

Annual Drinking Water Quality Report for 2024
The Town of Betterton
PWSID 0140001
May, 2025

We're very pleased to provide you with this year's Annual Quality Water 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 two wells which draw from the Magothy Aquifer.

We're pleased to report that our drinking water is safe and meets all federal and state requirements.

We have a source water protection plan available from our office that provides more information such as potential sources of contamination. This plan is also available at the Kent County Public Library or from Maryland Department of the Environment. For more information call 1-800-633-6101.

https://mde.maryland.gov/programs/Water/water_supply/Source_Water_Assessment_Program/Pages/by_county.aspx

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).

If you have any questions about this report or concerning your water utility, please contact Jeff Miller at 410-348-5522. 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 meetings. They are held on the second Tuesday of each month at 7:00 PM in the Betterton Town Hall which is located at 100 Main Street.

The Town of Betterton 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, 2024. 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.

Nitrate in drinking water at levels above 10 ppm is a health risk for infants of less than six months of age. High nitrate levels in drinking water can cause blue baby syndrome. Nitrate levels may rise quickly for short periods of time because of rainfall or agricultural activity. If you are caring for an infant you should ask advice from your health care provider.

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.

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.

Parts per trillion (ppt) or Nanograms per liter - one part per trillion corresponds to one minute in 2,000,000 years, or a single penny in \$10,000,000,000.

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

Action Level - (AL) 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.

Running Annual average- (RAA)

Not Detected- (ND)

TEST RESULTS						
Contaminant	Violation Y/N	Level Detected	Unit Measurement	MCLG	MCL	Likely Source of Contamination
Disinfection and Disinfection By-products						
Chlorine (2024) RAA	N	1.2	ppm	4	4	Water Additive used to control microbes
Total Trihalomethanes (THM) (2023)	N	25.6	ppb	No goal for total	80	By-product of drinking water disinfection
Haloacetic Acids (HAA5) (2023)	N	9.2	ppb	No goal for the total	60	By-product of drinking water bdisinfection
Inorganic Contaminants						
Nitrate (measured as Nitrogen) (2024)	N	5	ppm	10	10	Runoff from fertilizer use; leaching from septic tanks, sewage; erosion of natural deposits
Fluoride (2022)	N	ND	ppm	4	4.0	Erosion of natural deposits; Water additive that promotes strong teeth; Discharge from fertilizer and aluminum factories
Barium (2022)	N	0.0748	ppm	2	2	Discharge of drilling waste; Discharge from metal refineries; Erosion of natural deposits
Chromium (2022)	N	1	ppb	100	100	Discharge from steel and pulp mills; Erosion of natural deposits
Radioactive Contaminants						
Combined radium (2022) (226 & 228)	N	2.3	pCi/L	0	5	Erosion of natural deposits
Beta/photon emitters (2022)	N	7	pCi/L	0	50	Decay of natural man-made deposits
Gross alpha excluding radon and uranium (2022)	N	4.9	pCi/L	0	15	Erosion of natural deposits.

<i>Lead and Copper</i>	Violation Y/N	90 th Percentile	Range of Tap Sampling	Units	MCLG or MRDLG	(AL Limits) /# Sites Over	Likely Source of Contamination
Copper (distribution) (2023)	N	0.29	0.09-0.26	ppm	1.3	AL= 1.3 Zero (0)	Corrosion of household plumbing systems; erosion of natural deposits, leaching from wood preservatives
Lead (distribution) (2023)	N	5	ND-ND	ppb	0	AL= 15 Zero (0)	Corrosion of household plumbing systems; erosion of natural deposits; leaching from wood preservatives

Note: Test results are for year 2024 unless noted otherwise; testing for all contaminants is not required annually.

An initial inventory of service line pipe materials located within our service area required to be submitted to the Maryland Department of the Environment (MDE) by October 16, 2024. We submitted the service line inventory report by the deadline, and the "report is available upon request".

Betterton has completed the service line inventory required by U.S. EPA's Lead and Copper Rule Revisions (initial inventory due October 16th, 2024)

For more information on our service line inventory please call 410-348-5522.

Through completing a records review, it has been determined it has no Lead or Galvanized Replacement (GRR) service lines in its distribution system. This includes all system owned and customer portions of all service lines regardless of actual or intended use.

Construction records, meter replacements, and distribution maps were used to help us determine the composition of our systems service lines.

Betterton has reviewed all applicable sources of information to complete the inventory and will continue to identify and track service line materials as they are encountered during normal operations. If, in the future, a Lead or Galvanized requiring replacement (GRR) service line is found within our system, we will prepare an updated inventory and submit to the Maryland Department of the Environment and in addition, the inventory will be made publicly available for water customers to view, and customer will be notified of any change in the service line material, if applicable.

For more information on our service line inventory please call 410-348-5522.

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. Betterton 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. Before drinking tap water, flush your pipes for several minutes by running your tap, taking a shower, doing laundry or a load of dishes. 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, contact Betterton at 410-348-5522. 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>.

NOTE: Lead, which is tested for triennial (every 3 years) in accordance with Federal and State Regulations in Betterton's distribution system.

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.

The Maryland Rural Water Association's State Circuit Rider assisted with the completion of this report.

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.