Annual Drinking Water Quality Report for 2023
April, 2024
Claiborne Water Supply
PWSID 0200002

We're pleased to provide you with this year's Annual Water Quality 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 one well with a depth of 347 feet which draws from the Aquia Aquifer.

This report shows our water quality and what it means.

A source water assessment plan has been prepared that provides more information such as potential sources of contamination. This plan is available thru the Talbot County Public Library or Maryland Department of the Environment (MDE). For more information call 1-800-633-6101.
Results of the assessment can be found on the MDE website:
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).

Claiborne Water Supply 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**,** 2023. 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.

If you have any questions about this report or concerning your water quality, please contact Clarence L. (Renny) Johnson at telephone number (410) 745-5001. He can also be contacted at fax number (410) 745-5586.

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 Microgram 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 - 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.

TEST RESULTS						
Contaminant	Violation Y/N	Level Detected	Unit Measurement	MCLG	MCL	Likely Source of Contamination
Stage 2 Disinfection Byproducts:						
TTHM (Distribution) (2023) (Total trihalomethanes) Range	N	1.9 1.9-1.9	ppb	0	80	By-product of drinking water chlorination
Inorganic Contaminants						
Arsenic (2023) Range Highest Level Detected	N	4.3-6.7 5	ppb	N/A	10	Erosion of natural deposits; runoff from orchards; runoff from glass and electronics production wastes
Chlorine (2023) Range	N	0.2 0.1-0.2	ppm	4	4	Water Additive used to control microbes
Copper (Distribution) (2021)	N	0.2	ppm	1.3	AL=1.3	Corrosion of household plumbing systems; erosion of natural deposits; leaching from wood preservatives
Lead (distribution) (2021)	N	1	ppb	0	AL=15	Corrosion of household plumbing systems; Erosion of natural deposits
Barium (2022) Range	N	0.0063 0.0063-0.0063	ppm	2	2	Discharge of drilling waste; Discharge from metal refineries; Erosion of natural deposits
Chromium (2022) Range	N	7.2 7.2-7.2	ppb	100	100	Discharge from steel and pulp mills; Erosion of natural deposits
Fluoride (2022) Range	N	0.2 0.2-0.2	ppm	4	4	Erosion of natural deposits; water additive which promotes strong teeth; discharge from fertilizer and aluminum factories

Note: Test results are for year 2023 unless otherwise indicated; all contaminants are not required to be tested for annually.

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.

While your drinking water meets EPA's standard for arsenic, it does contain low levels of arsenic. EPA's standard balances the current understanding of arsenic's possible health effects against the cost of removing arsenic from drinking water. EPA continues to research the health effects of low levels of arsenic, which is a mineral known to cause cancer in humans at high concentrations and is linked to other health effects such as skin damage and circulatory problems. We are continuing to monitor arsenic on a quarterly basis. We currently monitor for this contaminant on a quarterly basis.

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.

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. Claibourne 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 Claibourne at 410-745-5001. 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.

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. 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.

The 5th Unregulated Contaminant Monitoring Rule (UCMR5) began testing for 29 PFAS compounds and lithium in 2023, and testing will run through 2025. The UCMR5 should test all community water systems with populations of at least 3300 people. Three randomly selected systems in Maryland with populations less than 3300 people will also be tested under the UCMR5. Detections greater than the minimum reporting levels for each constituent should be reported in the CCR.

VIOLATION:Lead and Copper Rule

Lead Consumer Notice (LCR) January 1, 2013 – 2023. We failed to provide the results of lead tap water monitoring to the consumer at the location water was tested. These were supposed to be provided no later than 30 days after learning the results

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Lead Consumer Notice (LCR) January 1, 2016 – 2023. We failed to provide the results of lead tap water monitoring to the consumer at the location water was tested. These were supposed to be provided no later than 30 days after learning the results.

Lead Consumer Notice (LCR) January 1, 2022 – 2023. We failed to provide the results of lead tap water monitoring to the consumer at the location water was tested. These were supposed to be provided no later than 30

days after learning the results.

Violation: Consumer Confidence Rule

CCR REPORT Began 07/01/2023 End 2023 We failed to provide you , our drinking water customers, an annual report that adequately informed you about the quality of our drinking water and the risk to exposure from contaminants detected in our drinking water. The CCR was due to customers by July 1, 2022 but it was not delivered until September 27, 2022

Violation: Ground Water Rule

Failure Address Deficiency (GWR) 11/4/2022-2023 We failed to properly respond to a significant deficiency in our water system.

Failure to Consult, GWR 8/7/2022-2023 We failed to properly consult with our regulator about correcting a significant deficiency or positive source water sample in our 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 adjustments. Thank you for understanding.