Annual Drinking Water Quality Report for 2018
Town of Snow Hill
April 2019
PWSID 0230007

Spanish (Espanol)

Este informe contiene informacion muy sobre la calidad de su agua beber. Traduscalo o hable con alquien que lo entienda bien.

Is my water safe?

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.

I'm also pleased to report that our drinking water met all U.S. Environmental Protection Agency (EPA) and state drinking water health standards. Local Water 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.

Where does my water come from?

Our water source is the Manokin Aquifer which is tapped by drilling wells and pumping the water to the surface for distribution. The depths of our 3 wells are approximately 365 feet. The earth between the surface and this underground aquifer helps to purify the water before it actually reaches the aquifer, making it easier for us to treat before we pump it into our water distribution system.

Source water assessment and its availability

Maryland Department of the Environment has performed an assessment of the source water. You may read this source water assessment by contacting the Town Hall, The County Health Department or your local County Library.

How can I get involved?

If you have any questions about this report or concerning your water utility, please contact Russell Harrison at (410) 632-1144. We want our valued customers to be informed about their water utility. If you want to learn more, please attend any of our regularly scheduled Mayor and Council meetings. Please call (410) 632-2080 to confirm actual dates and times.

Why are contaminants in my drinking water?

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.

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).

The Town of Snow Hill 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, 2018.

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:

Non-Detects (ND) - laboratory analysis indicates that the constituent is not present.

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.

Water Quality Data Table

Contaminant	Violation Y/N	Level Detected	Unit Measurement	MCLG	MCL	Likely Source of Contamination
Radioactive Contaminants						
Beta emitters (2018) Range Highest Level Detected	N	8.7 – 8.7 8.7	pCi/1	0	50	Decay of natural and man-made deposits
Combined radium (2018) (226 & 228)	N	3	pCi/1	0	5	Erosion of natural deposits
Inorganic Contaminants						
Copper (Distribution) (2017) Lead (Distribution) (2017)	N N	ND 2	ppm ppb	AL=1.3 AL=15	AL=1.3 AL=15	Corrosion of household plumbing systems; erosion of natural deposits; leaching from wood preservatives
Chromium (2017)	N	1	ppb	100	100	Discharge from steel and pulp mills; erosion of natural deposits
Chlorine (2018)	N	1	ppm	4	4	Water Additive used to control microbes

Fluoride (Distribution) (2018) Highest Level Detected	N	0.6	ppm	4	4	Erosion of natural deposits; water additive which promotes strong teeth; discharge from fertilizer and aluminum factories
Nickel (2018)	N	0.0019	ppm	n/a	100	Erosion of natural deposits or leaching.
Volatile Organic Contaminants						
TTHM (Distribution) (2017) [Total trihalomethanes] Range Highest Locational Running Annual Avg	N	22.73-84.4 60	ppb	0	80	By-product of drinking water chlorination
HAA5 Haloacetic Acids (Distribution) (2017) Range Highest Locational Running Annual Avg	N	4.17-19.55 14	ppb	0	60	By-product of drinking water chlorination

Note: Test results are for 2018 unless otherwise noted; these are the most recent available results.

Additional test results for contaminants which were detected but are not currently regulated are listed in the following table.

Additional Information for Lead

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 Snow Hill 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 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 Safe Drinking Water Hotline or at http://www.epa.gov/safewater/lead.

NOTE: As can be seen by results listed in the preceding tables, lead, which is tested for on a triennial basis (every 3 years) in Snow Hill in accordance with Federal and State regulations, was not detected in our most recent samples which were collected and tested in 2017.

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.

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.

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 structure adjustments. Thank you for understanding.

Please call our office if you have questions.

Town of Snow Hill Water Department – 410-632-1144