

# ***Annual Drinking Water Quality Report for CY2017***

## ***Ewell Waterworks Cooperative***

***PWSID 0190004***

***May, 2018***

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 the Patapsco 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 Somerset 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).

Ewell Waterworks Cooperative 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>, 2017. 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, please contact Betty Jo Tyler at (410) 425 2771. We want our residents to be informed about their water.

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.

<b>TEST RESULTS</b>						
Contaminant	Violation Y/N	Level Detected	Unit Measurement	MCLG	MCL	Likely Source of Contamination
<b>Radioactive Contaminants</b>						
Beta/photon emitters (2012)	N	6.7	pCi/l	0	50	Decay of Natural and Manmade Deposits
Alpha emitters (2012)	N	2.8	pCi/l	0	15	Erosion of Natural Deposits
Combine Radium (226-228) (2012)		0.1	pCi/l	0	5	
<b>Inorganic Contaminants</b>						
Fluoride (2016)	N	1.69	ppm	4	4	Erosion of natural deposits; water additive which promotes strong teeth; discharge from fertilizer and aluminum factories
Lead (distribution) (2010)	N	14	ppb	0	AL=15	Corrosion of household plumbing systems, erosion of natural deposits
Copper (distribution) (2010)	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>						
pH, range (2014)	N	8				
Sodium (2012)	N	168.1	ppm	N/A	N/A	Erosion of natural deposits

## Violations

### Revised Total Coliform Rule (RTCR)

Our water system is required to collect one routine monthly sample for bacteria testing. These results must be reported to Maryland Department of the Environment (MDE) no later than the 10<sup>th</sup> day of the following month. Our system received a reporting violation for the months of January, March, April and July, 2017 when MDE did not receive results before the due date. Our system was returned to compliance after results of our testing was received by MDE from our lab.

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. Ewell Waterworks 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 every 9 years in accordance with Federal and State regulations in Ewell Waterworks Cooperative distribution system, was not detected in our most recent samples collected in 2010.

Maryland Rural Water Association has provided assistance this year in completing this annual report.

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.