

IMPORTANT NOTICE

Consumer Confidence Report

EDGEWATER ACRES/ NANTUCKET POINT SERVICE AREA 2010 ANNUAL DRINKING WATER QUALITY REPORT

INTRODUCTION

The Water & Wastewater Division of the Worcester County Department of Public Works is responsible for the provision of the safest possible drinking water to its customers in the Nantucket Point Service Area. During the period from January 1 to December 31, 2009, we conducted tests for drinking water contaminants and tested at least once every month for Total Coliform and Fecal Coliform Bacteria as required by Federal and State law. We detected several contaminants and all were found to be significantly below established standards.

This brochure is a snapshot of the quality of the water that was provided to you in 2009. Included are details about the source of your water, what your water contains, and how your water compares with the standards established by the Environmental Protection Agency (EPA) and the Maryland Department of the Environment (MDE). If you have any questions about this report or need additional information concerning the drinking water being supplied to you, please call Gary Serman at 410-641-5251, extension 115, between 7:30 a.m. and 4:00 p.m. any weekday.

OUR WATER IS SAFE, HOWEVER

Some people may be more vulnerable to contaminants in drinking water than the general population. Immuno-compromised persons such as persons with cancer who are 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 risks of infection by *Cryptosporidium* and other microbial contaminants are available from the Safe Drinking Water Hotline (800-426-4791).

SOURCE OF WATER

We purchased water from Artesian Water Company of Delaware in 2009 and we were supplied by both their South Bethany and Bayville water plants.

INFORMATION

While we do not have regularly scheduled meetings with your community, our personnel are available to answer any questions that you may have or to provide information concerning the operation of the water treatment system. To contact us, you can call Gary Serman at 410-641-5251, extension 115, or you can write to us at 1000 Shore Lane, Berlin, Maryland 21811.

The sources of drinking water (both tap water and bottled

GENERAL

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.

Contaminants that may be present in the water before we treat it include:

- *Microbial contaminants*, such as viruses and bacteria, which may come from sewage treatment plants, septic systems, agricultural livestock operations and wild life.
- *Inorganic contaminants*, such as salts and metals, which can be naturally-occurring or result from urban stormwater 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 and residential uses.
- *Radioactive contaminants*, which are naturally-occurring.
- *Organic chemical contaminants*, including synthetic and volatile chemicals, which are by-products of industrial processes and petroleum production, and can also come from gas stations, urban stormwater runoff, and septic tanks.

In order to ensure that tap water is safe to drink, EPA prescribes regulations that limit the amount of certain contaminants in water provided by public water systems. Food and Drug Administration regulations establish limits for contaminants in bottled water which must provide the same protection for public health.

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 water poses a health risk. More information about contaminants and potential health effects can be obtained by calling the EPA's Safe Drinking Water Hotline (800-426-4791).

EDGEWATER ACRES/ NANTUCKET POINT SERVICE AREA WATER QUALITY DATA

The table below lists all the drinking water contaminants that we detected during the 2009 calendar year. The presence of these contaminants in the water does not necessarily indicate that the water poses a health risk. Unless otherwise noted, the data presented in this table is from testing done January 1-December 31, 2009. The state requires us to monitor for certain contaminants less than once per year because the concentrations of these contaminants are not expected to vary significantly from year to year. Some of the data, though representative of the water quality, is more than one year old.

Terms & abbreviations used below:

- **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.
- **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.
- **Action Level (AL):** the concentration of a contaminant which, when exceeded, triggers treatment or other requirements which a water system must follow.
- **ppb:** parts per billion or micrograms per liter • **ppm:** parts per million or milligrams per liter • **pCi/l:** picocuries per liter (a measure of radiation)

