

BOONSBORO/KEEDYSVILLE REGIONAL WATER SYSTEM
2015 ANNUAL DRINKING WATER QUALITY REPORT
PWSID #021002

We are very pleased to present to you the Boonsboro/Keedysville Regional Water System's Annual Drinking Water Quality Report for the 2015 calendar year. Our goal is to consistently provide you with a safe and dependable supply of drinking water by continuing to improve the water treatment process and taking the extra steps to protect our valuable water resources. We are committed to ensuring the safe quality of the water that reaches your tap, as reflected in the monitoring results included with this report.

Your drinking water comes from the Tomstown Dolomite, a geological formation made of carbonate rock, which forms an aquifer feeding a combination of wells and springs which is filtered, chlorinated, and processed with *fluoride* through the Boonsboro and Keedysville Water Treatment Plants. The plants process water from four sources; the Keedysville Spring, the Warrenfeltz Spring, Well 8 in Graystone, and the Shafer Park Well; all ground water sources under direct influence of surface 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. The Boonsboro/Keedysville Water system staff diligently monitor for contaminants in your drinking water, ensuring safety according to Federal and State laws.

Your water is tested because all sources of drinking water are subject to potential contamination by substances that are naturally occurring or man-made. As water travels over the land or underground, it can pick up substances or contaminants such as: *Microbial contaminants*, such as viruses and bacteria, which may come from sewage treatment plants, septic systems, agricultural livestock operations, and wildlife; *Inorganic contaminants*, such as salts and metals, which can be naturally-occurring 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, urban storm water runoff, and residential uses; *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; and *Radioactive contaminants*, which can be naturally-occurring or be the result of oil and gas production and mining activities.

Is my water safe? Drinking water, including bottled water, may reasonably be expected to contain at least small amounts of contaminants. The presence of contaminants does not necessarily indicate that water poses a health risk. More information about contaminants and potential health risks can be obtained by calling the EPA's Safe Drinking Water Hotline at (800) 426-4791. 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. FDA regulations establish limits for contaminants in bottled water which must provide the same protection for public health. Some people may be more vulnerable to contaminants in drinking water than the general population. **Boonsboro/Keedysville Regional Water System meets all Federal (EPA) and State (Maryland) regulatory requirements.** If any of the Maximum Contaminant Levels (MCLs) or reporting requirements were exceeded or violated during the period that this report covers, the health effects and reasons for the violations would be stated in this report.

Do I need to take special precautions? Immuno-compromised persons such as those with cancer undergoing chemotherapy, person 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 EPA Safe Drinking Water Hotline (800-426-4791).

If present, elevated levels of lead can also 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. 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 or at <http://www.epa.gov/safewater/lead>.

To learn more about your town's water system, please consider attending the monthly meeting of the Boonsboro Municipal Utilities Commission or the Keedysville Water Board. For information regarding meeting dates, times, and locations, please contact your local town hall or visit www.town.boonsboro.md.us and www.keedysvillemd.com.

The table below represents drinking water contaminants detected for the 2015 calendar year. Some of the data represented in this report is more than one year old. This is because the state allows us to monitor for some contaminants less than once per year because the concentration of these contaminants does not change frequently.

Contaminant	Source	Sample Date	MCLG	MCL	Range of Levels Detected	Highest level Detected	Unit of Measure	Violation	Likely Source of Contamination
Disinfectants and Disinfection By-Products									
HAA5 Haloacetic Acids	All	2015	N/A	60	0-16.2	8	ppb	N	By-product of drinking water chlorination
TTHM Total Trihalomethanes	All	2015	N/A	80	0-8.31	4	ppb	N	By-product of drinking water chlorination
Chlorine	All	2015	MRDLG = 4	MRDLG = 4	0-1.2	1.2	ppm	N	Water additive used to control microbes
Inorganic Contaminants									
Fluoride	All	2015	4	4	0.18-0.57	0.57	ppm	N	Erosion of natural deposits; water
Nitrate (measured as Nitrogen)	All	2015	10	10	3.2-3.8	4	ppm	N	Fertilizer runoff; leaching from septic tanks, sewage; erosion of natural deposits
Copper	consumers tap	2015	1.3	Action Level 1.3		0.2	ppm	N	Corrosion of household plumbing systems, erosion of natural deposits
Lead	consumers tap	2014	0	0.015		0.005	ppm	N	
Radioactive Contaminants									
Combined Radium 226/228	All	2015	0	5	0-2	2	pCi/L	N	Erosion of natural deposits
Gross Alpha excluding radon and uranium	All	2015	0	15	0-5.2	5.2	pCi/L	N	Erosion of natural deposits
Turbidity	Limit (Treatment Technique)				Level Detected				Soil Runoff
Highest single measurement	5 NTU				0.06 NTU			N	
Lowest monthly % meeting limit	1.0 NTU				100%			N	
Drinking Water Definitions and (Unit) Descriptions									
MCLG	Maximum Contaminant Level Goal: the level of a contaminant in drinking water below which there is no known or expected risk to health. MCLG's allow for a margin of safety.								
MCL	Maximum Contaminant Level: the highest level of a contaminant that is allowed in drinking water. MCL's are set as close to he MCLG's as feasible using the best available treatment technology.								
MRDLG	Maximum residual disinfectant level: The highest level of a disinfectant allowed in drinking water. There is convincing evidence that addition of a disinfectant is necessary for control of microbial contaminants.								
NA	Not Applicable								
NTU	Nephelometric Turbidity Unit. A measure of the clarity of water								
ppb (ug/L)	Parts Per Billion (micrograms per liter). One part per billion corresponds to one minute in 2,000 years								
ppm (mg/L)	Parts Per Million (milligrams per liter). One part per million corresponds to one minute in two years.								
pCi/L	Pococuries per liter. Measures the radioactivity in water.								
Source	Monitoring results are for three water sources and the distribution system as a whole (noted as 1, 2, 3, & All) 1= Boonsboro Filtration Plant 2= Well 8 Graystone 3=Keedysville Filtration Plant								

The Towns of Boonsboro and Keedysville take great pride in providing the best quality water of possible to every tap. We ask all of our customers to invest in the welfare of our children's future by helping us to protect and safeguard our water sources.

For more information or questions regarding this report, please contact Megan Clark, Boonsboro Town Manager at 301-432-5141 or town.manager@myactv.net or visit the EPA website at www.epa.gov/safewater.