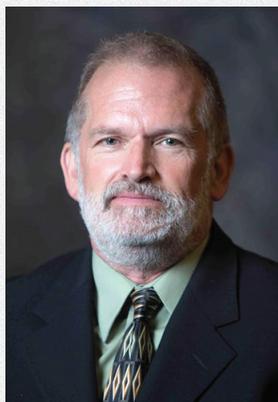


# HOW SCWA ENSURES THE QUALITY OF YOUR WATER

*From the Director of Water Quality & Laboratory Services, Kevin P. Durk*



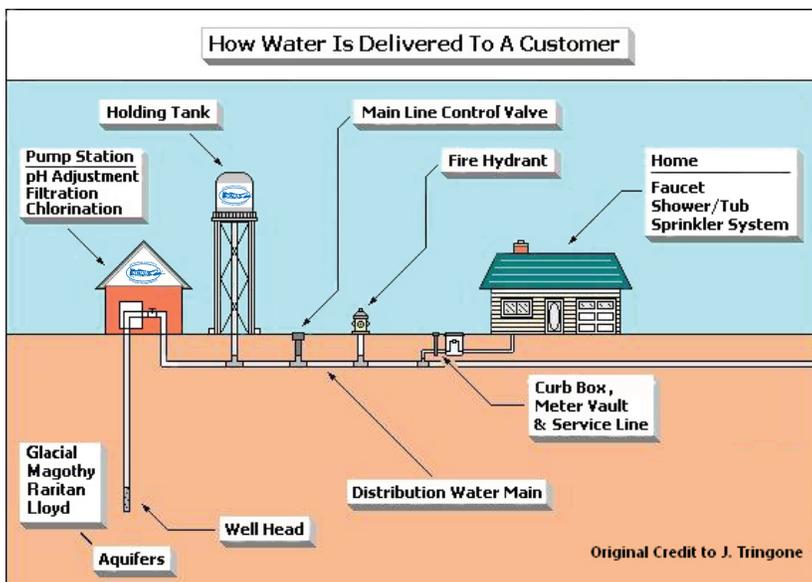
The most important information contained in this report is that the SCWA's drinking water quality continues to meet all state and federal regulations. We are committed to providing the highest quality drinking water to our customers. The SCWA laboratory is both state and federally certified, and is recognized as one of the most sophisticated water testing laboratories in the nation. Our approach to water quality testing is aggressive and comprehensive. We test our water at the wellhead, at various stages of treatment and within the distribution system for bacteria and a wide range of inorganic and organic chemicals. In fact, we test our drinking water for far more chemicals than required and at a frequency far in excess of local, state and federal regulations. **Because of these stringent safeguards, we can reassure all our customers that the water we deliver to them meets all drinking water standards and guidelines.**

## We would like you to know:

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. Water quality standards are established based upon the known health risks of the contaminants involved. In order to insure the tap water we provide to you is safe to drink, the State and the EPA prescribe regulations that limit the amount of certain contaminants in drinking water provided in public water systems. These limits are called Maximum Contaminant Levels (MCLs). More information about contaminants and potential health effects can be obtained by calling the EPA's Safe Drinking Water Hotline (800-426-4791).

\*As a point of information, the State Health Department's and the federal Food and Drug Administration's regulations establish limits for contaminants in bottled water that must provide the same protection for public health.

This graphic illustrates how your drinking water is delivered to you. SCWA pump stations are located throughout Suffolk County. There may be only one or several wells located at each pump station. At these sites, the groundwater is pumped out of the aquifer. This water prior to treatment is usually referred to as "raw" water. In some cases, the raw water is filtered to remove contaminants. Before leaving the pump station, all raw water is treated to increase the pH and chlorinated to maintain disinfection throughout the distribution system. The distribution system connects the wells to your home or business. It consists of the water mains, fire hydrants, and storage tanks. Additional information about our water treatment can be found on page 9, and a description of our distribution system can be found on page 32.



## DRINKING WATER QUALITY REPORT SUPPLEMENT

Additional information regarding your water supply is available in our Drinking Water Quality Report Supplement. This Supplement contains water quality data for our wells from samples that were collected before treatment and prior to being pumped to our customers. This Supplement is available to you by accessing our website at [www.scwa.com](http://www.scwa.com) and looking for "Water Quality Reports" under "Public Information".

The Supplemental Report contains raw water quality information from each of our wellfields. The range of data presented shows the lowest value for a detected analyte, the highest value, the average value, and the total number of tests at each wellfield. These values represent an average of the individual wells at each wellfield.