

***Annual Drinking Water Quality Report for 2024***  
***St. James School Water System***  
***PWSID #0210209***

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.

**St. James School** 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 1<sup>st</sup> to December 31<sup>st</sup>, 2024**. **We are pleased to report that our drinking water is safe and meets EPA and MDE drinking water standards.** 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. The **St. James School Water System** utilizes a **spring** as its water source. This spring was determined to be under the direct influence of surface water by the Maryland Department of the Environment in 1999. Therefore, St. James School upgraded the water treatment facility to treat the spring water in accordance with drinking water regulations. This treatment includes filtration, chlorination, pH adjustment, softening and ultraviolet disinfection prior to entering the distribution system. **In 2003**, a well was placed into operation as a **backup water supply**. However, this water source was not utilized in the water system during 2023.

**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. **The St. James School** 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 **William Wivell (301) 733-9330**. 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 6/25/2025. 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”.**

Saint James School has completed the service line inventory required by U.S. EPA’s Lead and Copper Rule Revisions (initial inventory due October 16<sup>th</sup>, 2024)  
For more information on our service line inventory please call **301-733-9330**.

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.

Saint James School 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 **301-733-9330**.

**NITRATE:**

Nitrate (measured as Nitrogen) - 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."

*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 **William Wivell** by calling the office at **(301) 733-9330**

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:

**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.

**Running Annual Average (LRAA)**- The average of sample results from four consecutive calendar quarters at a specific monitoring location in drinking water system.

**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

## TURBIDITY

Regulated Parameter	Units	Limit (TT)	Level Detected	Violation	Typical Sources
Highest Single Measurement	ntu	1	0.29	NO	Soil Runoff
Lowest Monthly % Meeting Limit	ntu	0.3	100%	NO	Soil Runoff

VIOLATIONS			
Violation Type	Violation Begin	Violation End	Violation Explanation
LSL Inventory-Initial	10/17/2024	6/25/2025	We failed to complete and submit our initial service line inventory to MDE by the 10/16/2024 deadline. The report was late due to investigation of service lines.
TTHM Monitoring	12/31/2023	12/30/2024	We failed to monitor/report as required for chlorine or disinfection by-products.
Total Haloacetic Acids (HAA5)	12/31/2023	12/30/2024	We failed to monitor/report as required for chlorine or disinfection by-products.
Nitrate	6/30/2024	9/29/2024	No monitoring samples were taken or reported

WATER QUALITY DATA								
INORGANIC CONTAMINANTS								
Regulated Contaminants	Units	Collection Date	Highest Level Detected	Range of Levels Detected	MCLG	MCL	Violation	Typical Sources
Nitrate {as nitrogen}	ppm	2024	6	4.2-6	10	10	NO	Runoff from fertilizer us; leaching from septic tanks; sewage; erosion of natural deposits
Fluoride	ppm	9/6/2023	0.2	0.14-0.2	4	4	NO	Erosion of natural deposits; water additive 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
Combined Radium 226/228	pCi/L	2/9/2021	0.1	0.1-0.1	0	5	NO	Erosion of natural deposits
Gross Alpha excluding radon and uranium	pCi/L	2/9/2021	3.9	3.9-3.9	0	15		Erosion of natural deposits
DISINFECTION AND DISINFECTION BY PRODUCTS								
Regulated Contaminants	Units	Collection Date	Highest LRRR	Range of Levels Detected	MCLG	MCL	Violation	Typical Sources
Chlorine	ppm	2024	0.8	0.6-0.8	4	4	NO	Water additive used to control microbes
Total Trihalomethanes	ppb	9/6/2023	2.69	2.69-2.69	NA	80	NO	By-products of drinking water disinfection process
Haloacetic Acids	ppb	9/6/2023	1.4	1.4-1.4	NA	60	NO	By-products of drinking water disinfection process

LEAD AND COPPER
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Regulated Contaminants	Units	Date of Sample	90th %	Range of Results	Sites Over Action Level	MCLG	AL	Violation	Typical Sources
Lead	ppb	2018-2021	2.56	<0.0020-0.00262	1	0	15	NO	Corrosion of household plumbing systems; erosion of natural deposits; leaching of from wood preservatives
Copper	ppm	2018-2021	0.309	0.105-0.319	0	1.3	1.3	NO	Corrosion of household plumbing systems; erosion of natural deposits; leaching of from wood preservatives