

**2021 Annual Drinking Water Quality
Report
Rockbrook MHC
PWSID # 0060214
April, 2022**

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 has been to provide to you a safe and dependable supply of drinking water.

A source water assessment was performed by the Maryland Department of the Environment (MDE). Results of the assessment can be found on the MDE website:
https://mde.maryland.gov/programs/Water/water_supply/Source_Water_Assessment_Program/Pages/cl.aspx

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

If you have any questions about this report or concerning your water, please call our office at 410-374-9635 and ask to speak to Donald Barron. We want our residents to be informed about their water quality.

We routinely monitor 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 1, to December 31, 2021. 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.

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 that 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
Disinfectants and Disinfection by-products						
Chlorine (2021)	N	0.3	ppm	4	4	Water Additive used to control microbes
Inorganic Contaminants						
Copper (2018) (Distribution)	N	0.36	ppm	1.3	AL=1.3	Corrosion of household plumbing systems; erosion of natural deposits; leaching from wood preservatives
Nitrate (as Nitrogen) (2021) (Average)	N	5	ppm	10	10	Runoff from fertilizer use; leaching from septic tanks, sewage; erosion of natural deposits
Lead (2018) Distribution	N	5.4	ppb	0	15	Corrosion of household plumbing systems; Erosion of natural deposits
Barium (2021)	N	0.037	ppm	2	2	Discharge of drilling waste; Discharge from metal refineries; Erosion of natural deposits
Radioactive Contaminants						
Gross Alpha excluding radon and uranium (2016)	N	7.2	pCi/L	0	15	Erosion of natural deposits
Unregulated Contaminants						
PFOA + PFOS (2021)	N	5.06	ppt	N/A	N/A	See Below

Note: Test results are for year 2021 unless otherwise noted. All contaminants do not require annual testing.

Inorganic Contaminants 😊

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

As you can see by the table, our system had no violations. 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.

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.

PFAS – short for per- and polyfluoroalkyl substances- refers to a large group of more than 4000 human made chemicals that have been used since the 1940's 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 the 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.

Currently, there are no federal regulations (i.e. Maximum Contaminant Levels (MCLs) for PFAS in drinking water. However, the US Environmental Protection Agency (EPA) has issued a health advisory level (HAL) of 70 parts per trillion (PPT) for the sum of PFOA and PFOS concentrations in drinking water. While not enforceable regulatory standard, when followed, the EPA HAL does provide drinking water customers, even the most sensitive populations, with a margin of protection from lifetime exposure to PFOA and PFOS in drinking water. Beginning in 2020, the Maryland Department of the Environment (MDE) initiated a PFAS monitoring program. In 2021, results from samples taken at the Rockbrook MHC's drinking water treatment plant showed a combined PFOA and PFOS concentrations of 4.73-5.06 ppt. No additional actions are planned at this time. MDE anticipates that EPA will establish an MCL for PFOA and PFOS in the near future. This would entail additional monitoring. Additional information about PFAS can be found on the MDE website: mde.maryland.gov

If present, elevated levels of 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. When your water has been sitting for several hours, you can minimize the potential for lead exposure by flushing your tap for 30 seconds to 2 minutes before using water for drinking or cooking. If you are concerned about lead in your drinking water, you may wish to have your water tested. Information on lead in drinking water, testing methods, and steps you can take to minimize exposure is available from the EPA Safe Drinking Water Hotline at 1-800-426-4791 or 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.

Nitrates: As a precaution we always notify physicians and health care providers in this area if there is ever a higher than normal level of nitrates in the water supply.

In order to maintain a safe and dependable water supply we sometimes need to make improvements that will benefit all of our residents. These improvements are sometimes reflected as rate adjustments. Thank you for understanding.

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).

Please call our office at 410-374-9635 if you have questions about this report.