

Town of Myersville

2023 Drinking Water

Quality Report

PWSID: 010-0020



Important Information Concerning Your Drinking Water

We're pleased to present to you the Annual Water Quality Report for 2023. 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 Myersville.

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 complete Sanitary Surveys as part of their ongoing inspection and monitoring program. 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 jjanney@menv.com**. A copy of this report will be mailed to consumers with their water bills and is available on the Town's website at https://myersville.org/ws_customers.

For More Information:

For the opportunity to ask more questions or participate in decisions that may affect your drinking water quality, the town council meets the **second Tuesday of each month at 7:00 PM at Town Hall**.

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The Town of Myersville water works consists of ten (10) wells in the Catoclin metabasalt formation, seven springs and surface water from Little Catoclin Creek. The Ashley, Meadow and Deer Wood wells are treated at the wells sites and pumped directly into the distribution system. The other wells are combined with the spring and Catoclin creek water and treated at the Myersville Surface Water Treatment plant. The combined water is filtered and disinfectant added 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**.

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)**.

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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.
- * **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
- * **ppt** - parts per trillion or nanograms per liter

Special Points of Interest

The water at the Town of Myersville is tested for over 120 different compounds. The Town of Myersville’s drinking water met all 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 on Disinfection Byproducts TTHMs (Total Trihalomethanes)

Disinfection byproducts form when disinfectants added to drinking water to kill germs react with naturally occurring organic matter in water. Many water suppliers add disinfectant to drinking water to kill germs such as Giardia and e-coli. Your water system may add more disinfectant to guarantee that these germs are killed especially after heavy rainstorms. Some people who drink water containing Total Trihalomethanes in excess of the EPA standard over many years may experience, problems with their liver, kidneys, or central nervous system and have an increased risk of getting cancer. The TTHM results listed on the next page are a running annual average and are below the MCL the EPA has set at 80ppb.

Lead Prevention

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 Myersville Water Treatment Plant is responsible for providing high quality drinking water and removing lead pipes, but cannot control the variety of materials used in plumbing components in your home. You share the responsibility for protecting yourself and your family from the lead in your home plumbing. You can take responsibility by identifying and removing lead materials within your home plumbing and taking steps to reduce your family's risk. You can also use a filter certified by an American National Standards Institute accredited certifier to reduce lead in drinking water. If you are concerned about lead in your water and wish to have your water tested, please contact Jay Janney at jjanney@menv.com for a list of laboratories in your area that provide drinking water testing. Information on lead in drinking water, testing methods, and steps you can take to minimize exposure is available at <http://www.epa.gov/safewater/lead>.

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Contaminant	Highest Level Allowed (EPA's MCL)	Highest Level Detected	Ideal Goal (EPA's MCLG)
Regulated at the Treatment Plant			
Nitrate	10 ppm	3.8 ppm	10 ppm
Typical Source of Contamination: Runoff from fertilizer use and/or erosion (Range 0.0 ppm - 3.8 ppm)			
Barium (2022 & 2023 Testing)	2000 ppb	31 ppb	2000 ppb
*Testing occurs at three individual well sites		(Range 23 ppb- 31 ppb)	
Typical Source of Contamination: Erosion of natural deposits			
Regulated in the Distribution System			
Chlorine	4 ppm	1.21 ppm *	4 ppm
Water additive used to control microbes		Range (1.12 - 1.21 ppm)	
* Annual rolling average			
Total Trihalomethanes (TTHMs)	80 ppb	43 ppb *	n/a
*Maximum Locational Rolling Average		(Range: 34.4 ppb - 54.5 ppb)	
Typical Source of Contaminants: By-product of drinking water disinfection.			
Haloacetic Acids (HAA5)	60 ppb	39 ppb *	n/a
*Maximum Locational Rolling Average		(Range: 25.2 ppb - 49.5 ppb)	
Typical Source of Contaminants: By-product of drinking water disinfection.			
Regulated in the Distribution System	Action Level	90th percentile	Ideal Goal
Copper (2023 Testing)	1300 ppb (AL)	130 ppb	1300 ppb
Typical Source of Contamination: Corrosion of household plumbing fixtures and systems			
Lead (2023 Testing)	15 ppb (AL)	0 ppb	0 ppb
Typical Source of Contamination: Corrosion of household plumbing fixtures and systems			
Tested at the Treatment Plant			
Turbidity	TT=filtration	0.11 NTU (Average)	n/a
Turbidity cannot exceed 1.0 NTU and must be < or = to 0.3 NTU in at least 95% of the measurements taken each month.			
The water plant met the turbidity limits 100% of the time. Turbidity monthly maximum Ranged from (0.05 NTU to 0.28 NTU).			
TOC	35% removal required* (Range 21% - 39%)		Average 29%
Typical Source of Contaminant: Naturally present in the environment			
*The TOC removal limitation is not effective for Myersville due to the raw water meeting alternative compliance criteria.			

