Annual Drinking Water Quality Report for 2023
Town of Willards
April, 2024
PWSID #0220007

We're pleased to present to you this year's Annual Water Quality Report. This report is designed to inform you about the quality water 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 the water treatment process and protect our water resources. We are committed to ensuring the quality of your water. Our water source is two (2) wells drilled three hundred twenty ft.(320') into the Manokin Aquifer.

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 from Maryland Department of the Environment (MDE) or at the Wicomico County Public Library. For more information call 1-800-633-6101.

I'm pleased to report that our drinking water is safe and meets all federal and state requirements. As you can see by the table which follows on page 2, our system had no violations. We constantly monitor for various contaminants in the water supply to meet all regulatory requirements.

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 Chandra Singh at 717-278-5315. 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 Monday of each month at the Town Hall Building at 7:00 p.m.

The Town of Willards 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.

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.

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
Inorganic Contaminants						
Copper (distribution) (2023)	N	0.022	ppm	1.3	AL=1.3	Corrosion of household plumbing systems; erosion of natural deposits; leaching from wood preservatives
Lead (distribution) (2023)	N	2.9	ppb	0	AL=15	Corrosion of household plumbing systems, erosion of natural deposits
Disinfection products						
Chlorine (2023) Range	N	0.7 0.6-0.7	ppm	4	4	Water Additive used to control microbes
Stage 2 DBPR Testing Results						
TTHM (distribution) (2023) [Total)trihalomethanes]RangeLocational Running Annual Average	N	3.5-54 24	ppb	0	80	By-product of drinking water chlorination
Haloacetic Acids HAA5 (Distribution) (2023) Range Locational Running Annual Average	N	5.4-16.4 12	ppb	0	60	By-product of drinking water chlorination

Note: Test results are for year 2023 or as otherwise indicated; All contaminants are not required to be tested for annually.

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.

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. Willards 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 Willards at 410-835-8192. 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.

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.

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.

Infants below the age of six months who drink water containing nitrate in excess of the MCL could become seriously ill and, if untreated, may die. Symptoms include shortness of breath and blue-baby syndrome.

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

We at The Town of Willards work around the clock to provide top quality water to every tap. We ask that all our customers help us protect our water sources, which are the heart of our community, our way of life and our children's future.

Violations:

Lead and Copper Rule- FOLLOW UP OR ROUTINE TAP M/R (LCR)- 10/01/2023 - 12/18/2023: We failed to test our drinking water for the contaminant and the period indicated. Because of this failure, we cannot be sure of the quality of our drinking water during the period indicated

Nitrate [measured as Nitrogen] MONITORING, ROUTINE MAJOR 01/01/2023- 12/31/2023 We failed to test our drinking water for the contaminant and period indicated. Because of this failure, we cannot be sure of the quality of our drinking water during the period indicated.

Haloacetic acids (HAA5) MONITORING, ROUTINE (DBP), MAJOR : 06/01/2023-08/31/2023z. We failed to test our drinking water for the contaminant and period indicated. Because of this failure, we cannot be sure of the quality of our drinking water during the period indicated.

Total Trihalomethanes(TTHM) MONITORING, ROUTINE(DBP), MAJOR 06/01/2023- 08/31/2023 We failed to test our drinking water for the contaminant and period indicated. Because of this failure, we cannot be sure of the quality of our drinking water during the period indicated.

PUBLIC NOTICE FOR January 2023 to December 2023

Monitoring and Reporting Violation of the Safe Drinking Water Act

Town of Willards

_____
date of notice

We are required to monitor your drinking water for specific contaminants on a regular basis. Results of regular monitoring are an indicator of whether or not your drinking water meets health standards. During **January 1, 2023 to December 31, 2023**, we did not complete testing for **NITRATE** and therefore cannot be sure of the quality of our drinking water during that time.

☑ **A** - Reason(s) for failure to collect, test, and report January 2023 to December 2023 results for nitrate:

☐ **B** - Reason(s) for failure to report January 2023 to December 2023 test results for nitrate:

The operator failed to collect, test, and report results.

Additional testing will be conducted during 2024. For additional information contact

The Town of Willards (contact name) at (443)859-1785 (telephone number).

Please share this information with all other people who drink this water, especially those who do not receive this notice directly (for example: people in apartments, nursing homes, schools, and businesses). You can do this by posting this notice in a public place, distributing copies by hand, or mail.

Date Distributed: _____ **MD0220007**

Please check and complete when appropriate:

☑ Public notification will appear in our 2023 (DATE) CCR.

☐ Other _____