

Hampstead Water Resource Committee Survey

May 26, 2021

Project Engagement

VIEWS	PARTICIPANTS
835	532
RESPONSES	COMMENTS
11,970	136
SUBSCRIBERS	
225	

How are you affiliated with Hampstead? Select all that apply and hit the "confirm your selection" button.

99%	I'm a resident.	506 ✓
3%	I own or work at a business/institution in Hampstead.	14 ✓

512 Respondents

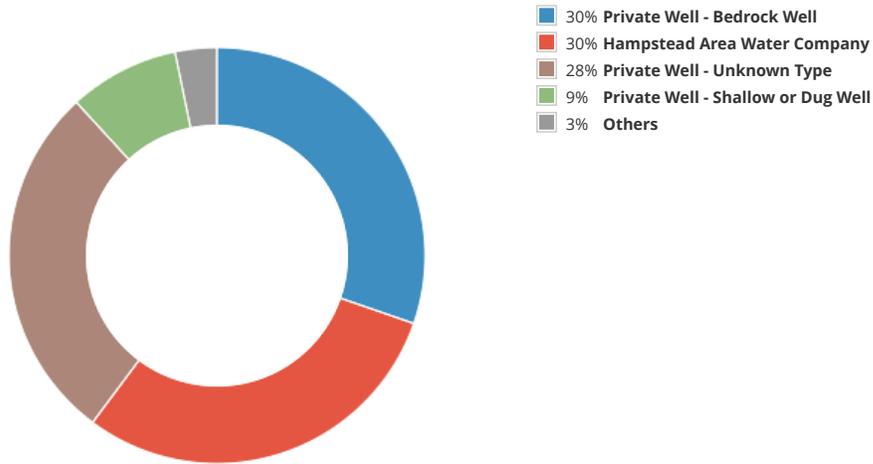
People in Hampstead get their water from three potential sources:

Private Wells - Single-family homes usually have one or more individual wells on their property. These can be deep bedrock wells or shallow dug wells. Your water usage may affect your neighbor's water supply and vice versa since all wells draw from the same interconnected system.

Community Water System - An apartment complex, condominium group, or business complex may have a well(s) that supplies all the users. This is maintained by a Management Company or Home Owners Association. The well(s) draw from the same underground sources as private wells.

Commercial Water Supply - About 1300 homes in Hampstead get their water from Hampstead Area Water Company (HAWC). They have a number of large wells in and around town to supply their core area. The HAWC wells draw from the same underground sources as private wells and community water systems.

What is the source of your drinking water?



525 respondents

Please respond to the following questions.

	Yes	No	Does Not Apply
Are you aware of drinking water testing practices recommended by the NH Department of Environmental Services for private drinking water wells due to common contaminants found in this part of New Hampshire (e.g. radon, arsenic, bacteria, and other chemical contaminants)?	62% Yes	28% No	10% Does Not Apply
Have you completed a water quality test for your well since owning your property?	55% Yes	20% No	25% Does Not Apply
Have you completed a water quality test for your well in the last 5 years?	39% Yes	35% No	26% Does Not Apply
If you obtain drinking water from a community water system or commercial drinking water supplier, are you aware that water quality testing results are available to you on the NH Department of Environmental Services OneStop website?	20% Yes	21% No	59% Does Not Apply
If you have a lawn sprinkler system, are you aware that the use of timers and rain sensors can make the system more efficient and conserve water?	31% Yes	3% No	66% Does Not Apply
Have you ever purchased water-saving fixtures and appliances?	75% Yes	21% No	3% Does Not Apply
Would you consider purchasing water-saving fixtures and appliances when replacing or remodeling?	92% Yes	3% No	5% Does Not Apply

411 respondents

BUSINESS/INSTITUTION: Please respond to the following questions.

	Yes	No	Does Not Apply
Are water conservation appliances and fixtures installed in the facility?	9% Yes	7% No	84% Does Not Apply
Does the facility have a landscape management plan?	4% Yes	10% No	87% Does Not Apply
Does the landscape management plan include water conservation measures (e.g. timed turf irrigation systems, water collection for reuse, drought-resistant or native plants)?	3% Yes	5% No	92% Does Not Apply
Does the facility have a water conservation implementation plan?	4% Yes	4% No	92% Does Not Apply

245 respondents

How should groundwater resources be managed in the community? Select all that apply and hit the "confirm your selection" button.

79%	As a shared public resource that should be protected for everyone.	336 ✓
49%	As a resource limited by environmental conditions such as drought and water consumption use and demand.	211 ✓
26%	As a resource owned and managed on privately owned property.	111 ✓
3%	As a resource for commercial sale.	11 ✓

427 Respondents

Would you support activities to protect and conserve groundwater resources in Hampstead? Select all that apply and hit the "confirm your selection" button.

