Campus Hills Waterworks 2021 Drinking Water Quality Report

PWSID: 012-0007

Maryland ENVIRONMENTAL SERVICE

Important Information Concerning Your Drinking Water

We're pleased to present to you the Annual Water Quality Report for 2021. This report is designed to inform you about the water quality and services we deliver to you every day. Maryland Environmental Service, an Agency of the State of Maryland prepared this report on behalf of the Campus Hills Waterworks.

Our goal is to provide you with a safe and dependable supply of drinking water. More than 800 tests for over 120 compounds were conducted on the water at Campus Hills. We want you to understand the efforts made to continually improve the water treatment process, protect our water resources and encourage you to take the time to read this report and learn more about your drinking water. We are committed to ensuring the quality of your water.

We're pleased to report that your drinking water meets all Federal and State requirements. This report shows the water quality and explains what it means.

If you have any questions about this report or have questions concerning your water utility, please contact **Jay Janney at 410-729-8350, e-mail jjanney@menv.com**.

For More Information:

For the opportunity to ask more questions, please contact **Ms. Martha Edwards at 443-904-3155 or E-mail at Martha.A.Edwards@gmail.com**

Inside This Issue:

The water for Campus Hills Waterworks comes from five wells. The underground sources for the well water are called the Port Deposit, Gneiss and Wissahickon aquifers. After the water is pumped out of the wells, we adjust the pH and add disinfectant to protect against microbial contaminants. The Maryland Department of the Environment has performed an assessment of the source water. A copy of the results are available. Call **Maryland Environmental Service at 410-729-8350.**

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 microbial contaminants are available from **the Safe Drinking Water Hotline (1-800-426-4791).**

Definitions:

- **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** - The concentration of a contaminant which, if exceeded, triggers treatment or other requirements which a water system must follow
- **Treatment Technique (TT)** - A required process intended to reduce the level of a contaminant in drinking water
- **Turbidity** - Relates to a condition where suspended particles are present in the water. Turbidity measurements are a way to describe the level of "cloudiness" of the water.
- **NTU - Nephelometric Turbidity Units.** Units of measurement used to report the level of turbidity or "cloudiness" in the water.
- **pCi/l** - Picocuries per liter. A measure of radiation.
- **ppb** - Parts per billion or micrograms per liter
- **ppm** - Parts per million or milligrams per liter

Special Points of Interest:

The water from the Campus Hills' Water Treatment Plant is tested for over 120 different compounds. Drinking Water, including bottled water, may reasonably be expected to contain at least small amounts of some compounds. The presence of these compounds does not necessarily indicate that water poses a health risk. More information about contaminants and potential health effects can be obtained by calling the **Environmental Protection Agency's (EPA's) Safe Drinking Water Act Hotline (1-800-426-4791)**

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Contaminant	Highest Level Allowed (EPA's MCL)	Highest Level Detected	Ideal Goal (EPA's MCLG)
Regulated at the Treatment Plant, Route 22 Plant I.D. 01			
Nitrate	10 ppm	3.3 ppm	10 ppm
Typical Source of Contamination: Runoff from fertilizer use; erosion			
Barium (2021 Testing)	2000 ppb	96.0 ppb	2000 ppb
Typical Source of Contamination: Erosion of natural deposits			
Combined Radium 226 & 228 (2018 Testing)	5 pCi/l	0.6 pCi/l	0.0 pCi/l
Source: Erosion of natural deposits			
Regulated in the Distribution System			
Chlorine	4 ppm	0.94 ppm *	4 ppm
Water additive used to control microbes		Range (0.84 - 0.94)	
* Annual rolling average			
Total Trihalomethanes (TTHM)	80 ppb	18.4 ppb	n/a
Haloacetic Acids (HAA5)	60 ppb	3.0 ppb	n/a
(2020 Monitoring) Typical Source of Contamination: By-product of drinking water disinfection			
Regulated in the Distribution System	Action Level	90th percentile	Ideal Goal
Copper (2019)	1.3 ppm	0.2 ppm	1.30ppm
Lead (2019)	15 ppb	<2.0 ppb	0 ppb

The table above lists all the drinking water contaminants that were detected during the 2021 calendar year. The presence of these compounds in the water does not necessarily indicate that the water poses a health risk.

Unless otherwise noted, the data presented in the table is from testing done January 1 – December 31, 2021.

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.

RADON:

We constantly monitor the water supply for various constituents. We have detected radon in the water supply on a sample collected in May 2004. At this time, there is no Federal Regulation for radon levels in drinking water. Compared to radon entering the home through soil, radon entering the home through tap water will in most cases be a small source of radon in indoor air. Exposure to air transmitted radon over a long period of time may cause adverse health effects. The radon result of the May 2004 sample was 1562 pCi/l (pCi/l = picocuries per liter, a measure of radioactivity). For additional information call the EPA radon hotline at 1-800-SOS-RADON.

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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.

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

Lead Prevention

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. The Campus Hills Waterworks 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.

Contaminants That May Be Present in Source Water:

Microbial contaminants, such as viruses and bacteria, which may come from sewage treatment plants, septic systems, agricultural livestock operations, and wildlife. Pesticides and Herbicides, which may come from a variety of sources such as agriculture, urban stormwater runoff, and residential uses. 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. 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 systems. Radioactive Contaminants, which can be naturally-occurring or be the result of oil and gas production and mining activities.

If you have any questions about this report or your drinking water, please call Jay Janney at 410-729-8350 or email your request to jjanney@menv.com.

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Polyfluoroalkyl Substances

PFAS – short for per- and polyfluoroalkyl substances – refers to a large group of more than 4,000 human-made chemicals that have been used since the 1940s 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 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 U.S. 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 an 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. *The combined PFOA and PFAS concentration from samples taken from your water system was 7.63 ppt.* 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".

Water Conservation

Did you know that the average U.S. household uses approximately 400 gallons of water per day or 100 gallons per person per day? Luckily, there are many low-cost and no-cost ways to conserve water. Small changes can make a big difference—try one today and soon it will become second nature.

- Check for water leaks by the reading your water meter before and after a two hour period when no water is being used in your home. If the reading changes then there is probably a leak in your home.
- Take a shower! Filling up a bathtub can use up to 70 gallons of water while a shower generally uses 10 to 25 gallons. Taking shorter showers saves even more water.
- Make sure your washing machine and dishwasher are fully loaded before running.
- Are you in the market for a new water fixture such as a faucet, showerhead or toilet? Consider a WaterSense labled fixture and reduce your water use by 30% percent or more versus standard flow fixtures. Visit *www.epa.gov/watersense* for more information on water efficiency products and methods.

Source: http://www.epa.gov/watersense & http://eartheasy.com