

# ***Annual Drinking Water Quality Report for CY2016***

***Matthews Manor***

**PWSID 0080027**

**April, 2017**

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. Our water source is one well which draws water from an underground aquifer.

This report shows our water quality and what it means.

A source water assessment plan has been prepared that provides more information such as potential sources of contamination. This plan is available thru the Charles County Public Library or Maryland Department of the Environment (MDE).

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, please contact Paul Springer at (301) 643-2655. We want our residents to be informed about their water. If you want to learn more, please attend one of our semi-annual community meetings which are currently held in the spring and fall. You will receive a notice with the date, time and location of these meetings.

Matthews Manor 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 1<sup>st</sup> to December 31<sup>st</sup>, 2016. It's important to remember that the presence of these contaminants does not necessarily pose a health risk.

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.

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.

*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                                                                                            |
| <b>Radioactive Contaminants</b> |               |                |                  |      |        |                                                                                                                           |
| Combined radium 226 & 228(2011) | N             | 1.2            | pCi/l            | 0    | 5      | Erosion of natural deposits                                                                                               |
| <b>Inorganic Contaminants</b>   |               |                |                  |      |        |                                                                                                                           |
| Arsenic (2014)                  | N             | 7.0            | ppb              | n/a  | 10     | Erosion of natural deposits; runoff from orchards; runoff from glass and electronics production wastes                    |
| Fluoride (2014)                 | N             | 0.49           | ppm              | 4    | 4      | Erosion of natural deposits; water additive which promotes strong teeth; discharge from fertilizer and aluminum factories |
| Lead (distribution) (2014)      | N             | 0              | ppb              | 0    | AL=15  | Corrosion of household plumbing systems, erosion of natural deposits                                                      |
| Copper (distribution) (2014)    | N             | 0              | ppm              | 1.3  | AL=1.3 | Corrosion of household plumbing systems; erosion of natural deposits; leaching from wood preservatives                    |
| <b>Unregulated Contaminants</b> |               |                |                  |      |        |                                                                                                                           |
| Sodium (2014)                   | N             | 83             | ppm              | N/A  | N/A    | Erosion of natural deposits                                                                                               |

**Note: Test results are for year 2016 or as otherwise indicated; All contaminants are not required to be tested for annually.**

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 cost 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.

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. Matthews Manor 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>.

**NOTE: As can be seen by results listed in the above tables, lead, which is tested for on a triennial basis (every 3 years) in Matthews Manor distribution system in accordance with Federal and State regulations, has not been detected in collected samples. Our most recent testing was in 2014.**

MCL's are set at very stringent levels. To understand the possible health effects described for many regulated contaminants, 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.

Please call Paul if you have questions about this report or your water.