

Annual Drinking Water Quality Report 2015
Mt. Pleasant Water Company, Inc-MD0180009
Saint Mary's County, Maryland
April, 2016

We are pleased to present this year's Annual Drinking Water Quality Report. This report is designed to inform you about the quality of the water 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 that the quality of your water meets all local, State and Federal standards and regulations.

Some people may be more vulnerable to contaminants in drinking water than the general population. Immuno-compromised persons such as persons with cancer who are 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 microbiological contaminants are available from the Safe Drinking Water Hotline (1-900-426-4791).

The source of the drinking water for your system is two four inch wells in the Aquia Aquifer. An aquifer is a sort of underground reservoir or deposit of water that is tapped by drilling wells, and pumping the water to the surface for distribution. The earth between the surface (where sources of contamination occur) and this underground aquifer help to purify the water before it actually reaches the aquifer. This makes it easier for us to treat the water supply before we pump it into your water distribution system.

We are pleased to report that the drinking water in your system is safe and meets Federal and State requirement. The following report is provided in compliance with Federal regulations and will be provided annually. This report outlines the quality of our finished drinking water and what that quality means. If you have any questions concerning this report or any aspect of your water utility, please contact Patricia G. Downs, President at 301-769-3220.

We routinely monitor the Mt Pleasant community water system for contaminants in your drinking water according to Federal and State laws. The tables on the following pages show the results of our monitoring for the period of January 1, through December 31, 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 reasonable expected to contain at least small amounts of some contaminants. It is important to remember that the presence of these contaminants does not necessarily pose a health risk.

Definitions

In this report, 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.

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.

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

TEST RESULTS						
Contaminant	Violation Y/N	Level Detected	Unit Measurement	MCLG	MCL	Likely Source of Contamination
Inorganic Contaminants						
Copper (2014) (Distribution)	N	0.33	ppm	1.3	AL=1.3	Corrosion of household plumbing systems; erosion of natural deposits; leaching from wood preservatives
Arsenic (2014)	N	7.7	ppb	N/A	10	Erosion of natural deposits; runoff from orchards; runoff from glass and electronics production wastes
Fluoride (2013)	N	0.2	ppm	4	4	Erosion of natural deposits; water additive which promotes strong teeth; discharge from fertilizer and aluminum factories
Unregulated Contaminants						
Sodium (2010)	N	47.3	ppm	N/A	N/A	Erosion of natural deposits

Note: Test results are for year 2015 or as otherwise indicated; All contaminants are not required to be tested for annually.

The Maryland Dept. of the Environment requires monitoring for some contaminants less than once per year, because the concentrations of these contaminants do not change frequently. Some of our data, though representative, is more than one year old.

Unregulated Contaminants are those for which the EPA has not established drinking water standards. The purpose of the unregulated contaminant monitoring is to assist EPA in determining the occurrences of unregulated contaminants in drinking water and whether future regulation is warranted

LEAD IN DRINKING WATER

If present, elevated levels of lead can cause serious health problems, especially pregnant women and your children. Lead in drinking water is primarily materials and components associated with service lines and home plumbing. The Mt. Pleasant Water Company, Inc. 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 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.

The presence of some contaminants in drinking water is unavoidable, but we make every effort to keep our water at or below the levels specified by law as being safe for consumption. Your water system is operated by a licensed operator, who is trained to provide you with the best quality water possible.

While your drinking water meets EPA's standard for arsenic, it does contain low levels of arsenic. EPA's standard balances the current understanding of arsenic's possible health effects against the costs of removing arsenic from drinking water. EPA continues to research the health effects of low levels of arsenic, which is a mineral known to cause cancer in humans at high concentrations and is linked to other health effects such as skin damage and circulatory problems."

Our system received a reporting violation when we were late reporting our lead test results to MDE before October 1, 2014. Once MDE received the test results we were returned to Compliance.

Our system received coliform monitoring violation when we failed to test our drinking water for the contaminant and period indicated January 1, 2015 to January 31, 2015. Because of this failure, we cannot be sure of the quality of our drinking water during the period indicated.

The Maryland Rural Water Association's State Circuit Rider assisted with the completion of this report.

All customers are urged to participate in protecting this valuable resource and practice conservation to ensure a sustainable water supply for our community.