The table above lists all the drinking water contaminants that were detected during the 2023 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, 2023. 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.

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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. The Cooperative treats 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.



Contaminants That May Be Present in Source Water

Microbial contaminants, such as viruses and bacteria, which may come from sewage treatment plants, septic systems, agricultural livestock operations, and wildlife. Pesticides and Herbicides, which may come from a variety of sources such as agriculture, urban stormwater runoff, and residential uses. 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. 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. Radioactive Contaminants, which can be naturally-occurring or be the result of oil and gas production and mining activities.

Water Conservation

Did you know that the average U.S. household uses approximately 400 gallons of water per day or 100 gallons per person per day? Luckily, there are many low-cost and no-cost ways to conserve water. Small changes can make a big difference—try one today and soon it will become second nature.

- ❖ Check for water leaks by the reading your water meter before and after a two-hour period when no water is being used in your home. If the reading changes, then there is probably a leak in your home.
- ❖ Take a shower! Filling up a bathtub can use up to 70 gallons of water while a shower generally uses 10 to 25 gallons. Taking shorter showers saves even more water.
- ❖ Make sure your washing machine and dishwasher are fully loaded before running.
- ❖ Are you in the market for a new water fixture such as a faucet, showerhead or toilet? Consider a WaterSense labeled fixture and reduce your water use by 30% or more versus standard flow fixtures. Visit www.epa.gov/watersense for more information on water efficiency products and methods.

Sources: <http://www.epa.gov/watersense> & <http://eartheasy.com>

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Polyfluoroalkyl Substances

PFAS – short for per- and polyfluoroalkyl substances – refers to a large group of more than 4,000 human-made chemicals that have been used since the 1940s in a range of products, including stain- and water-resistant fabrics and carpeting, cleaning products, paints, cookware, food packaging and fire-fighting foams. These uses of PFAS have led to PFAS entering our environment, where they have been measured by several states in soil, surface water, groundwater, and seafood. Some PFAS can last a long time in the environment and in the human body and can accumulate in the food chain.

The Maryland Department of the Environment (MDE) conducted a PFAS monitoring program for Community Water Systems from 2020 to 2022. MES conducted additional sampling at just the Ashley Well System in 2023. The results are available on MDE’s website: <https://mde.maryland.gov/PublicHealth/Pages/PFAS-Landing-Page.aspx>.

The Environmental Protection Agency (EPA) finalized regulations for 6 PFAS compounds in drinking water in April 2024. The MCLs for PFOA and PFOS are each 4.0 parts per trillion (ppt). The MCLs for PFNA, PFHxS, and HFPO-DA (GenX chemicals) are each 10 ppt. Additionally, a mixture of two or more of the following chemicals (PFNA, PFHxS, HFPO-DA, and PFBS) will be regulated with a Hazard Index of 1 (unitless) to determine if the combined levels of these PFAS pose a risk and require action.

PFAS Results

Catoctin Treatment Plant (2022)

Parameter	PFOS (ppt)	PFOA (ppt)	PFHxS (ppt)	GenX Chemicals (ppt)	PFNA (ppt)	PFBS (ppt)	Hazard Index (ppt)
Result	1.76	1.34	<1.0	<1.0	<1.5	2.41	0.001
Limit	4	4	10	10	10	No limit	1.0
Compliant	Yes	Yes	Yes	Yes	Yes	N/A	Yes

Deerwoods Well (2022)*

Parameter	PFOS (ppt)	PFOA (ppt)	PFHxS (ppt)	GenX Chemicals (ppt)	PFNA (ppt)	PFBS (ppt)	Hazard Index (ppt)
Result	41.7	6.18	18.7	<1.0	<1.5	8.19	2.08
Limit	4	4	10	10	10	No limit	1.0
Compliant	No	No	No	Yes	Yes	N/A	No

* The Deerwoods Well System is not currently online as of February 2023.

Ashley Wells (2023)

Parameter	PFOS (ppt)	PFOA (ppt)	PFHxS (ppt)	GenX Chemicals (ppt)	PFNA (ppt)	PFBS (ppt)	Hazard Index (ppt)
Result	7.37	5.43	<3.61	<3.61	<3.61	10.2	0.0051
Limit	4	4	10	10	10	No limit	1.0
Compliant	No	No	Yes	Yes	Yes	N/A	Yes