Update on Drought in NH

Brandon Kernen, NHDES March 26, 2021



U.S. Drought Monitor Northeast

March 23, 2021

(Released Thursday, Mar. 25, 2021) Valid 8 a.m. EDT

Drought Conditions (Percent Area)





The Drought Monitor focuses on broad-scale conditions. Local conditions may vary. For more information on the Drought Monitor, go to https://droughtmonitor.unl.edu/About.aspx

Author:

Brad Pugh CPC/NOAA



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U.S. Drought Monitor **New Hampshire**



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Drought Conditions (Percent Area)

	None	D0-D4	D1-D4	D2-D4	D3-D4	D4
Current	43.70	56.30	14.93	0.00	0.00	0.00
Last Week 03-16-2021	46.85	53.15	14.93	0.00	0.00	0.00
3 Month s Ago 12-22-2020	37.79	62.21	40.04	0.00	0.00	0.00
Start of Calendar Year 12-29-2020	51.64	48.36	12.20	0.00	0.00	0.00
Start of Water Year 09-29-2020	0.00	100.00	100.00	95. <mark>0</mark> 6	10.59	0.00
One Year Ago 03-24-2020	100.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00

Intensity:

None

D1 Moderate Drought



D3 Extreme Drought D4 Exceptional Drought

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	Preci					
	March 2021	30 Days	60 Days	90 Days	180 Days	365 Days
Rockingham	0.79 /-2.45	1.11/- <mark>2.85</mark>	3.79/- <mark>3.60</mark>	7.36/- <mark>3.27</mark>	19.27/- <mark>3.55</mark>	34.87/-11.72
Strafford	0.70/-2.52	1.10/- <mark>2.83</mark>	3.79/- <mark>3.56</mark>	7.24/- <mark>3.31</mark>	20.52/- <mark>2.48</mark>	37.56/- <mark>9.68</mark>

Accumulated Precipitation - GREENLAND, NH



Downwood Inv ACIS



Drought: Snowpack

SNOW WATER EQUIVALENT March 11, 2021







NOAA's Climate Prediction Center (CPC) 8-14 day outlook for April 1-7 slightly favors above-normal temperatures for the entire region. The outlook favors below-normal precipitation for most of the region, excluding a portion of Maine.

Private Well Emergency Drought Assistance

Application Status as of 3/25/21 – 80 applications received – 6

received in March 2021

- Tier 1 approved 49
- Tier 2 approved 29

Approved financial assistance to date - \$881,447

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Total project costs = approximately $1.14 M
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With the exception of 8 projects, ALL approved projects to date have been well replacements of a dug well with drilled well.

Water Resources in Madbury

Brandon Kernen, NHDES March 26, 2021











Source Water Protection for the Town of MADBURY, NH Total Town Acreage = 7799.04							
GIS LAYER	TOTAL AC.	DEVELOPED AC.	CONSERVED AC.	PROTECTION ZONING AC.	TOTAL PROTECTED AC.*	UNPROTECTED	
WELLHEAD	1752.75	257.54	351.2	1340.5	1479	216.19	
PROTECTION							
AREAS (WHPA)							
HYDROLOGIC	3631.76	200.75	1030.75	575.48	1452.55	2035.88	
AREAS OF							
CONCERN (HAC)							
HIGH YIELD	332.67	56.34	60.77	210.69	241.02	71.46	
STRATIFIED							
DRIFT AQUIFERS							
(HYSDA)							
HIGH PRIORITY	4869.84	422.21	1225.84	1340.5	2353.65	2304.5	
WATER SUPPLY							
LANDS (WHPA +							
HAC + HYSDA)							

* "Conserved Ac" and "Protection Zoning Ac" are overlapping and cannot be added together to equal "Total Protected Ac."

** "Unprotected, undeveloped" areas include lands not protected by conservation or local zoning and are not developed according to 2016 land use GIS data.

