Town of Hebron

"The Water We Drink"

Annual Drinking Water Quality Report – 2014

PWSID # 0220002

Presented by the Commissioners of Hebron

Over the last three years our drinking water was tested over 400 times for over 70 contaminants. *8 contaminants were detected, none were higher than the state allows.*
This report is a snapshot of the quality of the water that we provided you last year (January 2014 through December 2014). Included are the details about where your water comes from, what it contains, and how it compares to the Environmental Protection Agency (EPA) and State of Maryland standards.

We, The Commissioners of Hebron are committed to providing you with this information because informed customers are our best allies. And **we are proud of our high quality drinking water.**
For more information about the quality of your water call our Town Manager Mrs. Mary Purner or the Water Superintendent Jerry Kennedy at our **Town Hall at 410-742-5555.**

The Commissioners meet the first and third Wednesday of every month at 7:00 PM at the Town Hall. You are welcome and invited to attend our meetings. And we will be glad to hear from you and answer any of your questions.

Our water source is two wells about 280 feet deep into an underground water source called the Frederica Aquifer. The town owns the land around the wells and restricts any activity that may contaminate them. The water quality was greatly improved with the 1996 construction of the present tower and wells. The P. H. of the water is between 7.8 and 8.0 which decreased the leaching of lead and copper from old piping and eliminated it in most cases.

The disinfecting program for the town's water supply is chlorination with hypochlorite. Because of the high quality of the ground water source the free chlorine levels are kept at between .4 and .7 mg/L. The static water pressure throughout the town is 50 to 54 pounds.

Your water is tested by state certified personnel. The chlorine levels, PH, and water pressure is tested everyday and recorded by the Town of Hebron's Water Superintendent. Other test are taken by a certified lab as requested by the state, and the rest are taken by state and county personnel.

EPA STATMENT ON LEAD HEATH RISH AND WAYS TO REDUCE EXPOSURE:

"If present, elevated levels of lead can cause serious heath problems, especially for pregnant women and young children. Lead in drinking water is primarily from materials and components associated with service lines and home plumping. The Town of Hebron 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 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.

"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." Drinking water, including bottled water, may reasonably be expected to contain small amounts of some contaminants. The presence of some 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 EPA's Safe Drinking Hotline (800-426-4791).*

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

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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 Hotline (800-426-4791).

Contaminants that may be present in the water source before we treat it include:
* *Microbial contaminants,* such as viruses and bacteria, which may come from sewage treatment plants, septic tanks, agricultural livestock operations and wildlife.
* *Inorganic contaminants,* such as salts and metals, which can be natuarlly-ocurring or result from urban storm water runoff, industrial or domestic wastewater discharges, oil and gas production, mining or farming.
* *Pesticides and herbicides,* which may come from a variety of sources such as agriculture and residential uses.
* *Radioactive contaminants,* which are naturally occurring.
* *Organic chemical contaminants,* including synthetic and volatile organic chemicals, which are by-products of industrial processes and petroleum production, and can also come from gas stations, urban storm water runoff, and septic systems.

In order to ensure that tap water is safe to drink, EPA prescribes regulations which limit the amount of certain contaminants 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 the public health.

The following table "Town of Hebron 2014 Drinking Water Test Results" list all the drinking water contaminants that we detected during the 2012, 2013 and 2014 calendar years. The presence of these contaminants in the water does not necessarily indicate that the water poses a health risk. Unless otherwise noted, the data presented in this table is from testing done January- December 31, 2014. The state requires us to monitor for certain contaminants less than once a year because the concentrations are not expected to vary significantly from year to year. Some of the data, though representative of the water quality, is more than one year old.

