

IMPORTANT NOTICE

Consumer Confidence Report

EDGEWATER ACRES/ NANTUCKET POINT SERVICE AREA

2016 ANNUAL DRINKING WATER QUALITY REPORT

PWSID # 023-0020

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, 2015, 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 2015. 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 2415, 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 2015 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 2415, or you can write to us at 1000 Shore Lane, Berlin, Maryland 21811.

LEAD

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. Worcester County is responsible for providing high quality drinking water, but cannot control the variety of

materials used in plumbing components. 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>.”

GENERAL

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.

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).

NANTUCKET POINT WATER QUALITY DATA

The table below lists all the drinking water contaminants that we detected during the 2015 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, 2015. 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.
- **Maximum residual disinfectant level goal or MRDLG:** The level of a drinking water disinfectant below which there is no known or expected risk to health. MRDLGs do not reflect the benefits of the use of disinfectants to control microbial contaminants.
- **Maximum residual disinfectant level or MRDL:** The highest level of a disinfectant allowed in drinking water. There is convincing evidence that addition of a disinfectant is necessary for control of microbial contaminants.
- **Avg:** Regulatory compliance with some MCLs are based on running average of monthly samples.
- **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)
- **na:** not applicable.

TEST RESULTS OF REGULATED CONTAMINANTS DETECTED IN THE MARYLAND PORTION OF THE WATER SYSTEM

LEAD AND COPPER	Date sampled	MCLG	Action Level (AL)	90 th Percentile	# Sites over AL	Units	Violation	Likely source of contamination.
Copper	8/18/15 8/20/15 8/25/15	1.3	1.3	0.055	0	ppm	N	Erosion of natural deposits, leaching from wood preservatives, or corrosion of household plumbing systems.
Lead	8/18/15 8/20/15 8/25/15	0	15	7	0	ppb	N	Erosion of natural deposits, or corrosion of household plumbing systems

DISINFECTANTS AND DISINFECTION BY-PRODUCTS	Collection date	Highest level detected	Range of levels detected	MCLG	MCL	Units	Violation	LIKELY SOURCE OF CONTAMINATION
• Haloacetic Acids (HAA5)	9/23/15	33	32.9 – 32.9	No goal for the total	60	ppb	N	By-product of drinking water disinfection.
• Total Trihalomethanes (TTHM)	9/23/15	73.5	73.5 – 73.5	No goal for the total	80	ppb	N	By-product of drinking water disinfection
Chlorine	1/1/15 to 12/31/15	0.8	0 – 0.8	MRDLG=4	MRDL=4	ppm	N	Water additive used to control microbes.

TEST RESULTS OF REGULATED AND UNREGULATED CONTAMINANTS DETECTED IN THE DELAWARE PORTION OF THE WATER SYSTEM

DISINFECTANTS AND DISINFECTION BY-PRODUCTS	Collection date	Highest level detected	Range of levels detected	MCLG	MCL	Units	Violation	LIKELY SOURCE OF CONTAMINATION
Haloacetic Acids (HAA5)	2015	33.31	10.39 – 43.35	No goal for the total	60	ppb	N	By-product of drinking water disinfection.
Total Trihalomethanes (TTHM)	2015	66.47	21.7 – 95.4	No goal for the total	80	ppb	N	By-product of drinking water disinfection
Chlorine	2015	2.26	0.05 – 2.26	MRDLG=4	MRDL=4	ppm	N	Water additive used to control microbes.
INORGANIC CONTAMINANTS								
Barium	2015	0.0145	Nd – 0.0145	2	2	ppm	N	Discharge of drilling waste, discharge from metal refineries, erosion of natural deposits
Fluoride	2015	0.819	0.278 – 0.819	2	2	ppm	N	Erosion of natural deposits, water additive which promotes strong teeth, discharge from fertilizer and aluminum factories.
Nitrate	2015	0.18	Nd – 0.18	10	10	ppm	N	Runoff from fertilizer use, leaching from septic tanks, sewage, erosion of natural deposits.
Selenium	2015	2.5	Nd – 2.5	50	50	ppb	N	Discharge from petroleum and metal refineries, erosion of natural deposits, discharge from mines.
VOLATILE ORGANIC CONTAMINANTS								
Carbon Tetrachloride	2015	1.07	Nd – 1.07	0	5	ppb	N	Discharge from chemical plants and other industrial activities.
RADIOLOGICAL CONTAMINANTS								
Radium, combined	2015	1.9	0.2 – 1.9	0	5	pCi/L	N	Erosion of natural deposits.

LEAD AND COPPER	Date sampled	MCLG	Action Level (AL)	90 th Percentile	# Sites over AL	Units	Violation	Likely source of contamination.
Copper	2015	0	1.3	1.57	4	ppm	N	Erosion of natural deposits, leaching from wood preservatives, or corrosion of household plumbing systems.
Lead	2015	0	15	8.2	0	ppb	N	Erosion of natural deposits, or corrosion of household plumbing systems

NANTUCKET POINT WATER QUALITY DATA

TEST RESULTS OF UNREGULATED CONTAMINANTS DETECTED IN THE DELAWARE PORTION OF THE WATER SYSTEM

UNREGULATED CONTAMINANTS	Average level detected	Range of levels detected	MCL	Units	Violation	LIKELY SOURCE OF CONTAMINATION
Alkalinity, Total	156	109 - 203	N/A	ppm	N/A	
Carbon dioxide, free	9.50	5.15 – 13.85	N/A	ppm	N/A	
Conductivity	387.5	346 - 429	N/A	umhos	N/A	
Hardness, Calcium	70	45 - 95	N/A	ppm	N/A	
Hardness, Total	89	64 - 114	N/A	ppm	N/A	
Phosphate, Total	0.81	0.68 – 0.93	N/A	ppm	N/A	
Sodium	47.65	45 – 50.3	N/A	ppm	N/A	
Turbidity	0.715	0.3 – 1.30	5	NTU	N/A	Soil runoff

SECONDARY CONTAMINANTS	Average level detected	Range of levels detected	SMCL	Units	Violation	LIKELY SOURCE OF CONTAMINATION
Chloride	43.8	43.8	250	ppm	N/A	
Color, apparent	10	5 – 15	15	Pt-Co Std	N/A	
Iron	0.10	0.01 – 0.27	0.3	ppm	N/A	
Manganese	0.016	0.014 – 0.017	0.05	ppm	N/A	
pH, field	7.30	6.28 – 8.31	6.5 – 8.5	0 – 14 scale	N/A	
Solids, total dissolved	221	186 - 256	500	ppm	N/A	
Zinc	0.0074	Nd – 0.0074	5	ppm	N/A	

VIOLATIONS

***The stage 2 disinfection by-products (Haloacetic Acids and Total Trihalomethanes) were sampled during the fourth week of September of 2015 as per our MDE approved sampling schedule. The results are less than the MCL levels and were sent to MDE as soon as they were available from our approved testing lab. Since the results were sent four days after MDE's deadline this is considered a reporting violation. To prevent this from happening in the future, MDE has changed our sampling schedule so that we can have the sample results available before the deadline.**