

Annual Drinking Water Quality Report for 2016
Independence Village
PWSID 0080019
May, 2017

We're pleased to provide you with this year's Annual Water Quality Report. We want to keep you informed about the water quality and services we have delivered to you over the past year. Our goal is and always has been, to provide to you a safe and dependable supply of drinking water. Our water source is from one well which is located adjacent to our pump house. The depth of this well and the confined aquifer from which it draws is unknown at the present time.

A source water assessment plan has been completed for Charles County. This report is available from Charles County Government, the Charles County Public Library, or Maryland Department of the Environment (MDE) and provides more information such as potential sources of contamination.

This report shows our water quality and what it means.

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 Sylvester Ball at 301-672-8537. We want our residents to be informed about their water. If you want to learn more, please attend any of our regularly scheduled community meetings which are held on the first Wednesday of most months at one of our residences on a rotating basis. You will be notified of the time and place for these meetings.

Independence Village 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 1st to December 31st, 2016. 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 reasonably expected to contain at least small amounts of some contaminants. It's important to remember that the presence of these contaminants does not necessarily pose a health risk.

In this table you will find 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.

ND – Indicates that there was no lead detected.

TEST RESULTS						
Contaminant	Violation Y/N	Level Detected	Unit Measurement	MCLG	MCL	Likely Source of Contamination
Radioactive Contaminants						
Beta/photon emitters (2011)	N	11.3	pCi/l	0	50	Decay of natural and man-made deposits
Volatile Organic Contaminants						
TTHM (Distribution) [Total trihalomethanes] (2016)	N	0.55	ppb	0	80	By-product of drinking water chlorination
Haloacetic Acids (HAA5) (distribution) (2015)	N	0.5	ppb	0	60	By-product of drinking water chlorination
Inorganic Contaminants						
Copper (Distribution) (2016)	N	0.06	ppm	1.3	AL=1.3	Corrosion of household plumbing systems; erosion of natural deposits; leaching from wood preservatives
Lead (Distribution) (2013)	N	ND	ppb	0	AL=15	Corrosion of household plumbing systems, erosion of natural deposits
Barium (2014)	N	0.051	ppm	2	2	Discharge of drilling wastes; discharge from metal refineries; erosion of natural deposits
Fluoride (2014)	N	0.23	ppm	4	4	Erosion of natural deposits; water additive which promotes strong teeth; discharge from fertilizer and aluminum factories
Unregulated Contaminants						
Sodium (2014)	N	12	ppm	N/A	N/A	Erosion of natural deposits

Note: Test results are for year 2016 unless otherwise noted. All contaminants do not require annual testing.

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. Independence Village 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 currently tested for annually in accordance with Federal and State regulations in Independence Village's distribution system, was not detected in our most recent samples collected in 2016.

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.

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.

Our system received a nitrate reporting violation from January 1, 2016 to December 31, 2016. We failed to report the results of that test to MDE by the January 10, 2017 deadline.

Assistance in completing this year's annual water quality report is being provided by Maryland Rural Water Association. We are required by State and Federal Regulations to provide a copy of this annual report to our residents and to Maryland Department of the Environment (MDE) no later than July 1st of each year. A Certification of Distribution Form is required to be submitted annually to MDE no later than October 1st of the same year which describes how the report was provided to our residents.

Please call Sylvester or Eleanor Whalen if you have questions about this report or the quality of your drinking water.