

Annual Drinking Water Quality Report for 2024
Christmas Tree Farm Water System
PWSID #0180206

We are very 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 our water resources. We are committed to ensuring the highest quality of your water.

The **Christmas Tree Farm Water System** routinely monitors your drinking water for contaminants according to Federal (EPA) and State (MDE) regulatory requirements. The Water Quality Data provided in this report will provide you with the results from our monitoring for the period of **January 1st to December 31st**. The following report is provided in compliance with Federal regulations and is provided annually. This report outlines the quality of our finished drinking water and what that quality means.

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.

Drinking Water, including bottled water, may reasonably be expected to contain at least small amounts of certain 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 **EPAs Safe Drinking Water Hotline (800) 426-4791**

Contaminants that may be present in source water include:

- Microbial contaminants, such as viruses and bacteria, which 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 storm water 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 storm water 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 storm water runoff, and septic systems.
- 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 which limit the amount of certain contaminants in water provided by public water systems. FDA regulations establish limits for contaminants in bottled water which must provide the same protection for public health. **Our water source is a well which draws from a confined underground aquifer (name unknown) from a depth of approximately 410 feet. This well is located within the mobile home park properties.**

A **source water assessment** was performed by the **Maryland Department of the Environment (MDE)** and is available on their website:

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

VULNERABLE POPULATIONS:

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 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 (800-426-4791)**.

INFORMATION STATEMENT FROM EPA ON LEAD:

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. **Christmas Tree Farm Water System** 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 **Georgia Macrae at (301) 475-9811**. 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>.

An initial Service Line Inventory was submitted to the Maryland Department of the Environment on 4/30/2025. The report was late due to service line investigation. As a result, the Service Line Inventory requirement was fulfilled. "The report is available upon request".

Christmas Tree Farm 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 **(301) 475-9811**.

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.

Preston 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 **(301) 475-9811**.

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

We want our valued customers to be informed about their water quality. If you have any questions about this report or concerns with your water quality, please contact **Georgia Macrae, Owner/Manager** by calling **(301) 475-9811** daily Monday thru Friday during normal business hours of 8:00 am until 4:30 pm.

In the Water Quality Data table shown on the following page, you will find many terms, units and abbreviations you might not be familiar with. To help you better understand these terms we've provided the following definitions:

Level 1 Assessment – A Level 1 assessment is a study of the water system to identify potential problems and determine (if possible) why total coliform bacteria have been found in our water system.

Level 2 Assessment – A Level 2 assessment is a very detailed study of the water system to identify potential problems and determine (if possible) why an E. Coli MCL Violation has occurred and/or why total coliform bacteria have been found in our water system on multiple occasions.

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 (ng/L) - 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.

Nephelometric Turbidity Unit (NTU) - nephelometric turbidity unit is a measure of the clarity of water. Turbidity in excess of 5 NTU is just noticeable to the average person.

Action Level - the concentration of a contaminant which, if exceeded, triggers treatment or other requirements which a water system must follow.

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.

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.

Treatment Technique (TT) – a required process intended to reduce the level of a contaminant in drinking water

ND – not detected.

NA – not applicable

VIOLATIONS			
The Consumer Confidence Rule requires community water systems to prepare and provide to their customers annual consumer confidence reports on the quality of water of the water delivered by the systems			
Violation Type	Violation Begin	Violation End	Violation Explanation
LSL Inventory-Initial	10/17/2024	4/30/2025	An initial Service Line Inventory was submitted to the Maryland Department of the Environment on 4/30/2025. The report was late due to service line investigation. As a result, the Service Line Inventory requirement was fulfilled. "The report is available upon request".

VIOLATIONS TABLE	
LEAD AND COPPER RULE	The lead and copper rule protects the public health by minimizing lead and copper levels in drinking water, primarily by reducing water corrosivity. Lead and copper enter drinking water mainly from corrosion of lead and copper containing plumbing materials.

Violation Type	Lead Consumer Notice
Violation Begin	1/1/2024
Violation End	Present
Explanation	We failed to provide the results of lead tap water monitoring to the consumers at the location water was tested. These were supposed to be provided no later than 30days after learning the results.
REVISED TOTAL COLIFORM RULE	The revised total coliform rule seeks to prevent waterborne disease caused by E. coli. E. coli are bacteria whose presence indicate the water may be contaminated with human or animal waste. Human pathogens in these wastes can cause short-term effects such as diarrhea, cramps, nausea, headaches, or other symptoms. They may pose a greater health risk for infants, young children, the elderly, and people with severely compromised immune symptoms.
Violation Type	Level 1 assessment, multiple TC positive
Violation Begin	9/16/2023
Violation End	6/14/2024
Explanation	We failed to properly complete a level one assessment in our water system.
Violation Type	Level 2 assessment, 2 nd level.
Violation Begin	10/16/2023
Violation End	6/14/2024
Explanation	We failed to complete a level 2 assessment in our water system.

INORGANIC CONTAMINANTS								
Regulated Contaminants	Units	Collection Date	Highest Level Detected	Range of Levels Detected	MCLG	MCL	Violation	Typical Sources
Fluoride	ppm	12/27/2023	0.292	0.292-0.292	4	4	NO	Erosion of natural deposits; Water additives which promotes strong teeth; discharge from

									fertilizer and aluminum factories.
RADIOACTIVE CONTAMINANTS									
Regulated Contaminants	Units	Collection Date	Highest Level Detected	Range of Levels Detected	MCLG	MCL	Violation	Typical Sources	
Beta/Photon Emitters	pCi/L	9/9/2020	16.2	16.2-16.2	0	50	NO	Decay of natural and man made emitters	
DISINFECTION AND DISINFECTION BYPRODUCTS									
Regulated Contaminants	Units	Collection Date	Highest Level Detected	Range of Levels Detected	MCLG	MCL	Violation	Typical Sources	
Chlorine	ppm	2024	0.7	0.1-0.7	4	4	NO	Water additive to control microbes	

LEAD AND COPPER									
Regulated Contaminants	Units	Date of Sample	90th %	Range of Results	Sites Over Action Level	MCLG	AL	Violation	Typical Sources
Lead	ppb	2022	<5	<5-<5	0	0	15	NO	Corrosion of household plumbing systems; erosion of natural deposits; leaching of from wood preservatives
Copper	ppm	2022	<0.05	ALL <0.05	0	1.3	1.3	NO	Corrosion of household plumbing systems; erosion of natural deposits; leaching of from wood preservatives