84%	Receive information about existing and potential sources of groundwater contamination.	366 ✓
81%	Community Water Conservation Program to alert residents and businesses of drought conditions and need for water conservation.	352 ✓
78%	Receive information about water conservation during drought conditions.	339 ✓
78%	Limits on lawn watering during drought conditions.	337 ✓
75%	Installation of water saving fixtures and appliances.	327 ✓
65%	Water harvesting (e.g. rain barrels, cisterns, in-home collection/reuse).	282 ✓

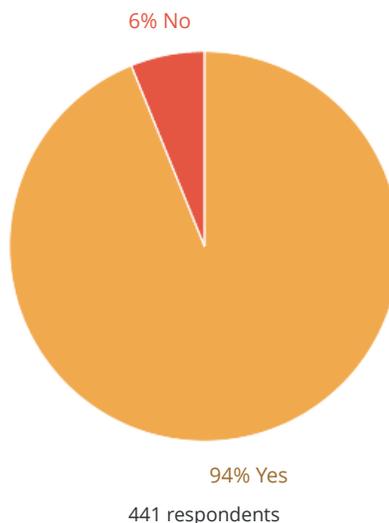
434 Respondents

Would you support measures to protect groundwater resources? Select all that apply and hit the "confirm your selection" button.

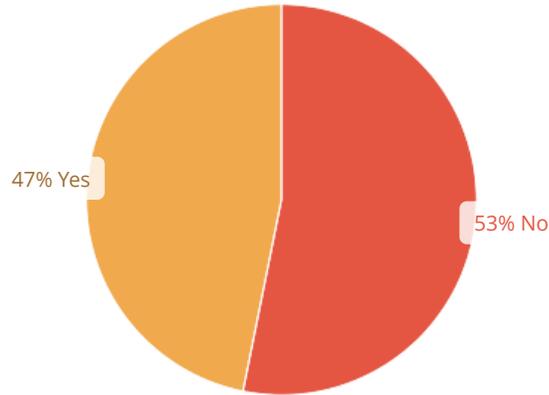
87%	Protection measures in the town's land development regulations for commercial developments and subdivisions.	362 ✓
85%	Protection measures in the town's land development regulations for residential subdivision developments.	354 ✓
78%	Protection measures in the town's Zoning Ordinance.	326 ✓
5%	Other	20 ✓

417 Respondents

The Planning Board is undertaking a Master Plan update in 2021. Should Hampstead prioritize groundwater resource protection in its Master Plan update?

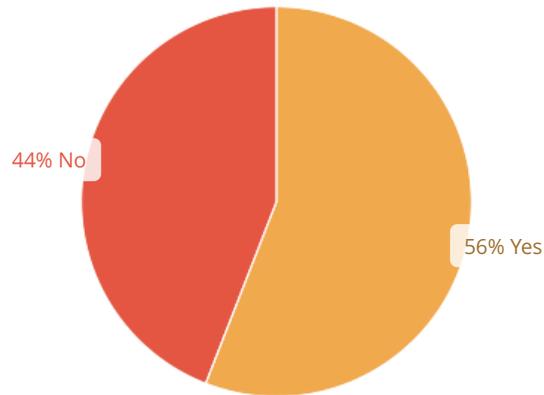


Would you be willing to participate in community-based outreach for prioritizing groundwater resource protection?



427 respondents

Are you familiar with the Hampstead Water Resource Committee and its goals?



440 respondents

What would help you learn more about the Hampstead Water Resources Committee? Select all that apply and hit the "confirm your answers" button.

75%	Town website	316 ✓
53%	HWRC Facebook page	225 ✓
47%	Email	198 ✓
45%	Flyer or other printed materials	190 ✓
23%	HWRC meetings	98 ✓
2%	Other	9 ✓

422 Respondents

Do you attend, monitor, view, or participate in the following? Select all that apply and hit the "confirm your selection" button.

93%	Voting in local elections	364 ✓
44%	Community based activities	173 ✓
40%	Town Meetings and/or workshops	158 ✓
26%	Board of Selectmen meetings	103 ✓
20%	Planning Board meetings	79 ✓
14%	Hampstead Water Resources Committee meetings	53 ✓
13%	Zoning Board of Adjustment meetings	49 ✓
11%	Conservation Commission meetings	44 ✓
5%	Other	21 ✓

392 Respondents

Do you have any additional thoughts or comments about water resources in Hampstead? Click the "Comment" button to save your comments.

