

2019 Annual Drinking Water Quality Report

Chincoteague Bay Trails End Association
PWSID No. 3001140

INTRODUCTION

This Annual Drinking Water Quality Report for calendar year 2019 is designed to inform you about your drinking water quality. Our goal is to provide you with a safe and dependable supply of drinking water, and we want you to understand the efforts we make to protect your water supply. The quality of your drinking water must meet state and federal requirements administered by the Virginia Department of Health (VDH).

Este informe contiene información importante acerca de su agua potable. Haga que alguien lo traduzca para usted, o hable con alguien que lo entienda.

For information pertaining how you may participate in decisions regarding your water supply you may contact:

Mr. Keith Merritt
Chincoteague Bay Trails End Association
5360 Trails End Road
Horntown, VA 23395
757-894-7257

GENERAL INFORMATION

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 human activity.

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 stormwater runoff, and septic system;
- Radioactive contaminants, which can be naturally occurring or be the result of oil and gas production and mining activities

Drinking water, including bottled drinking 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 can be obtained by calling the Environmental Protection Agency's Safe Drinking Water Hotline (800-426-4791).

In order to ensure that tap water is safe to drink, the EPA prescribes regulations which 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.

MCLs are set at very stringent levels by the U.S. Environmental Protection Agency. In developing the standards EPA assumes that the average adult drinks 2 liters of water each day throughout a 70-year lifespan. EPA generally sets MCLs at levels that will result in no adverse health effects for some contaminants or a one-in-ten-thousand to one-in-a-million chance of having the described health effect for other contaminants.

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

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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).

SOURCE OF YOUR DRINKING WATER AND TREATMENT

The Trails End water system receives its water from three wells located within the subdivision. Your water is not routinely treated with chlorine.

The Virginia Dept. of Health conducted a Source Water Assessment of the Waterworks in 2018 on wells that are inactive. The wells that are currently in service have had Source Water Assessments conducted. The assessments in 2018 found the well to be of low susceptibility. The assessment report consists of maps showing the Source Water Assessment area, an inventory of known Land Use Activities and Potential Conduits to Groundwater utilized at Land Use Activity sites in Zone 1, Susceptibility Explanation Chart, and Definition of Key Terms. The report is available by contacting your waterworks system owner/operator at the phone or address included in the CCR.

WATER QUALITY RESULTS

Contaminants in your drinking water are routinely monitored according to Federal and State regulations. The EPA requires that Table I reflect monitoring results for the period of January 1, 2015 through December 31, 2019. The state allows us to monitor for some contaminants less than once per year because the concentrations of these contaminants do not change frequently. Some of our data, though accurate, may be more than one year old. Only the most recent sample results from the prescribed period are reported. The table lists only those contaminants that had some level of detection. Many other contaminants have been analyzed but were not present or were below the detection limits of the lab equipment.

DEFINITIONS

In this report you will find many terms and abbreviations you might not be familiar with. The following definitions are provided to help you better understand these terms:

- Non-detects (ND) – Lab analysis indicates that the contaminant is not present.
- Parts per million (ppm) or milligrams per liter (mg/L) – One part per million corresponds to one minute in 2 years, or a single penny in \$10,000.
- Parts per billion (ppb) or micrograms per liter (µg/L) – One part per billion corresponds to one minute in 2,000 years, or a single penny in \$10,000,000.
- Action Level (AL) – 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.
- Maximum Residual Disinfectant Level (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.
- Maximum Residual Disinfectant Level Goal (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.
- Treatment Technique (TT) – A required process intended to reduce the level of a contaminant in drinking water.
- Level 1 Assessment – An evaluation to identify the possible presence of sanitary defects, defects in distribution system coliform monitoring practices, and (when possible) the likely reason that the system triggered the assessment.
- Level 2 Assessment – An evaluation to identify the possible presence of sanitary defects, defects in distribution system coliform monitoring practices, and (when possible) the likely reason that the system triggered the assessment in a more comprehensive investigation than a Level 1 assessment.
- Sanitary Defect – A defect that could provide a pathway of entry for microbial contamination into the distribution system or that is indicative of a failure or imminent failure in a barrier that is already in place.

