Annual Drinking Water Quality Report for 2015
Town of Grantsville
PWSID #0110005
May, 2016

We're pleased to present to you this year's Annual Water Quality Report. This report is designed to inform you about the water quality and services we deliver to you every day. Our constant goal is to provide you with a safe and dependable supply of drinking water. We want you to understand the efforts we make to continually improve the water treatment process and protect our water resources. We are committed to ensuring the quality of your water. The water source for the Town of Grantsville comes from four springs and two wells in the Pottsville-Allegheny aquifer. After the water is pumped out of the wells, we add disinfectant to protect against microbial contaminants and remove iron, adjust the pH for corrosion control, and then filter the water. We also have the Keyser's Ridge Plant which serves that area and the Industrial Park complex. The water source for this plant is one well which draws from the Burgoon Formation.

The Maryland Department of the Environment (MDE) has performed an assessment of our source water. This Source Water Assessment Report may be viewed at our town hall, or a copy may be obtained there or from MDE.

I'm pleased to report that our drinking water is safe and meets federal and state requirements.

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 microbiological contaminants are available from the Safe Drinking Water Hotline (800-426-4791).

If you have any questions about this report or concerning your water utility, please contact Bill Hetrick at 301-895-3144. We want our valued customers to be informed about their water utility. If you want to learn more, please attend any of our regularly scheduled meetings. The Town Council meets the third Monday of each month at 7:00 pm.

The Town of Grantsville routinely monitors for contaminants in your drinking water according to Federal and State laws. This table shows the results of our monitoring for the period of January 1st to December 31st, 2015. As water travels over the land or underground, it can pick up substances or contaminants such as microbes, inorganic and organic chemicals, and radioactive substances. All drinking water, including bottled drinking water, may be reasonably expected to contain at least small amounts of some contaminants. It's important to remember that the presence of these contaminants does not necessarily pose a health risk.

In this table you will find many terms and abbreviations you might not be familiar with. To help you better understand these terms we've provided the following definitions:

Parts per million (ppm) or Milligrams per liter (mg/l) - one part per million corresponds to one minute in two years or a single penny in $10,000.

Parts per billion (ppb) or Micrograms per liter - one part per billion corresponds to one minute in 2,000 years, or a single penny in $10,000,000.

Picocuries per liter (pCi/L) - picocuries per liter is a measure of the radioactivity in water.

Action Level - the concentration of a contaminant which, if exceeded, triggers treatment or other requirements which a water system must follow.

Maximum Contaminant Level - The "Maximum Allowed" (MCL) is 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.

Maximum Contaminant Level Goal - The "Goal"(MCLG) is 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.

Non-Detects (ND) - laboratory analysis indicates that the constituent is not present.

TEST RESULTS						
Contaminant	Violation Y/N	Level Detected	Unit Measurement	MCLG	MCL	Likely Source of Contamination
Radioactive Contaminants						
Combined radium (2015) (226 & 228)	N	1	pCi/l	0	5	Erosion of natural deposits
Alpha emitters (2015)	N	3.3	pCi/l	0	15	Erosion of natural deposits
Inorganic Contaminants						
Copper (distribution) (2014)	N	0.219	ppm	1.3	AL=1.3	Corrosion of household plumbing systems; erosion of natural deposits; leaching from wood preservatives
Lead (distribution) (2014)	N	11.0	ppb	0	AL=15	Corrosion of household plumbing systems, erosion of natural deposits
Chlorine (2015)	N	1.2	ppm	4	4	Water Additive used to control microbes
Barium Grantsville WTP Keyser's Ridge WTP (2015)	 N N	 0 0.312	ppm	2	2	Erosion of natural deposits
Arsenic Grantsville WTP Keyser's Ridge WTP (2009)	 N N	 < 3.0 3.0	ppb	n/a	10	Erosion of natural deposits; runoff from orchards; runoff from glass and electronics production wastes
Nitrate (as Nitrogen) Grantsville WTP (2015) Keyser Ridge WTP	 N N	 0.29 ND	ppm	10	10	Runoff from fertilizer use; leaching from septic tanks, sewage; erosion of natural deposits
Volatile Organic Contaminants						
TTHM (distribution) [Total trihalomethanes] (2015)	N	16	ppb	0	80	By-product of drinking water chlorination
HAA5 Haloacetic Acids (Distribution) (2015)	N	7	ppb	0	60	By-product of drinking water chlorination
Unregulated Contaminants						
Sodium (2012) Grantsville WTP Keyser's Ridge WTP	 N N	 10.8 11.4	ppm	N/A	N/A	Erosion of natural deposits
Chloromethane (2012)	N	0.9	ppb	N/A	N/A	Unknown

Note: Unless otherwise noted, the data presented in the table is for year 2015. Some contaminants do not require annual testing.

All sources of drinking water are subject to potential contamination by substances that are naturally occurring or man made. These substances can be microbes, inorganic or organic chemicals and radioactive substances. All 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. More information about contaminants and potential health effects can be obtained by calling the Environmental Protection Agency's Safe Drinking Water Hotline at 1-800-426-4791.

As you can see by the table, our system had no violations. We're proud that your drinking water meets or exceeds all Federal and State requirements. We have learned through our monitoring and testing that some contaminants have been detected. The EPA has determined that your water IS SAFE at these levels.

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 Grantsville 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.

We constantly monitor for various contaminants in the water supply to meet all regulatory requirements. This past year we received a reporting violation for late reporting of our test results for lead and copper which were not received by MDE by the required due date which was the 10th day of the month following the end of the compliance period. This did not pose a threat to the quality of our water supply as test results were zero for lead and well below the AL for copper. Residents which were sampled for these contaminants received a letter from our office with their lead result as required by State & Federal Regulations.

MCL's are set at very stringent levels. To understand the possible health effects described for many regulated constituents, a person would have to drink 2 liters of water every day at the MCL level for a lifetime to have a one-in-a-million chance of having the described health effect.

Thank you for allowing us to continue providing your family with clean, quality water this year. In order to maintain a safe and dependable water supply we sometimes need to make improvements that will benefit all of our customers. These improvements are sometimes reflected as rate structure adjustments. Thank you for understanding.

Please call our office if you have questions. That number is 301-895-3144.