

Annual Drinking Water Quality Report for 2016
May, 2017
Claiborne Water Supply
PWSID 0200002

We're pleased to provide you with this year's Annual Water Quality Report. We want to keep you informed about the excellent water 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 one well with a depth of 347 feet which draws from the Aquia 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 Talbot 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).

Claiborne Water Supply 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.

If you have any questions about this report or concerning your water quality, please contact Clarence L. (Renny) Johnson at telephone number (410) 745-5001. He can also be contacted at fax number (410) 745-5586.

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.

Picocuries per liter (pCi/L) - picocuries per liter is a measure of the radioactivity in water.

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.

TEST RESULTS						
Contaminant	Violation Y/N	Level Detected	Unit Measurement	MCLG	MCL	Likely Source of Contamination
Radioactive Contaminants						
Beta/photon emitters (2016)	N	11.5	pCi/l	0	50	Decay of natural and man-made deposits
Stage 2 Disinfection Byproducts: October 1 – December 31, 2014						
TTHM (Distribution) (2016) (Total trihalomethanes)	N	0.72	ppb	0	80	By-product of drinking water chlorination
HAA5 (Distribution) (2014) (Haloacetic Acids)	N	2.2	ppb	0	60	By-product of drinking water chlorination
Inorganic Contaminants						
Arsenic (2016) Range Highest Running Annual Average	N	3.4 – 14.1 7	ppb	N/A	10	Erosion of natural deposits; runoff from orchards; runoff from glass and electronics production wastes
Chlorine (2016)	N	0.7	ppm	4	4	Water Additive used to control microbes
Copper (Distribution) (2015)	N	0.58	ppm	1.3	AL=1.3	Corrosion of household plumbing systems; erosion of natural deposits; leaching from wood preservatives
Fluoride (2016)	N	0.02	ppm	4	4	Erosion of natural deposits; water additive which promotes strong teeth; discharge from fertilizer and aluminum factories
Unregulated Contaminants						
Sodium (2013)	N	42	ppm	N/A	N/A	Erosion of natural deposits
Iron (2010)	N	0.65	ppm	N/A	N/A	Erosion of natural deposits

Note: Test results are for year 2016 unless otherwise indicated; all contaminants are not required to be tested for annually.

We're proud that your drinking water meets or exceeds all Federal and State requirements. We have learned through our monitoring and testing that some contaminants have been detected. The EPA has determined that your water IS SAFE at these levels.

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. We are continuing to monitor arsenic on a quarterly basis. We currently monitor for this contaminant on a quarterly basis.

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.

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. Claiborne 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: Lead, which is tested for triennial (every 3 years) in accordance with Federal and State Regulations in Claiborne's distribution system, was not detected in our most recent samples collected in 2015.

Lead Consumer Notice Violation January 1, 2013 and January 1, 2016 – We failed to provide the results of lead tap water monitoring to the consumer at the location water was tested. These were supposed to be provided no later than 30 days after learning the results

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.

Thank you for allowing us to continue providing your family with clean, quality water this year. In order to maintain a safe and dependable water supply we sometimes need to make improvements that will benefit all of our customers. These improvements are sometimes reflected as rate adjustments. Thank you for understanding.