PWSID: 017-0001

Town of Centreville 2013 Drinking Water Quality Report

Important Information Concerning Your Drinking Water

We are pleased to present to you the Annual Water Quality Report for 2013. This report is designed to inform you about the water quality and services we deliver to you every day. The Town of Centreville operates the water treatment facility. Analytical and reporting services are subcontracted to Maryland Environmental Service (MES). MES prepared this report on behalf of the Town of Centreville.

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 completes Sanitary Surveys as part of its ongoing inspection and monitoring program. The Town 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 call Sam Bozarth at 410-758-1180 or email your inquiry to townhall@townofcentreville.org*

For More Information:

For the opportunity to learn more about decisions that may affect your drinking water quality, the Town Council generally meets on the first and third Thursday of each month at 7:00 p.m. at the Liberty building, 107 North Liberty Street.

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The water for Centreville comes from two wells. The underground water source of the wells are located in the Aquia formation. After the water is pumped out of the well, we adjust the pH and add disinfectant to protect against microbial contaminants. 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).*

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.

Centreville Treated Water Quality Report 2013

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* - 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.
- *NTU - Nephelometric Turbidity Units.* Units of measurement used to report the level of turbidity or "cloudiness" in 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 Centreville is tested for over 120 different compounds. The Town of Centreville 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)*

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.

Centreville Treated Water Quality Report 2013

Contaminant	Highest Level Allowed EPAs MCL	Highest Level Detected	Ideal Goal (EPA's MCLG)
Regulated at the Treatment Plant			
Water Treatment Plant 3 - Business Park (Plant I.D. 03) **Well 5**			
Arsenic (Range 4.9 ppb -8.3 ppb) Typical sources of contaminant: Erosion of natural deposits	10 ppb	6.6 ppb (Average)	0 ppb
Nitrate (2013 Testing) Typical sources of contaminant: Runoff from fertilizer use	10 ppm	0.09 ppm	10 ppm
Barium (2011 Testing) Typical sources of contaminant: Erosion of natural deposits	2000 ppb	116 ppb	2000 ppb
Fluoride (2011 Testing) Typical sources of contaminant: Water additive that promotes strong teeth, erosion of natural deposits	4000 ppb	450 ppb	4000 ppb
Gross Beta (2012 Testing) Typical sources of contaminant: Erosion of natural deposits	50 pCi/l*	8.6 pCi/l**	0 pCi/l
Water Treatment Plant 4 - North Brook (Plant I.D. 04) **Well 6**			
Arsenic (Range 4.3 ppb - 7.0 ppb) Typical sources of contaminant: Erosion of natural deposits	10 ppb	5.6 ppb (Average)	0 ppb
Nitrate (2013 Testing) Typical sources of contaminant: Runoff from fertilizer use	10 ppm	0.17 ppm	10 ppm
Barium (2011 Testing) Typical sources of contaminant: Erosion of natural deposits	2000 ppb	150 ppb	2000 ppb
Fluoride (2011 Testing) Typical sources of contaminant: Water additive that promotes strong teeth, erosion of natural deposits	4000 ppb	420 ppb	4000 ppb
Gross Beta (2008 Testing) Typical sources of contaminant: Erosion of natural deposits	50 pCi/l*	11 pCi/l**	0.0 pCi/l
Combined Radium (226 & 228) (2008 Testing) Typical sources of contaminant: Erosion of natural deposits	5 pCi/l	0.9 pCi/l	0 pCi/l

Notations: * EPA considers 50 pCi/l to be the level of concern for beta particles

** Because the beta particle results were below 50 pCi/l, no testing for individual beta particle constituents was required.

Regulated in the Distribution	Action Level	Highest Level	Ideal Goal
Copper (2012 Testing) Typical sources of contaminant: corrosion of household plumbing	1300 ppb (90th Percentile)	278 ppb	1300 ppb
Lead (2012 Testing) Typical sources of contaminant: corrosion of household plumbing	15 ppb (90th Percentile)	4 ppb	0 ppb
Total Trihalomethanes, TTHM's (2011 Testing) Typical sources of contaminant: Byproduct of drinking water disinfection	80 ppb	0.85 ppb	na

The table above lists all the drinking water contaminants that were detected during the 2013 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, 2013. 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.

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.

Important Information Regarding Gross Beta Emitters:

Beta emitters are naturally occurring radiations in soil, air, and water. These emitters generally occur when certain elements decay or break down in the environment. The emitters enter drinking water through various methods including the erosion of natural deposits. There are no immediate health risks from consuming water that contains gross Beta, however some people who drink water containing Beta emitters in excess of the MCL over many years may have an increased risk of getting cancer. Currently, the highest level of gross beta detected is 11 pCi/L which is below the 50 pCi/L MCL.

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 Centreville 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

Important information about Arsenic

Arsenic is a semi-metal element in the periodic table. It is odorless and tasteless. It enters drinking water supplies from natural deposits in the earth or from agricultural and industrial practices. Some people who drink water containing arsenic in excess of the MCL over many years could experience skin damage or problems with their circulatory system, and may have an increased risk of getting cancer. Currently, the arsenic levels are being monitored quarterly. We are constantly evaluating alternatives and treatment options for reducing the arsenic levels to less than 10 ppb.

If you have any questions about this report or your drinking water, please call Sam Bozarth at 410-758-1180 or email townhall@townofcentreville.org