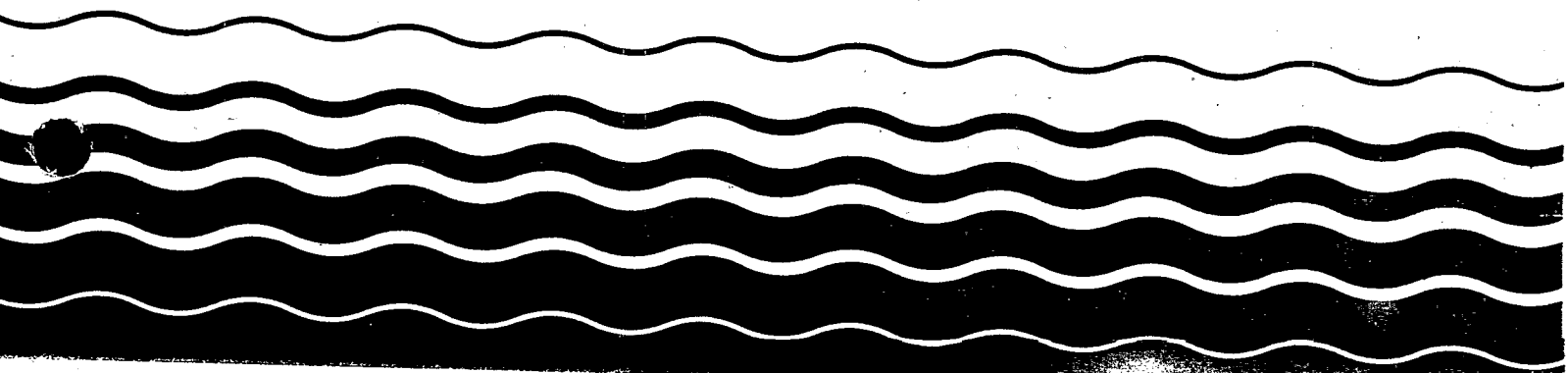


Water



# State Water Quality Standards Summary: New Hampshire





# DISCLAIMER

This publication was prepared by Battelle under contract to the U.S. Environmental Protection Agency (Contract 68-03-3534). Secondary information sources were used to compile data presented in this document. Each State was given an opportunity to review and provide comments on a draft of this information document. In no event shall either the United States or Battelle have any responsibility or liability for any use, misuse, or reliance upon the information contained herein, nor does either warrant or otherwise represent in any way the accuracy, adequacy, efficacy, or applicability of the contents hereof.

The reader should consult the water quality standards of a particular State for exact regulatory language applicable to that State. Copies of State water quality standards may be obtained from the State's Water Pollution Control Agency or its equivalent.

Additional information may also be obtained from the:

Standards Branch  
Criteria and Standards Division (WH-585)  
Office of Water Regulations and Standards  
U.S. Environmental Protection Agency  
Washington, D.C. 20460  
202-475-7315

This document may be obtained only from the National Technical Information Service (NTIS) at the following address:

National Technical Information Service  
5285 Front Royal Road  
Springfield, Virginia 22161  
703-487-4650

The NTIS order number is: PB89-141972.



## NEW HAMPSHIRE

**Responsible Agency:**

N.H. Water Supply and Pollution Control Commission  
105 Loudon Road

**State Contact:**

Concord 03301  
603-271-3503

**Standards Available From:**

N.H. Water Supply and Control Commission  
105 Loudon Road

**State Contact:**

Concord 03301  
603-271-3503 Fee: no Mailing List: yes

**State Narrative Language For: Antidegradation**

The antidegradation policy of the New Hampshire Water Supply and Pollution Control Commission is aimed at protecting those waters which are currently of high quality. Thus, in accordance with Public Law 92-500 and Federal regulation 40 CFR 130, Section 130.17(a), the New Hampshire Water Supply and Pollution Control Commission has adopted the following Antidegradation Policy:

1. In all cases, existing instream beneficial water uses will be maintained and protected. Any actions that would become injurious to existing uses cannot be undertaken. Waste assimilation and transport are not recognized beneficial uses;
2. Existing high quality waters will be maintained at their existing high quality unless the New Hampshire Water Supply and Pollution Control Commission decides to allow limited degradation where economically or socially justified. If limited degradation is allowed, it cannot result in violation of water quality criteria that describe the base levels necessary to sustain the State and National Water Quality goal uses of protection and propagation of fish, shellfish, and wildlife and recreation in and on the water;
3. In all cases, high quality water which constitutes an outstanding State or Natural resource will be maintained and protected;
4. Any determinations concerning thermal discharge limitations under section 316(a) of Public Law 92-500 will be considered in compliance with the antidegradation policy.