Consider land development whether residential or commercial. Consider Hampstead residents - on restrictions now - before selling to other towns (i.e. Salem NH)

15 hours ago

Should have information for Private wells on website - management if own, how a neighbor's mgt or mis-mgt could affect yours

15 hours ago

Turning into Massachusetts trying to regulate everything

4 days ago

Base all decisions on science.

4 days ago

Not too knowledgeable

4 days ago

I would like to start attending more meetings to become more knowledgeable about what's going on in Hampstead.

4 days ago

I am worried about the possibility of my well going dry. It bothers me that six houses are being built behind me (on East Road - Brady Lane). Will that affect my water?

4 days ago

Please keep in mind that many people do not use Facebook or subscribe to newspapers.

4 days ago

Good idea that a committee was established to study and potentially solve water problems in Hampstead.

Secondly, the town could have a regular weekly column in the Carriage News where committee meetings, schedules, and important actions could be highlighted or summarized. Not everyone checks Hampstead online, and not everything is easy to find there.

4 days ago

We pay one of the highest rates for water in the state. There should be NO INCREASE in water rates until we are in the middle of the state pricing. Price gouging is the normal around here. Bills and meters are read monthly instead of quarterly. Hampstead water company routinely postponed payments so they can charge late fees. Please let's investigate that and how much they make per year. I think you'll find the numbers staggering

4 days ago

Have a nonpotable dug well and a bedrock well. Dug well stayed near full all summer when we moved here 16 yr ago. Now it is too dry to use even in early May. Bedrock well is lower than it used to be also. Very tired of local company taking water and selling it back at exorbitant prices. Housing development near Main St needs to STOP.

7 days ago

No

8 days ago

None

8 days ago

Hampstead Area Water Company generally gives water restrictions during the summer; however, there are frequently residents that have sprinkler systems on during rainy days. Can the Town provide additional restrictions to conserve our water?

9 days ago

No

9 days ago

Stop building in town. Not enough water for new development. No water sprinklers allowed for private or commercial. Not using town well water for filling pools.

10 days ago

I am concerned about the continuing commercial/residential development of areas that reduce aquifer recharge, remove forest habitat and increase demand

12 days ago

I think we should look for a community water option to be installed.

12 days ago

I am concerned about the limitations our water supply has for our community and would like to see Hampstead a priority when evaluating the Master plan for 2021. I have heard that we outsource/sell our water supply to other towns and communities while we have residents whose homes are struggling to maintain water source. I am concerned about the building of new residential homes and businesses who will put a further strain on water supply if it is not managed and planned for properly.

12 days ago

Town water caused mixing valve to clogged, because of all the pebbles in the water system. The pebbles in the water cause water pressure problems and hot water problems.

13 days ago

We believe that homeowners who purchase a home or have been a homeowner like us for about 30 years should never have to worry about a private company taking our resources, affecting our wells, for a profit. If the businesses can't build their huge, profitable developments without possibly affecting the single, established homes and homeowners' wells then they should not be given permits. Overbuilding is not an excuse for taking water from residents' wells.

13 days ago

Thank you for protecting our water.

13 days ago

we do not have enough water now yes building continues. we need to stop building and or get water from other locations.

13 days ago

A private company needs to be held accountable when other wells go dry due to overreach on their part. We all should be held accountable for over using water during a drought.

13 days ago

I think that the conservation of water is a real issue that needs to be addressed before it is too late to do so.

13 days ago

HAWC water tastes terrible

14 days ago

Great job creating this survey tool. Filling out the form was simple and the site worked flawlessly. Rare to see with a town website!

14 days ago

I don't think Hampstead's ground water should be available to be pumped to be sold. The ground water should be preserved for residents and local businesses. Water companies should pump water from far less developed areas where there is less water demand from residents.

15 days ago

Chemicals added to the surrounding water bodies that could leech into wells

15 days ago

Clean up Hampstead water company's drawing water to sell

15 days ago

Continuing to burden the existing ground water for export is misguided at best and harmful to the community

15 days ago

None

15 days ago

I am extremely opposed to the taking of my underground water supply by a private business while they resell it for profit to others. I will be out of water soon and now have water problems that I never had before. They get rich off of what should be a protected resource. There is something wrong with this picture! thank you

16 days ago

town should have zero private and comm Buiding growth. need to save the water we have and try to make a come back in the amount of water in all wells in town. No water leaving our town.

17 days ago

Would love to see meters set up at at town lines to monitor water going to outside Hampstead sources.

