Town of Myersville
2015 Drinking Water Quality Report

PWSID: 010-0020

Important Information About Your Drinking Water

We're pleased to present to you the Annual Water Quality Report for 2015. This report is designed to inform you about the water quality and services we deliver to you every day. Maryland Environmental Service (MES), an Agency of the State of Maryland, operates the water treatment facility and prepared this report on behalf of the Town of Myersville.

The Environmental Protection Agency (EPA) regulates Public Water Systems and the contaminants found in water through the implementation of the Safe Drinking Water Act (SDWA). The SDWA sets regulations and guidelines for how public water systems operate and identifies several hundred drinking water contaminants, establishes monitoring frequencies and limitations. The Maryland Department of the Environment (MDE) is responsible for the enforcement of the SDWA and routinely complete Sanitary Surveys as part of their ongoing inspection and monitoring program. MES provides safe dependable operations of the water system and is dedicated to consistently providing high quality drinking water that meets or exceeds the SDWA standards.

If you have any questions about this report or have questions concerning your water utility, please contact *Jay Janney at 410-729-8350, e-mail jjann@menv.com*. Copies of this report will not be mailed to consumers but are available upon request.

For More Information:

For the opportunity to ask more questions or participate in decisions that may affect your drinking water quality, the town council meets the *second Tuesday of each month at 7:00 PM at Town Hall.*

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The Town of Myersville water works consists of ten (10) wells in the Catoctin metabasalt formation, seven springs and surface water from Little Catoctin Creek. The Ashley, Meadow and Deer Wood wells are treated at the wells sites and pumped directly into the distribution system. The other wells are combined with the spring and Catoctin creek water and treated at the Myersville Surface Water Treatment plant. The combined water is filtered and disinfectant added to protect against microbial contaminates. The Maryland Department of the Environment has performed an assessment of the source water. A copy of the results is available. Call *Maryland Environmental Service at 410-729-8350*

Some people may be more vulnerable to contaminants in drinking water than the general population. Immuno-compromised persons such as persons with cancer undergoing chemotherapy, persons who have undergone organ transplants, people with HIV/AIDS or other immune system disorders, some elderly, and infants can be particularly at risk from infections. These people should seek advice about drinking water from their health care providers. EPA/CDC guidelines on appropriate means to lessen the risk of infection by Cryptosporidium and other microbial contaminants are available from the *Safe Drinking Water Hotline (1-800-426-4791).*

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Definitions:

- *Maximum Contaminant Level Goal (MCLG)* - The level of a contaminant in drinking water below which there is no known or expected risk to health. MCLGs allow for a margin of safety.
- *Maximum Contaminant Level (MCL)* - The highest level of a contaminant that is allowed in drinking water. MCLs are set as close to the MCLGs as feasible using the best available treatment technology.
- *Action Level (AL)*- The concentration of a contaminant which, if exceeded, triggers treatment or other requirements which a water system must follow
- *Treatment Technique (TT)* - A required process intended to reduce the level of a contaminant in drinking water
- *Turbidity* - Relates to a condition where suspended particles are present in the water. Turbidity measurements are a way to describe the level of "cloudiness" of the water.
- *pCi/l* - Picocuries per liter. A measure of radiation.
- *ppb* - parts per billion or micrograms per liter
- *ppm* - parts per million or milligrams per liter

Special points of interest:

The water at the Town of Myersville is tested for over 120 different compounds.

The Town of Myersville Drinking Water met all of the State and Federal requirements.

Drinking Water, including bottled water, may reasonably be expected to contain at least small amounts of some compounds. The presence of these compounds does not necessarily indicate that water poses a health risk. More information about contaminants and potential health effects can be obtained by calling the *Environmental Protection Agency's (EPA's) Safe Drinking Water Act Hotline (1-800-426-4791).*

Important Information on Disinfection Byproducts TTHMs (Total Trihalomethanes)

Disinfection byproducts form when disinfectants added to drinking water to kill germs react with naturally occurring organic matter in water. Many water suppliers add disinfectant to drinking water to kill germs such as Giardia and e-coli. Your water system may add more disinfectant to guarantee that these germs are killed especially after heavy rainstorms. Some people who drink water containing Total Trihalomethanes in excess of the EPA standard over many years may experience, problems with their liver, kidneys, or central nervous system and have an increased risk of getting cancer. The TTHM results listed on the next page are a running annual average and are below the MCL the EPA has set at 80ppb.

