

# Town of La Plata 2016 Drinking Water Quality Report



PWSID: 008-0025

## Important Information Concerning Your Drinking Water

We are pleased to present to you the Annual Water Quality Report for 2016. This report is designed to inform you about the water quality and services we deliver to you every day. Maryland Environmental Service (MES), an Agency of the State of Maryland, operates the water treatment facility and prepared this report on behalf of the Town of La Plata.

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 conducts sanitary surveys, inspections and monitoring for all public water systems. MES 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 contact *Jay Janney* at 410-729-8350, e-mail [jjann@menv.com](mailto:jjann@menv.com)

### For More Information:

For the opportunity to ask more questions or participate in decisions that may affect your drinking water quality, please contact the Director of Operations for *La Plata Water Treatment Plant* at 301-934-8421.

The water for the Town of La Plata is pumped from five wells, each is over 1000 feet deep. Four wells are located in the Lower Patapsco aquifer and the other well is located in the Upper Patapsco formation. After the water is pumped out of the well we 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

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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 Water Hotline* (1-800-426-4791).

# Town of La Plata Treated Water Quality Report 2016

## 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 Town of La Plata 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)*.

## Important information about Gross Alpha Emitters:

Alpha 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 alpha, however some people who drink water containing alpha emitters in excess of the MCL over many years may have an increased risk of getting cancer. Currently, the highest level of gross alpha detected is 7.2 pCi/l which is below the 15 pCi/l MCL.

The following table lists all the drinking water contaminants that were detected during the 2016 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, 2016.

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.

# Town of La Plata Treated Water Quality Report 2016

Contaminant	Highest Level Allowed EPAs MCL	Highest Level Detected	Ideal Goal (EPA's MCLG)
<b>Regulated at the Treatment Plants</b>			
Fluoride (2014/2015 Testing)	4000 ppb	811 ppb (Range: 343 to 811 ppb)	4000 ppb
Source: Erosion of natural deposits and discharge from fertilizer and aluminum factories			
Chromium (2016 Testing)	100 ppb	<10 ppb	100 ppb
Source: Erosion of natural deposits, discharge from steel/pulp mills			
Barium (2016 Testing)	2000 ppb	20.2 ppb	2000 ppb
Source: Erosion of natural deposits, discharge from metal refineries (Range: 3.4 to 20.2 ppb)			
Nitrate	10 ppm	0.09 ppm (Range: 0.0 to 0.09 ppm)	10 ppm
Source: Erosion of natural deposits, runoff from fertilizer, and leaching from septic tanks and sewage			
Gross Alpha (2016 Testing)	15 pCi/l	7.2 pCi/l (Range: 6.7 to 7.2 pCi/l)	0 pCi/l
Source: Erosion of natural deposits			
Combine Radium (226 & 228) (2015 Testing)	5 pCi/l	0.5 pCi/l*	N/A
Sources: Erosion of natural deposits			
Gross Beta (2010 Testing)	50 pCi/l*	8.4 pCi/l**	0 pCi/l
Source: Erosion of natural deposits			
<b>Notations:</b> * 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. Typical sources of contaminant: Erosion of natural deposits.			
<b>Regulated in the Distribution</b>			
Chlorine	4 ppm	1.4 ppm*	4 ppm
Water additive used to control microbes (Range: 1.23 to 1.54 ppm)			
*Average result			
Total Trihalomethanes (TTHM) (2016 Testing)	80 ppb	8.7 ppb	n/a
Haloacetic Acids (HAA5) (2016 Testing)	60 ppb	1.8 ppb	n/a
Typical Source of Contamination: By-product of drinking water disinfection			
<b>Regulated in the Distribution</b>			
	<b>Action Level</b>	<b>90th Percentile</b>	<b>Ideal Goal</b>
Copper (2014 Testing)	1300 ppb	192 ppb	1300 ppb
Typical sources of contaminant: corrosion of household plumbing			
Lead (2014 Testing)	15 ppb	0 ppb	0 ppb
Source: Corrosion of household plumbing fixtures and systems			



# 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.

*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.*



## 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 La Plata 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>.

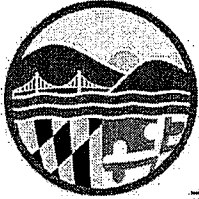
## Advanced technology available to consumers

The Town of La Plata has invested in several innovative technologies in order to help conserve our natural resources and to help meet future needs. A new Automated Metering Infrastructure (AMI) was installed in August 2012 to automate the Town's water meter reading and billing system. This system allows residents to access their account information over the internet and set alerts to notify them of potential leaks. In addition, the Town now has the ability to detect leaks in system mains to reduce major problems of leaking pipes under Town roadways. Utility customers who would like to be able to access their accounts using this new technology will be able to do so after contacting the Town at 301-934-8421 or emailing [cjohnson@townoflaplata.org](mailto:cjohnson@townoflaplata.org) to set up their account.