18 days ago

Our well is 60 to 70' deep. Wasn't sure whether that is considered "bedrock" or "shallow"

18 days ago

Where will results be posted? Do we get water from Merrimack Rivers through HAWC? Also what is the status of the waterline coming from Manchester? Will there be increased cost with this pipeline on our monthly bill?

with regard to appliances - would love to have immediate hot water as the waste of cold water to get warm water for shower etc is terrible.

I brought in a water analyzer to learn what was causing health issues from our water.

Would appreciate information regarding the Water Resources Committee

I am VERY CONCERNED regarding the HARD H2O in town. It has caused major color changes (from gray to BRASSY hair). Have had to change shower filter 4x's a year and have to have salon treat my hair to resolve brassy color.

18 days ago

I have NEVER encountered such an issue until I moved here! Also been concerned regarding notices from HAWC after the fact regarding water quality issues. Our health needs to be a priority with drinking water.

18 days ago

We have Hampstead Water Company water. They use town water for profit in developments. Frequently do not meet safe water and use chemicals. Not positive! Then Town wants to limit well water use. HWC is a problem!

18 days ago

Info constantly told to public to conserve and not waste especially watering lawns (can't eat grass) taking showers - too long too many. Here 50 years and notice water table and pressure has changed somewhat

18 days ago

HAWC should not be allowed to pull water from the aquifer in such amounts that jeopardize residents

18 days ago

DO NOT ALLOW PRIVATIZATION OF OUR WATER!

19 days ago

Keep up the good work!

19 days ago

The Hampstead Area Water Company seems to completely ignore any and all oversight by local and state Government Authority. This behavior is abhorrant and needs to be addressed by / or with the strictist letter of the law. DAVID A WOODMAN
MY COMMENTS ARE FOR PUBLIC VIEWING

19 days ago

The Hampstead Area Water Company seems to completely ignore any and all oversight by local and state Government Authority. This behavior is abhorrant and needs to be addressed by / or with the strictist letter of the law.

19 days ago

You are absolutely doing a great job protecting our water resources.

19 days ago

I think many people share concerns about the water quality and quantity in Hampstead. Perhaps a community outreach initiative (i.e. presenting to local clubs and at Hampstead Library) could help raise awareness of this important issue.

20 days ago

I believe the HWRC is doing a fantastic job at identifying and resolving problems with our sources of water in the Hampstead community.

20 days ago

Thank you to those who advocate and support water conservations

21 days ago

Too many developments going in competing for resources.

21 days ago

Water should not be taken from town and sent other places and sold back to those who it was taken from loaded with chemicals.

21 days ago

how much water is being exported to atkinson from hampstead by pipeline

21 days ago

Lawns in Hampstead are simply too big, require too much water, fertilizer and pesticides. Perhaps because the owners realize they are poisonous, the lawns are little used, only looked at. Landscape companies are a big part of the problem, as are the fertilizer companies (think Scott's.) Tax assessments should include lawn size - if the homeowner spends a lot of money on the lawn, it must be worth a lot, right?

21 days ago

Do not allow private companies to profit off of town groundwater ! i.e Lewis Builders

21 days ago

Yes. Hampstead Area Water Company should be XXXXXXXX banned from ever doing business in Hampstead again after their illegal pumping over the last years, and Lewis Builders should be forced to pay for new wells for every property in town that has had water quality or supply issues over the last 2 years. I am absolutely sure whoever is reading this is beholden to Lewis Builders because they seem to have the entire governing body of Hampstead in their pockets, so to whoever is reading this, XXXX LEWIS BUILDERS AND XXXX YOU.

21 days ago

Given events over the past few years that have impacted water accessibility to homes and businesses, Hampstead is in need of a water management plan that protects all stakeholders without monopolizing the resource. Hopefully, we as a community are beginning the process of working toward that end.

21 days ago

Keep Hampstead water in Hampstead

22 days ago

Seems to be a consistent theme in Hampstead (Southern NH in general) with poor water quality that could negatively impact property values. Would support a feasibility analysis of a public water utility including full review of economic impact.

22 days ago

none

22 days ago

None

25 days ago

The property the I live on has a dug well and an artisan well but was tied into Hampstead Area Water before we purchased. At the time the cost was reasonable but not anymore. HAWC has wells near our property that has effected the flow of our wells. Although we get our water from HAWC I have had to purchase a filter for our shower and we purchase about 10 gallons of water weekly as we can not drink the water. At times the smell of chlorine is so overpowering! We are looking for ways to get away from HAWC!

25 days ago

Water has an odor. To expensive.