The following are terms & abbreviations used in the table:
* **Maximum Contaminant Level Goal (MCLG):** the level of a contaminant in drinking water which there is no known or expected risk to health. MCLG's allow for a margin of safety.
* **Maximum Contaminant level (MCL):** the highest level of contaminant that is allowed in drinking water. MCL's are set as close to the MCLG's as feasible using the best available treatment technology.
* **Action level (AL):** the concentration of a contaminant which, when exceeded, triggers treatment or requirements which a water system must follow.
* **n/a:** not applicable * **nd:** not detectable at testing limit
* **ppb:** parts per billion or micrograms per liter * **ppm:** parts per million or milligrams per liter
* **pCi/l:** picocuries per liter (a measure or radiation)

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"Town Of Hebron 2014 Drinking Water Results" **CHART # 1**

Note: EPA requires that values in this report be in whole numbers when possible, therefore some of the results in this report are in parts per billion (ppb) not in parts per million as normally reported.

Contaminants regulated by EPA found in Hebron drinking water:

Contaminants Test date	In Violation	Level Detected	Measurement Unit	MCL	MCLG	Major Source In Drinking Water	Health Effects Language
Radioactive Contaminants							
(1) Gross Beta 10/31/13 *	NO	10.9	pCi/l	50	0	Decay of natural & man made deposits	(1) Gross Beta: Certain minerals are radioactive and may emit forms of radiation known as Photons and Radiation. Some people who drink water containing Beta and Photon Emitters in excess of the MCL over many years have increased risk of getting cancer.
Inorganic Contaminates							
(2) Fluoride 10/13/2013 *	NO	0.37	ppm	4	4	Erosion of natural deposits.	(2) Fluoride: Some people who drink water containing Fluoride in excess of the MCL over many years could get Bone Disease, including pain and tenderness of the bones. Children may get Mottled Teeth.
Disinfection Byproduct							
TTHMS Total trihalomethanes			ppb	1000	100/80	Byproduct of drinking water disinfection	Some people who drink water containing Trihaomethanes in excess of the action level of the MCL over many years may experience problems with their liver, kidneys, or central nervous system, and may have an increased risk of getting cancer
08/18/14	NO	16.2					
08/18/14		24.7					
Average		20.5					
(5) Haloacetic acids	NO		ppb	0.060	N/A	Byproduct of drinking water disinfection	(5) Increased risk of cancer
8/18/2014		3.95					
8/18/2014		5.14					
Average *		4.5					
Trihaomethanes							
(6) Bromodichlormethane			ppb	Total of all the Trihalomethanes present is 12 ppb		By-Product of drinking water Chlorination.	(6) Bromodichloromethane: Some people who drink water containing Trihaomethanes in excess of the action level of the MCL over many years may experience problems with their liver, kidneys, or central nervous system, and may have an increased risk of getting cancer.
10/08/20014	NO	4.1					
10/08/2014		4.1					
Average *		4.1					

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"Town Of Hebron 2004 Drinking Water Results" **CHART # 2**

Note: EPA requires that values in this report be in whole numbers when possible, therefore some of the results in this report are in parts per billion (ppb) not in parts per million as normally reported.

Contaminants not regulated by EPA found in Hebron drinking water:

Contaminants Test date	In Violation	Level Detected	Measurement Unit	MCL	MCLG	Major Source In Drinking Water	Health Effects Language
(7) Sodium 10/31/2013 *	NO	46.9	ppm	Not regulated but tested		Erosion of natural deposits.	(7) Unknown
Bromofrom 10/08/14 Average test *	NO	1.2 1.2 1.2	ppb	Not Regulated but tested		By-Product of drinking water Chlorination.	Being studied.
(8) Chloroform 10/08/2014 10/08/2014 Average *	NO	3.2 3.2 3.2	ppb	Not regulated but tested		By-product of drinking water treatment	(8) Chloroform: Part of the Trihalomethanes contaminants group. See regulated contaminants Bromodichloromethane (chart 1)
(9) Dibromochloromethane 10/08/2014 10/08/2014 Average *	NO	4.3 4.3 4.3	ppb	Not regulated but tested		By-product of drinking water treatment	(19) Dibromochloromethane: Part of the Trihalomethanes contaminants group. See regulated contaminants Bromodichloromethane (chart 1)

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