## Radon

The result of the March 2014 radon sample was 265 pCi/l. Radon is a radioactive gas that you cannot see, taste, or smell. It is found throughout the U.S. Radon can move up through the ground and into a home through cracks and holes in the foundation. Radon can build up to high levels in all types of homes. Radon can also get into indoor air when released from tap water from showering, washing dishes, and other household activities. Compared to radon entering the home through soil, radon entering the home through tap water will in most cases be a small source of radon in indoor air. Radon is a known human carcinogen. Breathing air containing radon can lead to lung cancer. Drinking water containing radon may also cause increased risk of stomach cancer. If you are concerned about radon in your home, test the air in your home. Testing is inexpensive and easy. There are simple ways to fix a radon problem that are not too costly. For additional information, call your state radon program or call EPA's Radon Hotline (800-SOS-RADON).

*If you have any questions about this report or your drinking water, please call Jay Janney at 410-729-8350 or email your request to [jjann@menv.com](mailto:jjann@menv.com).*



# Maryland

Department of  
the Environment

Larry Hogan  
Governor

Boyd Rutherford  
Lieutenant Governor

Ben Grumbles  
Secretary

## Consumer Confidence Report Certification

Water Supply System Name: La Plata Water Treatment Plant  
PWSID: 008-0025 County: Charles

**Consumer Confidence Report due to customers and to MDE no later than July 1<sup>st</sup>;**  
**Certification of Delivery due to MDE no later than October 1<sup>st</sup> each year.**  
*CCR and Certification are best delivered together by email attachment if possible.*

I confirm that the Consumer Confidence Report for the year **2016** has been distributed to customers (and appropriate notices of availability have been given) in accordance with COMAR 26.04.01 by July 1, 2017. I further certify that the report is correct and consistent with compliance monitoring data previously submitted to MDE.

Certified by: Name Michelle D. Miner  
Signature Michelle D. Miner  
Title Assistant Town Manager  
Phone # 301-934-8421 Date 6/13/17

Specific details on CCR distribution: (Date all that apply)

         Date CCR was delivered to MDE.

6/13/17 Date CCR was distributed by mail.

         Date CCR was distributed by other methods. List methods of delivery:         

☐ Approved electronic delivery plan is on file with MDE. (Check if applicable)

5/30/17 Date a notice of CCR availability was published.

5/30/17 Town of La Plata Facebook Page

         Date good faith efforts were used to reach non-bill paying consumers. Those efforts included the following recommended methods:

5/30/17 Date of posting the CCR on the Internet at: www.townoflaplata.org

         Date of mailing the CCR to postal patrons (bulk mail) within the service area (attach zip codes).

         Date of advertising availability of the CCR in news media (attach copy of announcement).

         Date of publication of CCR in local newspaper (attach copy).

6/14-6/17/17 Date of delivery of multiple copies to single bill addresses serving several persons such as: apartments, businesses, and large private employers.

6/14-6/17/17 Date of delivery to community organizations (attach a list).

Check violation types addressed:

- ☐ A tier 3 public notice is distributed with the CCR.
- ☐ Monitoring violations are addressed in the CCR.
- ☐ MCL violations are addressed in the CCR.
- ☐ CCR Delivery or Adequacy Violations are addressed in the CCR.

**Mandatory for systems serving 100,000 or more persons:**

         Date posted CCR on a publicly accessible Internet site. List Internet address:         

         Date CCR delivered to other agencies or additional methods used. (Optional, attach list or description).

MDE/WMA/COM.025 (Revised 3/2016)

Facebook interface showing the profile of the Town of La Plata, Maryland. The page includes a cover photo, profile picture, and navigation tabs (Page, Messages, Notifications, Insights, Publishing Tools, Settings, Help). The main content area displays a post titled "2016 Drinking Water Quality Report" with a link to the report. The post has 1,414 people reached and 2 shares. The right sidebar shows page tips and statistics, including 3,571 likes and 3,541 follows. The bottom status bar indicates the time as 1:52 PM on 06/08/2017.

Facebook interface showing the profile of the Town of La Plata, Maryland.