| | Unit of Measure | Highest Level Allowed (MCL) | Ideal Goal (MCLG) | Highest Level Detected | Annual Range | Major Sources |
|--|-----------------|-----------------------------|------------------------|------------------------|--------------|---|
| Inorganic Contaminants | | | | | | |
| Arsenic | ppb | 10 | 0 | 3 | nd-3 | Erosion of natural deposits. |
| Barium | ppb | 2000 | 2000 ⁷ | 28 | 12 - 28 | Erosion of natural deposits. |
| Fluoride | ppm | 2 | 2 ⁷ | 1.5 | 0.5 – 1.5 | Erosion of natural deposits. Water additive that promotes strong teeth. |
| Turbidity ¹ | ntu | 5 | 1 | 0.4 | nd – 0.4 | Soil runoff. |
| Radiological Contaminants | | | | | | |
| Radium 228 | pCi/l | 5 | 0 | 1.9 | nd-1.9 | Erosion of natural deposits |
| Disinfection/Disinfection By-products | | | | | | |
| Chlorine (free and total) | ppm | 4 (MRDL) | 4 (MRDLG) ⁶ | 2.8 | 0.1 - 2.8 | Disinfectant used in drinking water industry. |
| Haloacetic Acids, total ³ | ppb | 60 | 0 | 16.6 | 16.6 | By-product of drinking water chlorination. |
| Trihalomethanes, total ³ | ppb | 80 | 0 | 54.5 | 54.5 | By-product of drinking water chlorination. |
| Unregulated Contaminants | | | | | | |
| Alkalinity, total | ppm | n/r | | 189 | 98 – 189 | |
| Carbon dioxide, free | ppm | n/r | | 12 | 5.6 – 12 | |
| Chloride | ppm | n/r | 250 | 31 | 19.7 – 31 | |
| Conductivity | umhos | n/r | | 442 | 297 – 442 | |
| Hardness, calcium | ppm | n/r | | 96 | 54 – 96 | |
| Hardness, total | ppm | n/r | | 115 | 81 – 115 | |
| Iron | ppb | n/r | 300 | 100 | 40 – 100 | |
| Manganese | ppb | n/r | 50 | 6 | 5 – 6 | |
| pH, Field | 0 - 14 scale | n/r | 6.5 – 8.5 | 8.3 | 6.7 – 8.3 | |
| Phosphate, total | ppm | n/r | | 0.3 | 0.2 – 0.3 | |
| Sodium | ppm | n/r | | 44 | 27 – 44 | |
| Solids, total dissolved | ppm | n/r | 500 | 248 | 177 - 248 | |
| Surfactants, MBAS | ppb | n/r | 500 | 20 | nd-20 | |

| Lead & Copper² | | | | | |
|--|-----|--|-----|-------|--|
| 90th Percentile Lead (2009 Data) | ppm | 15 | 0 | 0.006 | Corrosion of household plumbing systems. |
| 90th Percentile Copper (2009 Data) | ppm | 1.3 | 1.3 | 0.159 | Corrosion of household plumbing systems. |
| Microbiological Contaminants | | | | | |
| Total Coliform | | | | | |
| Highest number of positive samples in any one month | | One sample per month was collected by Worcester County personnel on the Maryland portion of the water distribution system and all samples were negative. However in the Delaware portion of the water distribution system two samples were positive in October 2009. (All resamples were absent for bacteria). Negative results in all remaining monthly samples collected. 10 samples per month were collected. | | | Naturally present in the environment. |
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| | | | | | |
| ¹ This MCL applies only to surface water systems. | | | | | |
| ² Under the Lead and Copper Rule, we sample for these contaminants once every 3 years. | | | | | |
| ³ Highest 4-quarter average of samples collected and used by the State Division of Public Health for compliance. | | | | | |
| ⁴ Range includes all samples tested for, whereas highest level detected is based upon the highest 4-quarter average. | | | | | |
| ⁶ The U.S. Environmental Protection Agency sets the MRDLG for chlorine residual at 4 parts per million (ppm). Artesian Water strives to meet a range between 0.5 ppm and 3 ppm. | | | | | |
| ⁷ Although EPA sets the "goal" at the same level as the maximum contaminant level for these contaminants Artesian Water strives to maintain levels lower than the MCL. | | | | | |