DISTRIBUTION SYSTEM

LEAD AND COPPER CONTAMINANTS

CONTAMINANT (units)	MCLG	Action Level	Level Detected	Range	# of samples above AL	Date of Sample	Typical Source of Contamination
Copper (ppm)	1.3	1.3	0.012	ND – 0.0248	0	7/12/2017	Corrosion of household plumbing; Erosion of natural deposits

A note about lead in drinking water: 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. We are 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 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 Safe Drinking Water Hotline or at <http://www.epa.gov/safewater/lead>.

ENTRY POINT

CONTAMINANT (units)	MCLG	MCL	Level Detected	Range	Violation	Sample Date	Typical Source of Contamination
Arsenic (ppb)	0	10	5.3	NA	No	5/17/2019	Erosion of natural deposits; runoff from orchards; runoff from glass & electronics production wastes
Barium	2	2	0.042	NA	No	5/17/19	Discharge of drilling waste; discharge from metal refineries, erosion of natural deposits
Nitrate (ppm)	10	10	5.51	NA	No	5/17/2019	Runoff from fertilizer use; Leaching from septic tanks, sewage; Erosion of Natural deposits.
Gross Alpha (pCi/L)	0	4*	0.8**	NA	No	7/11/2017	Erosion of natural and man-made deposits
Gross Beta (pCi/L)	0	50*	13.7**	NA	No	7/11/2017	Erosion of natural and man-made deposits

**If the results of the sample had been above 5 pCi/L, our system would have been required to do additional testing for radium. Because the results were below 5 pCi/L, no testing for radium was required.*

***The MCL for Gross Beta is 4 mrem/year however EPA considers 50 pCi/L to be the level of concern.*

****Because the beta particle results were below 50 pCi/L, no testing for individual beta particle constituents was required.*

A note about arsenic in drinking water: While your drinking water meets EPA’s standard for arsenic, it does contain low levels of arsenic. EPA’s standard balances the current understanding of arsenic’s possible health effects of low levels of arsenic, which is a mineral known to cause cancer in humans at high concentrations and linked to other health effects such as skin damage and circulatory problems.

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A note about nitrate in drinking water: 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 for advice from your health care provider.

Presence of Coliforms: Coliforms are bacterial that are naturally present in the environment and are used as an indicator that other, potentially harmful, water born pathogens may be present or that a potential pathway exists through which contamination may enter the drinking water distribution system. We found coliforms indicating the need to look for potential problems in water treatment or distribution. When this occurs, we are required to conduct assessments to identify problems and to correct any problems that are found

E. COLI BACTERIA MONITORING RESULTS

All water systems are required to comply with the state Total Coliform Rule. Beginning April 1, 2016, all water systems were required to comply with the federal Revised Total Coliform Rule. The new federal rule maintains the purpose to protect public health by ensuring the integrity of the drinking water distribution system and monitoring for the presence of microbials (i.e., total coliform and E. coli bacteria). The U.S. EPA anticipates greater public health protection as the new rule requires water systems that are vulnerable to microbial contamination to identify and fix problems. Water systems that exceed a specified frequency of total coliform occurrences are required to conduct an assessment to determine if any sanitary defects exist. If found, these must be corrected by the water system.

SYSTEM ASSESSMENTS FOR TC+ - During the past year, we were required to conduct a level 1 assessment. The assessment was completed, but no direct cause was pinpointed. WE think some of the contributing factors may have been: there were several leaks/breaks in the park prior to sampling, some back flow prevention devices had been removed from the system, and the yard hydrants used as connection points are floodable at the weep hole. The corrective actions we have taken is to replace the missing backflow devises. We may take further action in the future.

SYSTEM ASSESSMENTS FOR EC+ - No assessments were required for this system during this reporting period.

VIOLATIONS – There were no violations for this system during the reporting.

Drinking water does not play a significate role in sodium exposure for most individuals. Those that are under treatment for sodium-sensitive hypertension should consult with their healthcare provider regarding sodium levels in their drinking water supply and the advisability of using an alternative water source or point-of-use treatment to reduce the sodium. For individuals on very low sodium diet (500 mg/day), EPA recommends that drinking water sodium should not exceed 20 mg/L. The World Health Organization has established a drinking water guideline of 200 mg of sodium/L on the basis of esthetic considerations (i.e. taste). On May 12, 2019, our water had a sodium contact of 51 mg/L.