**Navigation:** Page, Messages, Notifications, Insights, Publishing Tools, Settings, Help.

**Profile Information:**

- Town of La Plata** (@TownofLaPlata)
- Home**, **About**, **Photos**, **Reviews**, **Likes**, **Videos**, **Join our email list**, **Events**, **Posts**, **Services**, **Shop**, **Groups**, **Notes**, **Offers**, **Jobs**

**Post:**

- 2016 Drinking Water Quality Report**
- The Town is please to present the 2016 Drinking Water Quality Report. Please visit the following link: <http://townoflaplata.org/%7BC5944482-8A4A-48D0-B56C-BE347...>**
- laplata.govoffice.com**
- 1,414 people reached**
- 2 shares**
- Like**, **Comment**, **Share**

**Page Tips:**

- Help People Take Action**: Add a call-to-action button to the top of your Page.
- How Do Facebook Ads Work?**: Reach all the right people where they're active and engaged.
- How to Create Effective Posts**: Short, visual posts created for the right audience are more successful.

**Statistics:**

- 74% response rate, 18-hours response time**: Respond faster to turn on a badge.
- 3,571 likes +12 this week**: Jay Mattingly and 64 other friends.
- 3,541 follows**
- See Pages Feed**: Post's that Pages you've liked as your Page.
- 5,162 were here +51 this week**: Jay Mattingly and 41 others.
- 5,988 post reach this week**

**Community** • Chat (16)

**Bottom Bar:** 1:52 PM, 06/08/2017



- Announcements
- Events
- Forms & Applications
- Employment
- Site Map

#### In Town Services:

- [Water](#)
  - [Your Utility Bill](#)
  - [New Water Meters](#)
- [Sanitation](#)
- [Snow Policy](#)
- [Conservation Corner](#)

### Potable Water

Almost a million gallons a day of fresh clean potable water is used in the Town of La Plata every day. The Town gets its water from confined aquifers over 1,000 feet underground. The water is gently treated and frequently tested to assure a quality product for the La Plata community. Recent Water Consumer Confidence Reports are below.

If you have questions about your water service, please don't hesitate to contact Town Hall at (301) 934-8421 or email [cjohnson@townoflaplata.org](mailto:cjohnson@townoflaplata.org). More information about your utility bill is below.

[Your Utility Bill](#)

[New Water Meters](#)

### Water or Sewer Emergency

If you have a water or sewer emergency, call (301) 932-3870 for Public Works and follow the instructions given to report your emergency. The automated response system will alert staff to respond to you.

### 2016 Consumer Confidence Reports

Annually the Town of La Plata provides a report of the water quality testing for La Plata's wells for drinking water. Please follow this [link](#).

### Water Meter Customer Portal

Water customers can access information about their water use online. The installation of the Town's new Automated Metering Infrastructure system (AMI) is now complete. This system allows the Town to read the water meters automatically and gather data about water consumption to help track down leaks.

Customers may now access the new customer portal that will allow viewing of individual meter consumption data online and also receive

Laplatatv10.local  
Internet access:

× Woodcrest #1  
704 Harford Street  
4 apts. – 4 newsletters

× Woodcrest #4  
800 Washington Ave  
4 apts. – 4 newsletters

× Calvert Square ✓  
6695 Glen Albin Road  
(behind Animal Clinic)  
4 apts. – 4 newsletters

La Plata Manor ✓  
1 Hickory Lane  
103 newsletters (2 extra: for  
community room)

\* The Maples \*  
101 Wesley Drive  
77 newsletters (2 extra)

× Heritage Place (Building C)  
609 Zekiah Run Road  
12 apts. – 12 newsletters

× Woodcrest #2  
302 Harford Street  
4 apts. – 4 newsletters

× Frere-Higdon  
604 Kent Avenue  
10 apts. – 10 newsletters

La Plata Garden Apts. ✓  
310 Caroline Drive (off  
Washington Avenue) Put in laundry rooms of  
A, B, and C buildings – 52 newsletters

× Charles County Nursing ✓  
Home Lobby  
10200 La Plata Road  
25 newsletters

× Heritage Place (Building A)  
605 Zekiah Run Road  
8 apts. – 8 newsletters

× Woodcrest #3  
300 Harford Street  
10 apts. – 10 newsletters

× Charleston Terrace ✓  
Condo/apts. (original building)  
327 St. Mary's Avenue  
12 apts. – 12 newsletters

× Chrisleigh Apartments  
101 E. Hawthorne Drive  
6 apts. – 6 newsletters

× Genesis Eldercare Lobby ✓  
1 Magnolia Drive  
25 newsletters

× Heritage Place (Building B)  
601 Piney Branch Way  
12 apts. – 12 newsletters



## MAIL AUTHORIZATION FORM

To: Michelle Company Town of LaPlata Date 5/25/17

From: Candice/Lara Job # 8570 Title \_\_\_\_\_

The statistics for the mail list you provided to us are as follows:

Mail List Name(s) Address Labels

Total records 3333

Please indicate "YES" or "NO" by checking appropriate spaces below for authorization to mail, SIGN, AND FAX (301-932-7495) BACK TO US.