The table on page 3 lists all the drinking water contaminants that were detected during the 2015 calendar year. The presence of these compounds in the water does not necessarily indicate that the water poses a health risk. Unless otherwise noted, the data presented in the table is from testing done January 1 – December 31, 2015.

The State requires us to monitor for certain contaminants less than once per year because the concentrations of these contaminants are not expected to vary significantly from year to year.

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Contaminant	Highest Level Allowed (EPA's MCL)	Highest Level Detected	Ideal Goal (EPA's MCLG)
Regulated at the Treatment Plant			
Nitrate (Range 1.1 ppm - 3.0 ppm)	10 ppm	3.0 ppm	10 ppm
Typical Source of Contamination: Runoff from fertilizer use and/or erosion			
Barium (Range 0.0 ppb- 24.3 ppb) (2015 Testing)	2000 ppb	24.3 ppb	2000 ppb
Typical Source of Contamination: Erosion of natural deposits			
Atrazine (2014 Testing)	3 ppb	0.11 ppb	3 ppb
Typical Source of Contamination: Runoff from herbacide used on crops			
Regulated in the Distribution System			
Chlorine	4 ppm	0.87 ppm *	4 ppm
Water additive used to control microbes		Range (0.53 - 1.38)	
* Average of results			
Total Trihalomethanes (TTHMs)	80 ppb	44 ppb *	n/a
(Range: 21.5 ppb - 60.0 ppb)		*Locational Rolling Average	
Typical Source of Contaminants: By-product of drinking water disinfection.			
Haloacetic Acids (HAA5)	60 ppb	33 ppb *	n/a
(Range: 3.2 ppb - 28.4 ppb)		*Locational Rolling Average	
Typical Source of Contaminants: By-product of drinking water disinfection.			
Regulated in the Distribution System	Action Level	90th percentile	Ideal Goal
Copper (2014 Testing)	1300 ppb (AL)	245 ppb	1300 ppb
Typical Source of Contamination: Corrosion of household plumbing fixtures and systems			
Lead (2014 Testing)	15 ppb (AL)	7 ppb	0 ppb
Typical Source of Contamination: Corrosion of household plumbing fixtures and systems			
Tested at the Treatment Plant			
Turbidity	TT=filtration	0.10 NTU	n/a
Turbidity cannot exceed 1.0 NTU and must be < or = to 0.3 NTU in at least 95% of the measurements taken each month.			
The water plant met the turbidity limits 100% of the time. Turbity monthly maximum Ranged from (0.04 NTU to 0.10 NTU)			
TOC	35% removal required*	(Range 18% - 39%)	Average 25%
Typical Source of Contaminant: Naturally present in the environment			
*The TOC removal requirement is not effective for Myersville due to the raw water meeting alternative compliance criteria.			

Sources of Drinking Water

The sources of drinking water (both tap water and bottled water) include rivers, lakes, streams, ponds, reservoirs, springs and wells. As water travels over the surface of the land or through the ground, it dissolves naturally-occurring minerals and, in some cases radioactive material, and can pick up substances resulting from the presence of animals or from human activity.

In order to ensure that tap water is safe to drink, EPA prescribes regulations which limit the amount of certain compounds in water provided by public water systems. We treat our water according to EPA's regulations. Food and Drug Administration regulations establish limits for contaminants in bottled water which must provide the same protection for public health.

Lead Prevention

If present, elevated levels of lead can cause serious health problems, especially for pregnant women and young children. Lead in drinking water is primarily from materials and components associated with service lines and home plumbing. The Town of Myersville is responsible for providing high quality drinking water, but cannot control the variety of materials used in plumbing components. When your water has been sitting for several hours, you can minimize the potential for lead exposure by flushing your tap for 30 seconds to 2 minutes before using water for drinking or cooking. If you are concerned about lead in your drinking water, you may wish to have your water tested. Information on lead in drinking water, testing methods, and steps you can take to minimize exposure is available from the ***EPA Safe Drinking Water Hotline at 1-800-426-4791 or at*** *http://www.epa.gov/safewater/lead*.

Water Security is Everyone's Responsibility

Water system security continues to be an enormously important issue. If you notice suspicious activities in or around local water utilities, such as persons cutting or climbing facility fencing, loitering, tampering with equipment or other similar activities, please contact your local law enforcement agency immediately by dialing 911.

If you have any questions about this report or your drinking water, please call Jay Janney at 410-729-8350 or email your request to jjann@menv.com.

MARYLAND ENVIRONMENTAL SERVICE