**State Narrative Language For: Toxics**

No potentially toxic substances in toxic concentrations or combinations.

All surface waters of the state shall be free from chemicals and other materials and conditions inimical to fish life or to maintenance of fish life.

Substances potentially toxic are evaluated in accordance with EPA's published water quality criteria for 64 toxic substances dated November 1980. Toxic limits are to be set utilizing bioassay procedures as outlined in CFR Vol. 45, No. 231, November 28, 1980.

When establishing limits on toxic substances for the protection of aquatic life, "Appendix B - Guidelines for Deriving Water Quality Criteria for the Protection of Aquatic Life and Its Uses," CFR Vol. 45 No. 231, November 28, 1980, will be utilized. Bioassay procedures and analysis shall be consistent with 'Methods for Measuring Acute Toxicity of Effluents (third edition)' published by EPA, or equivalent protocol as approved by the Commission.

Bioassay procedures and application factors used in establishing limits on toxic substances shall, as a minimum, be no less rigorous than the recommendations for bioassays and application factors contained in the National Technical Advisory Committee's report to the Secretary of the Interior on WATER QUALITY CRITERIA, April 1, 1968 or latest revision thereof.

**State Narrative Language For: Free From**

Class A waters shall be of the highest quality and shall contain not more than fifty coliform bacteria per one hundred milliliters. There shall be no discharge of any sewage or wastes into waters of this classification. The waters of this classification shall be considered as being potentially acceptable for water supply uses

## NEW HAMPSHIRE

after disinfection.

B. Class B waters shall be of the second highest quality and shall have no objectionable physical characteristics. There shall be no disposal of sewage or waste into said waters except those which have received adequate treatment to prevent the lowering of the physical, chemical or bacteriological characteristics below those given above, nor shall such disposal of sewage or waste be inimical to fish life or to the maintenance of fish life in said receiving waters. The waters of this classification shall be considered as being acceptable for bathing and other recreational purposes and, after adequate treatment, for use as water supplies.

Class C waters shall be of the third highest quality and shall be free from slick, odors, turbidity, and surface-floating solids of unreasonable kind or quantity, and shall be free from chemicals and other materials and conditions inimical to fish life or the maintenance of fish life. The waters of this classification shall be considered as being acceptable for recreational boating, fishing, or for industrial water supply uses either with or without treatment depending upon individual requirements.

D. Class D waters shall be the lowest classification and shall be free from slick, sludge deposits, odors, and surface-floating materials of unreasonable kind, quantity or duration, taking into consideration the necessities of the industries involved. The waters of this classification shall be aesthetically acceptable. Such water shall also be suitable for certain industrial purposes, power and navigation.

### State Narrative Language For: Low Flow

Low Flow - The water quality standards appearing in RSA 149:3-I, II, and III and in Ws 432 shall apply at all times except during periods when receiving stream flows are less than the minimum average seven day flow which occurs once in 10 years (7 & 10).

### State Narrative Language For: Mixing Zones

The Commission (New Hampshire Water Supply and Pollution Control Commission) may consider mixing zones, except as otherwise provided in these rules or by statute; and where mixing zones are allowed, they shall conform to the latest requirements of the Environmental Protection Agency or to the requirements of the Commission which shall be no less rigorous than existing federal requirements.

## NEW HAMPSHIRE

### Classifications:

- Class A Potentially acceptable for water supply uses after disinfection. No discharge of sewage, wastes or other polluting substances into waters of this classification. (Quality of water uniformly excellent.)
- Class B Acceptable for swimming and other recreation, fish habitat, and after adequate treatment, for use as water supplies. No disposal of sewage or wastes unless adequately treated. (High aesthetic value.)
- Class C Acceptable for recreational boating, fishing or industrial water supply, with or without treatment, depending on individual requirements. (Third highest quality.)

# NEW HAMPSHIRE

	All Classes	Class A	Class B	Class C
Physical				
pH				
Upper Value		Narr.	8.5	8.5
Lower Value			6.5	6.0
Dissolved Oxygen				
Lower Value		75%	75%	5 ppm
Temperature				
Upper Value		Narr.	Narr.	Narr.
Temperature Change				
Upper Value		Narr.	Narr.	Narr.
Turbidity				
Upper Value		5	10	10
Secondary Upper Limit		Standard Standard	Standard Standard	Standard Standard
Nutrients				
Phosphorus				
Upper Value		Narr.	Narr.	Narr.
Toxic Metals				
Pesticides				
Organics				
Phenols				
Upper Value		.001 ppm	.001 ppm	.002 ppm
Bacteria				
Total Coliform				
Upper Value		Narr.	Narr.	Narr.