



**Here are some of the top FAQ asked of MVD and the answers:**

- What well am I on...?
- How do I know which well provides water to my location...?
- Where does my water come from...?
- How is the water treated...?
- What are you testing for...?

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**100% of Merrimack water comes from groundwater. Groundwater is precipitation that has soaked through the ground's surface and is stored where there are open spaces between rocks and soil. This water is pumped from six groundwater wells located in various parts of Merrimack and Hollis and known locally as Wells 2, 3, 4, 5, 7 and 8. Each well pumps at various speeds and times depending on the water demand, time of year, pumping limits, as well as multiple other factors. Therefore, there is no precise way to tell which location is receiving water from which well.**

**Treatment:**

Once pumped from the wells, water treatment occurs onsite at each pumping station. Water from all online wells is chlorinated for disinfection, additionally, wells 7 and 8 are treated for naturally occurring Iron and Manganese and as of October 21, 2020, our new Well 4&5 Water Treatment Facility is substantially complete and on line treating wells 4 & 5 for PFAS. Once water is treated it's pumped to one of the three water storage tanks. Water is distributed through a network of over 175 miles of water mains to homes, businesses and schools.

**Water Testing/Results:**

MVD's water quality and sampling is regulated by the New Hampshire Department of Environmental Services (NHDES). In order to ensure that tap water is safe to drink the EPA prescribes regulations which limit the amount of certain contaminants in water provided by public water systems. To comply with the required regulations MVD tests for various contaminants, including 25 separate sites for bacteria, inorganic contaminants (salts, metals), organic chemical contaminants (synthetic and volatile chemicals), radioactive contaminants, and PFAS, as well as some additional unregulated contaminants/chemicals.

Water analyses and treatments are performed as required and directed by the United States Environmental Services Agency's Safe Drinking Water Act (SDWA) and the NHDES Drinking Water and Groundwater Bureau (DWGB). All water tests are performed by an independent laboratory that is accredited in accordance with the National Environmental Laboratory Accreditation Program (NELAP) & the New Hampshire Environmental Laboratory Accreditation Program (NHELAP). All testing is reported to and monitored by the NHDES. Results from these tests are provided on MVD's Annual CCR (Water Quality Report).