

Annual Drinking Water Quality Report for 2024

Town of Westernport

PWSID #0010033

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.

The **Town of Westernport** 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 1st to December 31st, 2024**. 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. **Our Source Water is the Savage River, which is a surface supply.**

A **source water assessment** was performed by the **Maryland Department of the Environment (MDE)** and is available on their website:

https://mde.maryland.gov/programs/Water/water_supply/Source_Water_Assessment_Program/Pages/by_county.aspx

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 Town of Westernport** 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 the Superintendent of Water, **Tim Jackson, Superintendent of Water at (301) 616-7860**. 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 10/10/2024. As a result, the Service Line Inventory requirement was fulfilled. "The report is available upon request".

Westernport has completed the service line inventory required by U.S. EPA's Lead and Copper Rule Revisions (initial inventory due October 16th, 2024)
For more information on our service line inventory please call 301-616-7860.

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.

Westernport 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 301-616-7860k.

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

If you have any questions about this report or concerning your water utility, please contact **Tim Jackson, Superintendent of Water at (301) 616-7860**. We want our valued customers to be informed about their water utility. If you want to learn more, please attend our regularly scheduled council meetings, which are held on the **first Monday of each month at 7:00 p.m.** in the Council Chamber of the Westernport City Building located at 107 Washington Street, Westernport, Maryland 21562.

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.

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

WATER QUALITY DATA FOR CITY OF HAGERSTOWN								
INORGANIC CONTAMINANTS								
Regulated Contaminants	Units	Collection Date	Highest Level Detected	Range of Levels Detected	MCLG	MCL	Violation	Typical Sources
Barium	ppm	2024	0.038	0-0.038	2	2	NO	Discharge of drilling wastes; discharge from metal refineries; erosion of natural deposits
Nitrate	ppm	2024	1	0.72-0.8	10	10	NO	Runoff from fertilizer use; leaching from septic tanks; sewage; erosion of natural deposits
DISINFECTION AND DISINFECTION BY PRODUCTS								
Regulated Contaminants	Units	Collection Date	Highest Level Detected	Range of Levels Detected	MCLG	MCL	Violation	Typical Sources
Chlorine	ppm	2024	0.7	0.6-0.7	4	4	NO	Water additive used to control microbes
Total Trihalomethanes	ppb	2024	32	18.5-41.9	NA	80	NO	By-products of drinking water disinfection process
Haloacetic Acids	ppb	2024	50	36.5-68.1	NA	60	NO	By-products of drinking water disinfection process
RADIOACTIVE CONTAMINANTS								
Regulated Contaminants	Units	Collection Date	Highest Level Detected	Range of Levels Detected	MCLG	MCL	Violation	Typical Sources
Combine Radium 226/228	pCi/L	6/2/2020	0.2	0.2-0.2	0	5	NO	Erosion of natural deposits
TURBIDITY								
Regulated Parameter	Units	Limit (T _L)		Level Detected			Violation	Typical Sources
Highest Single Measurement	ntu	1.0		0.28			NO	Soil Runoff
Lowest Monthly % Meeting Limit	ntu	0.3		100%			NO	Soil Runoff

VIOLATIONS

The Consumer Confidence Rule requires community water systems to prepare and provide to their customers annual consumer confidence reports on the quality of water of the water delivered by the systems

Violation Type	Violation Begin	Violation End	Violation Explanation
Alkalinity, total monitoring	7/1/2024	7/31/2024	We were late testing for Alkalinity. It was due on 7/1/2024, but we did not test until 7/31/2024.
Carbon, total monitoring	7/1/2024	7/31/2024	We were late testing for Carbon. It was due on 7/1/2024, but we did not test until 7/31/2024.

LEAD AND COPPER

Regulated Contaminants	Units	Date of Sample	90th %	Range of Results	Sites Over Action Level	MCLG	AL	Violation	Typical Sources
Lead	ppb	2021	ND(<5)	ND(<5)-ND(<5)	0	0	15	NO	Corrosion of household plumbing systems; erosion of natural deposits; leaching of from wood preservatives
Copper	ppm	2021	0.22	ND(<0.05)-0.22	0	1.3	1.3	NO	Corrosion of household plumbing systems; erosion of natural deposits; leaching of from wood preservatives