's Safe Drinking Water Hotline at 1-800-426-4791.

## **WATER QUALITY DATA**

During 2006, 12 routine bacteriological samples tested taken from various points throughout the system in accordance with our Coliform Monitoring Plan. We also tested all the wells for nitrates. All

examinations of water from the wells and from the distribution system taken in 2006 met Department of Health Drinking Water Standards with the exception of arsenic in well #2. The water system was required to collect samples for disinfection by-products trihalomethane (TTHM) and haloacetic acid (HAA5) during the warmest months in 2004. Due to an error either in sampling or testing only the HAA5 concentration was reported. Therefore we cannot be sure of the quality of the drinking water during that time. The drinking water will be tested again during the month of July for disinfection by-products.

**ARSENIC**

As many of you should know by now, well #2 exceeds the maximum contaminate level (MCL) allowed for arsenic. The water quality did not change but the standard did. EPA's standard balances the current understanding of arsenic's possible health effects against the costs of removing arsenic from drinking water. EPA continues to research the health effects of low levels of arsenic. Some people who drink water containing arsenic in excess of the MCL over many years could experience skin damage or problems with their circulatory system, and may have an increased risk of getting cancer.

At the time of print, a system to reduce the levels of arsenic in the drinking water is being designed. Once the design is completed we will place this project on a fast track for construction and completion. In the meantime the utility is relying on Well #1 to meet the majority of the needs of the system. Well #2 will only be used to supply water during peak demand periods until it too is compliant with the arsenic standard.

**EMERGENCY PREPAREDNESS**

One thing that became obvious during last winter's storms is that the general public needs to take responsibility to be prepared in the event of a major disaster. The utility staff worked many long days to keep the

systems operational during the extended power outage. Some of you experienced low water pressure for a few days during the aftermath of the December 15<sup>th</sup> windstorm but it could have been much worse. Mason County Emergency Management staff is ready to help you become better prepared. Please call Sandi Kavarnstrom at 360-427-9670 ext. 328 for more information.

**WATER CONSERVATION**

We all know how important drinking water is. This is especially evident during interruptions of service that occurs due to maintenance or repair of the system. While these interruptions are only a minor inconvenience remember they are minor only because we know service will resume and most uses of drinking water can be delayed for short periods.

Should service be interrupted for an extensive period having to obtain an alternate source of water could easily become the most important function of your day. The water we can consume is only a small percentage of what is available and we must conserve and protect this our most precious resource.

Water meters are being mandated by the State to help control the inefficient use of the water we use and help the utility know how much water is lost through leaks in the system.

Mason County Utilities is working on a water system plan update that will define the capital projects and their priority. Arsenic treatment, water meters, and improving our usable storage are some of the projects contained in this plan.

SUBSTANCE	EPA'S MCL	HIGHEST LEVEL DETECTED	CONTAMINATE SOURCE
Arsenic	0.01 mg/L	0.027mg/L	Natural Deposits
Radium 228	N/A	Non-detect	Natural Deposits
Nitrate	10 mg/L	< 1.0 mg/L	Natural deposits

Mg/L = parts per million    Ug/L = parts per billion



