Luke Paper Company Water System
2018 Consumer Confidence Report (CCR)

Drinking Water Quality

Is my water safe?
Last year, as in years past, your tap water met all U.S. Environmental Protection Agency (EPA) and state drinking water health standards. We conducted more than 6,000 tests for over 80 contaminants. The Luke Paper Company Water System vigilantly safeguards its water supplies and once again we are proud to report that our system has not violated a maximum contaminant level or any other water quality standard.

Do I need to take special precautions?
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/Centers for Disease Control (CDC) guidelines on appropriate means to lessen the risk of infection by cryptosporidium and other microbial contaminants are available from the Safe Water Drinking Hotline (800-426-4791).

Where does my water come from?
The town of Luke and the employees of the Luke Paper Company are fortunate because we enjoy an abundant water supply from the North Branch of the Potomac River. Our treatment facilities provide roughly 127.75 million gallons of clean drinking water every year.

Source water assessment and its availability
For information about Maryland's Source Water Assessment Program, please contact MDE at 410-537-3714.

Why are there contaminants in my drinking water?

Drinking water, including bottled water, may reasonably be expected to contain small amounts of some contaminants. The presence of contaminants 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) Safe Drinking Water Hotline (800-426-4791). 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. Other contaminants include:
microbial contaminants, such as viruses and bacteria, that may come from sewage treatment plants, septic systems, agricultural livestock operations, and wildlife; inorganic contaminants, such as salts and metals, which can be naturally occurring or result from urban stormwater runoff, industrial, or domestic wastewater discharges, oil and gas production, mining, or farming; pesticides and herbicides, which may come from a variety of sources such as agriculture, urban stormwater runoff, and residential uses; organic chemical contaminants, including synthetic and volatile organic chemicals, which are by-products of industrial processes and petroleum production, and can also come from gas stations, urban stormwater runoff, and septic systems; and radioactive contaminants, which can be naturally occurring or be the result of oil and gas production and mining activities.
In order to ensure that tap water is safe to drink, EPA prescribes regulations that limit the amount of certain contaminants in water provided by public water systems. Food and Drug Administration (FDA) regulations establish limits for contaminants in bottled water which must provide the same protection for public health.

How can I get involved?
If you have any questions concerning your drinking water quality or would like to have your water tested, call the Luke Paper Company Communications & Public Affairs Manager at 301-359-3311. Also, please call us for information on individual and group tours.

For more information about this report or for any questions relating to your drinking water, please call the Communications & Public Affairs Manager, at 301-359-3311.

How will I know if there's a problem with my water?
If the amount of contaminant exceeds a predetermined safe level in your drinking water (MCL, Action Level, etc.), we will notify you via newspapers, radio, TV and other means within 24 hours. With the notification, you will be instructed on what appropriate actions you can take to protect your family's health.

Water Quality Data Table

The table below lists all of the drinking water contaminants that we detected during the calendar year of this report. The presence of contaminants in the water does not necessarily indicate that the water poses a health risk. Unless otherwise noted, the data presented in this table is from testing done in the calendar year of the report. The EPA or State requires us to monitor for certain contaminants less than once per year because the concentrations of these contaminants do not change frequently.

Contaminants Inorganic	MCLG Or MRDL	MCl, TT, MRDL or AL	Your Water	Range Low	Range High	Sample Date	Violation	Typical Source
Barium (ppm)	2	2	0.0357	NA	NA	September 27, 2017	N	Discharge of drilling wastes; Discharge from metal refineries; Erosion of natural deposits
Nitrate(ppm)	10	10	0.72	0.00	0.72	2018	N	Runoff from fertilizer use; Leaching from septic tanks, sewage; Erosion of natural deposits
Total Organic Carbon (ppm)		TT	2.97	1.18	2.97	Quarterly 2018	N	Total Organic Carbon (TOC) has no health effects. However, TOC provides a medium for the formation of disinfection byproducts. These include trihalomethanes (TTHM) and Haloacetic acids (HAA5).
Disinfection Byproducts	Sample Point	Monitoring period	Highest LRAA	Range Low	Range High	MCL	Violation	Typical Source
TTHM (ppb)	510 Grant St.	2018	41	20.11	49.39	80	N	Byproduct of drinking water disinfection
HAA5 (ppb)	510 Grant St.	2018	24	16.33	35.2	60	N	Byproduct of drinking water disinfection
Chlorine(ppm)	Filter Plant	2018	0.7	0.6	0.7	4	N	Water additive used to control microbes.

Contaminants Inorganic	MCLG Or MRDL	MCl, TT, MRDL or AL	Your Water	Range Low	High	Sample Date	Violation	Typical Source
Copper	1.3	1.3	0.174			09/27/17	N	Erosion of natural deposits; Leaching from wood preservatives; corrosion of household plumbing
Lead	0	15	0.00134			09/27/17	N	Erosion of natural deposits; Leaching from wood preservatives; corrosion of household plumbing
Violation – Monitoring results not submitted to MDE by October 1, 2017. Submitted on November 10, 2017								

Microbiological Contaminants In Distribution system	MCLG	Your Water	MCL			Sample Date	Violation	Typical Source
Total Coliform Bacteria (presence or absence)	0	0	1			Monthly 2018	N	Naturally present in the environment
Fecal Coliform or E. Coli (presence or absence)	0	0	0			Monthly 2018	N	Human and animal fecal waste
Contaminant		Your Water	Treatment Technique (TT)				Violation	Typical Source
Turbidity (NTU) – Lowest monthly percentage (%) of samples meeting turbidity limits		0.28 Max 100% Under 0.3NTU	>95% Turbidity ≤ 0.3NTU				N	Soil runoff

Unit Descriptions Term	Definition
ppm	Parts per million or milligrams per liter (mg/L)
ppb	Parts per billion or micrograms per liter (µg/L)
NA	Not Applicable
ND	Not Detected
NR	Monitoring not required, but recommended
LRAA	Locational Running Annual Average

*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. Luke Paper Company 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 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.

Important drinking Water Definitions Term	Definition
MCLG	Maximum contaminant Level Goal: The level of a contaminant in drinking water below which there is no known or expected risk to health. MCLG's allow for a margin of safety.
MCL	Maximum Contaminant Level: 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.
TT	Treatment Technique: A required process intended to reduce the level of a contaminant in drinking water.
AL	Action Level: The concentration of a contaminant which, if exceeded, triggers treatment or other requirements which a water system must follow.
Variances and Exceptions	State or EPA permission not to meet an MCL or a treatment technique under certain conditions.
MRDLG	Maximum residual disinfection level goal. The level of a drinking water disinfectant below which there is no known or expected risk to health. MRDLGs do not reflect the benefits of the use of disinfectants to control microbial contaminants.
MRDL	Maximum residual disinfectant level. The highest level of a disinfectant allowed in drinking water. There is convincing evidence that addition of a disinfectant is necessary for control of microbial contaminants.
MNR	Monitored Not Regulated
MPL	State Assigned Maximum Permissible Level
TTHM	Total Trihalomethanes – disinfection byproducts. Includes Chloroform, Bromoform, Bromodichloromethane, and Dibromochloromethane.
HAA5	Haloacetic Acids – disinfection byproducts. Includes Monochloroacetic Acid, Dichloroacetic Acid, Trichloroacetic Acid, Monobromoacetic Acid and Dibromoacetic Acid.

For more information please contact:

Communications & Public Affairs Manager
Luke Paper Company
300 Pratt Street
Luke, MD 21540
301-359-3311