Summary of Protection in MADBURY Zoning						
Zoning Ordinance Name	Aquifer and Wellhead Protection Overlay District					
District Boundary	Wellhead Prote	Wellhead Protection Areas and Stratified Drift Aquifers				
Zoning Provisions	Yes/No	Type of Provision				
	Yes Refers to NHDES Best Management Practices for Groundwater Protection (Env-Wq 401)					
	No	Prohibits Underground Storage Tanks (USTs) holding a regulated substance (defined under Env-Wq 401)				
	Yes	Prohibits high-risk land uses recommended by NHDES				
	No	Requires blasting follow state/local BMPs				
	Yes	Limits impervious surface for development proposals				







Madbury

Percent of Samples Above Health Standard

Analyte	Health Limit	Wells Tested (n)	Percent Exceeded Town	Percent Exceeded by	Percent Exceeded by
				County	State
Arsenic	> 0.005 mg/L	47	40.4%	39.8%	25.3%
Chloride	> 250 mg/L	52	0.0%	2.6%	2.8%
Copper (flushed)	> 1.3 mg/L	46	0.0%	0.2%	0.8%
Copper					
(stagnant)	> 1.3 mg/L	NA	NA	10.7%	11.9%
Fluoride	> 4 mg/L	51	0.0%	0.0%	0.8%
Iron	> 0.3 mg/L	46	8.7%	15.3%	17.0%
Lead (flushed)	> 0.015 mg/L	46	0.0%	0.9%	1.5%
Lead (stagnant)	> 0.015 mg/L	NA	NA	7.1%	12.9%
Manganese	0.3 mg/L		~3 - 7% - will u	pdate the table	
Nitrate	> 10 mg/L	52	1.9%	0.7%	0.4%
Nitrite	> 1 mg/L	52	0.0%	0.0%	0.0%
Radon	> 2000 pCI/L	NA	NA	32.7%	27.3%
Sodium	> 20 mg/L	47	51.1%	43.9%	33.5%
Uranium	> 30 mg/L	NA	NA	2.0%	4.2%

Health Impacts – Rn and As

- Radon (air)
 - 21,000 lung ca deaths/yr in U.S.
 - 100 deaths/yr in N.H.
- Arsenic (water and food)
 - DW limit 10 ppb since 2001
 - 20% of wells in NH over 10 ppb
 - "100s of cases of cancer among current N.H. population"
 - Maine study: reduced intelligence at 5 ppb



Health Impacts - Arsenic

Low dose, chronic, long term exposure to Arsenic in drinking water can lead to:

- Cancers (bladder, skin, kidney, liver, prostate and lung)
- Vascular and cardiovascular disease
- Reproductive and developmental effects
- Cognitive and neurological effects
- Diabetes and other metabolic disorders
- Neuropathy



Data source: EPA Integrated Risk Information System



RADON-POTENTIAL CATEGORIES



Distribution of radon in water concentrations by radon-potential category

Quantile,	Radon potential			
in percent	High	Medium	Low	
	'a	b	b	
90	65,700	19,500	6,300	
50 (median)	5,900	2,250	1,350	
10	1,400	620	300	





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Moore, R.B., 2004, Quality of water in the fractured-bedrock aquifer of New Hampshire: U.S. Geological Survey Scientific Investigations Report 2004-5093, 30 p.





Lead in Homes on Private Wells

- Very common in <u>stagnant tap water</u>
 - Detected in 70% of 10,000 samples
 - Above EPA Action Level in 15% of samples
- Source: plumbing and fixtures
 - Lead pipes dull gray, soft, non-magnetic
 - Pre-1987 lead solder
 - Pre-2014 fixtures and fittings

No safe level

- Especially under age 6 use <u>lead-free</u> water
- Flushing plumbing greatly reduces levels
- Test stagnant <u>and</u> flushed for lead and copper

Drinking Water Health Advisory for Manganese

Prepared by:

U.S. Environmental Protection Agency Office of Water (4304T) Health and Ecological Criteria Division Washington, DC 20460

http://www.epa.gov/safewater/

EPA-822-R-04-003 January, 2004 The lifetime health advisory value of 0.3 mg/Lwill protect against concerns of potential neurological effects. In addition, this document provides a One-day and 10-day HA of 1 mg/L for acute exposure. However, it is advised that for infants younger than 6 months, the lifetime HA of 0.3 mg/L be used even for an acute exposure of 10 days, because of the concerns for differences in manganese content in human milk and formula and the possibility of a higher absorption and lower excretion in young infants.



2003 Barbados Pond 2021









