

Annual Drinking Water Quality Report for 2021
Briercrest Apartments
April, 2022
PWSID 0100004

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 is, and always has been, to provide to you a safe and dependable supply of drinking water. Our water source is one (1) well which draws from an underground aquifer whose name is unknown.

This report shows our water quality and what it means.

A source water assessment plan has been prepared that provides more information such as potential sources of contamination. This plan is available thru the Frederick County Public Library or Maryland Department of the Environment (MDE). For more information call 1-800-633-6101.

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

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).

If you have any questions about this report or concerning your water, please contact Marc Angleberger at 240-674-7950. We want our residents to be informed about their water.

Briercrest Apartments routinely monitors 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 1st to December 31st, 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. All drinking water, including bottled drinking water, may be reasonably 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

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.

Picocuries per liter (pCi/L) - picocuries per liter is a measure of the radioactivity in water.

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.

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
Inorganic Contaminants						
Chlorine (2021)	N	1.5	ppm	4	4	Water Additive used to control microbes
Nitrate (as Nitrogen) (2021)	N	4	ppm	10	10	Runoff from fertilizer use; leaching from septic tanks, sewage; erosion of natural deposits
Barium (2019)	N	0.0417	ppm	2	2	Discharge of drilling wastes; discharge from metal refineries; erosion of natural deposits
Beta photon emitters (2021)	N	4	pCi/L	0	50	Decay of natural and man-made deposits.
Total Trihalomethanes (TTHM) (2020)	N	3.12	ppb	0	80	By-product of drinking water disinfection
Pfoa + Pfos	N	34	ppt	n/a	n/a	See below

Note: Test results are for the year 2021 or as otherwise noted. These are the most recent results available. Not all tests are required to be performed annually.

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. Briercrest Apartments 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>

NOTE: Lead, which is tested for every 3 years in accordance with Federal and State regulations, was not detected in our most recently collected samples in 2019.

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 Briercrest Apartments drinking water treatment plant showed a combined PFOA and PFOS concentration of 34 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

Exceedance of Maryland Department of Health's Public Health Advisory Level for PERFLUOROHXANESULFONIC ACID (PFHxS)

Testing results from samples taken on October 5 and October 19, 2021, by the Maryland Department of the Environment (MDE) show presence of PFHxS in the treated water being provided to you in levels exceeding the MOH PHA Level for PFHxS. The MDH Health Advisory Level for PFHxS is 140 parts per trillion (ppt). In the unfinished water sample collected from well 3 (FR FR720448) on October 5, 2021, PFHxS concentrations measured 142 ppt. In the follow up samples collected from well 3 on October 19, PFHxS measured 173 ppt; the finished water sample collected from the treatment plant measured PFHxS at 158 ppt.

This is not an immediate risk. If it had been, you would have been notified immediately. The presence of PFHxS in drinking water is not an urgent health concern, but MDH has concluded that PFHxS exposure should be reduced below 140 ppt to prevent long-term health risks to people, especially children. If water is used to prepare infant formula by people whose drinking water has PFHxS at or above 140 ppt, the formula should be prepared only with treated or bottled water. PFHxS can transfer from a mother to her infant during pregnancy and to an infant through breast milk. However, MDH recommends that women currently breastfeeding, and pregnant women who plan to breastfeed, continue to do so. Breastfeeding is important for the short-and long-term health of both a mother and infant and is recommended by doctors and other health professionals.

To remain protective of our customer's health, Briercrest Apartments is working to provide alternative sources of drinking water, such as bottled water, and installing treatment to reduce the levels of PFHxS.

MCLs 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.

Please call Mr. Marc Angleberger at 240-674-7950 if you have questions about this report.