25 days ago

Why should Town residents and town businesses bear the burden of low water or drought conditions because the water is being shipped to other towns via underground piping for commercial profit there ought to be a town ordinance denying water being shipped under our town lines

25 days ago

Why should residents and businesses of Hampstead the burden of low water and road conditions because we are shipping our natural resource to other towns via underground water piping for commercial profit I don't care what the state says there ought to be a town ordinance that does not allow this

25 days ago

Not sure whether I support the new master plan as it isn't implemented yet. Not enough information to say yes or no either way. Maybe if they didn't allow 3 super wells and numerous other wells in Hampstead to do huge groundwater withdrawals we wouldn't be in such a drought. Huge developments are still being placed in Hampstead wherever they can fit them in which further strains the water resources. The same company putting in these developments is the same company doing the withdrawals and then selling that water to customers in Hampstead while homeowners are forced to conserve water due to shortages and drought. Easier to manage drought when HAWC isn't permitted to withdraw extraordinary amounts (millions of gallons) several times a year. Glad that the resource committee called attention to the well/water issues we have been facing and finally put some constraints on the local water companies.

25 days ago

Protect the families so they don't run out of water.

25 days ago

Appreciate all you are doing

25 days ago

Conserve water

25 days ago

We need to do a better job of conserving
Water

25 days ago

Retirees can not afford the proposed rate increase that Hampstead Area Water Company is proposing. This company has a double edged sword as it is both the supplier of water and a building and construction company. The rate payers are subsidizing the added burden on their wells and infrastructure due the approval of the large sub divisions that Lewis builders is allowed to develop. Consideration of that burden should be considered before these projects are approved.

25 days ago

None

25 days ago

My involvement is minimal and I am sorry for that but circumstances prevent me to do so! I support and THANK those who have taken this as an important issue to address

25 days ago

Thank you for creating this survey and continuing this important work to protect Hampstead's water supply!

25 days ago

N/A

26 days ago

9

26 days ago

I worry about all the new houses and wells that my impact mine

26 days ago

Thank you for your guardianship of such a precious resource

26 days ago

Thank you for helping protect our town!

26 days ago

We need to curtail the massive overuse and theft of OUR water by HAC and companies like it. They are in it for the \$ and do not care about the damage they cause and the water they steal.

26 days ago

I don't understand why wells are the main source. Would it be possible to bring public water in?

26 days ago

N/A

26 days ago

I distrust HAWC in that they may be drawing water from Hampstead's aquifer and sending it to other towns or golf courses.

26 days ago

Ensure Hampstead water stays in Hampstead and is not being diverted or sold out of town.

26 days ago

No

26 days ago

NONE

26 days ago

Development definitely needs to be limited to what our water supplies can support.

26 days ago

NA

26 days ago

None

26 days ago

I hate that our water is taken and sold.

26 days ago

Why is the Hampstead Area Water so nasty? Brown contaminants accumulate in water filters quickly. Chlorine smells in the mornings. Poor water pressure.

26 days ago

Thank you for your good work.

26 days ago

No

26 days ago

Private commercial wells must be strictly regulated and serve as water supplies for Hampstead residences and businesses only.

26 days ago

Water is a scarce resource and should be treated as such by residents of Hampstead. While I understand that water rights were sold, we should protect this precious resource for residents of Hampstead. I don't think we should be using water for developments in other towns.

26 days ago

I don't think private companies should sell our water

26 days ago

If the town provides public water it should not effect (cost in taxes and/or current local supply) the residents that opt out of the hook.

26 days ago

we all need safe clean water

26 days ago

As a bedrock well owner based just feet outside the impact zone of the Angle Woods large well I am deeply concerned for the future around Angle Pond & Rte 111 in this area as well as Sandown borders.

26 days ago

Hampstead water should not be for sale. Amd residents with wells need to be protected

26 days ago

Please note that I do not believe our fire hydrants are up to state standards.

26 days ago

Statewide and multistate (Connecticut river, eg) regulation needed

26 days ago

Very concern about water conservation,over building in our town

26 days ago

aa

26 days ago

Keep government policies off our properties.

26 days ago

Might be time to start the conversation about outdoor water use restrictions, particularly during a drought.

26 days ago

Good luck, guys... I hope you can get some things changed, I support it even tho my private well has (knock wood) never had issues :)

26 days ago

no

26 days ago

We just hooked up to HAWC this month so some of my answers applied to when we were on our private well.

26 days ago

Hampstead needs to control water for its own needs. Hampstead Area Water Company does not care about Hampstead's needs. They are not the answer for the future.

26 days ago

Please leave your contact information if would you like to receive future information about water resources in Hampstead or the Hampstead Water Resource Committee (HWRC).

Alternatively, you can contact us online or via email - links to the right or below.

Contact information will NOT be published with the survey results.

No data to display...