CASS Certified (Automation postal rates) 3193 ☐ MAIL? Yes ☒ No \_\_\_\_\_

Non-Cass Addresses (Mails at higher presorted rate) 11 ☐ MAIL? Yes \_\_\_\_\_ No ☒

Duplicates 127 WILL BE DELETED UNLESS OTHERWISE INSTRUCTED.

Invalid ZIP codes 0 WILL NOT MAIL WITHOUT PROPER ZIP CODES.

Multi-Matched Addresses 2 (Mails at higher presorted rate) ☐ MAIL? Yes \_\_\_\_\_ No ☒

International Addresses 0 ☐ MAIL? Yes \_\_\_\_\_ No ☒

POSTAGE ESTIMATE: The following is an estimate of your postage based on your mail list. Postage payments are required prior to delivery to the Post Office unless other arrangements have been made. If the final postage is less than the estimate, your account will be credited.

USA \$ 1324.03 International \$ \_\_\_\_\_

US Postage is based on 1<sup>st</sup> CLASS \_\_\_\_\_ card \_\_\_\_\_ letter \_\_\_\_\_ flat \_\_\_\_\_ STANDARD: Profit \_\_\_\_\_ letter \_\_\_\_\_ flat  
Nonprofit \_\_\_\_\_ letter \_\_\_\_\_ flat

PERIODICAL \_\_\_\_\_

### MOVE UPDATE - REQUIRED FOR AUTOMATION MAILING

The following is recommended for your mailing:

National Change of Address (NCOA) \_\_\_\_\_

Ancillary Service Endorsements (e.g., Address Service Requested) \_\_\_\_\_

Alternative Method (adding "Or Current Resident") ☒ \_\_\_\_\_

Do you agree? Yes ☒ No \_\_\_\_\_ If not, which method do you want to use?

A random selection of names has been made in order for you to verify the accuracy of your mail list. Please review the name and address to ensure no shifting of information has occurred. Your signature below indicates you have made this review and agree that the names and addresses belong together.

Customer Signature: Michelle D. Miner Date: 5/26/17

<b>Company Detail</b>	
Company Name	TOWN OF LAPLATA
Address	305 QUEEN ANNE ST LA PLATA, MD 20646-5981
Contact Name	KATHERINE WINSTEAD
Phone Number	(301)870-2046
Profit Indicator	P
<b>PS Form 3607R - Mailing Transaction Receipt</b>	
Account Holder Account Number	1282431
Account Holder Permit Number	10131
Account Holder Permit Type	PI
Account Holder CRID	13567289
Post Office of Permit	WALDORF MD 20601-9998
Post Office of Mailing	WALDORF MD 20601-9998
Post Office of Permit Cost Center	239324-1601
Post Office of Mailing Cost Center	239324-1601
Mailing Agent Name	WILDES-SPIRIT DESIGN & PRINTING
Mailing Agent CRID	4362988
Mail Owner Name	WILDES PRINTING CO
Mail Owner CRID	5597319
JOB ID	
Customer Reference ID	
CAPS Transaction Number	N/A
Class of Mail	First-Class Mail and First-Class Package Service
Processing Category	Letters (may include Postcards)
Postage Statement ID	274813330
Mailing Group ID	191571338
Mailer's Mailing Date	06/12/2017
Mailer Declared Total Pieces	3,193 pcs.
Mailer Declared Total Weight	101.8567 lbs.
Mailer Declared Weight of a single-piece	0.0319 lbs.
USPS Determined Total Pieces	3,193 pcs.
USPS Determined Total Weight	103.7725 lbs.
USPS Determined Weight of a single-piece	0.0325 lbs.
Total Number of Containers	11
Total Adjusted Postage	\$ 1,199.50
Payment Date and Time	06/12/2017 14:19
Payment Transaction Number	201716313195927M0
Adjustment Transaction Number	
Mailer Figures Adjusted?	No
Person authorizing adjustment	
Name	
Phone Number	
Acceptance Site Mailer ID	
Clerk Initials	KJC
Mail Arrival Date and Time	06/12/2017 14:15