Terms and Units Defined:

Action Level (AL) is the concentration of a contaminant which, if exceeded, triggers treatment or other requirements which a water system must follow.

Maximum Contaminant Level Goal (MCLG) represents a target level for contaminants below which there is no known or expected health risk. MCLGs allow for a margin of safety. These 'Goals' are not necessarily achievable.

Maximum Contaminant Level (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.

n/a = Not applicable

n/d = Not detected

Nephelometric Turbidity Unit (NTU) is a measure of the clarity of water.

Parts per million (ppm) - one part per million corresponds to one minute in two years, or one penny in $10,000.

Parts per billion (ppb) - one part per billion corresponds to one minute in 2,000 years, or one penny in $10,000,000.

Picocuries per liter (pCi/l) is a measure of radioactivity.

Treatment Technique is a required process intended to reduce the level of a contaminant in drinking water.

Turbidity is a measure of the cloudiness of the water and is used as an indicator that the filtration system is functioning properly.

CITY OF HAGERSTOWN, MD

UTILITIES DEPARTMENT
WATER DIVISION

301-739-8577 x 680

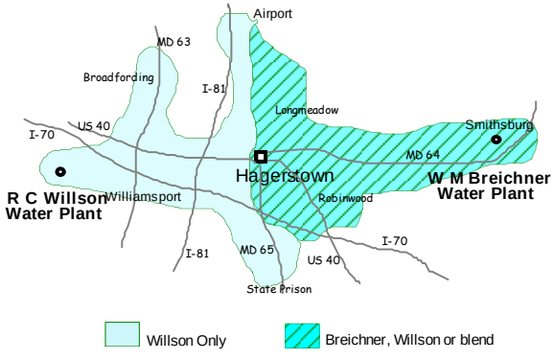
2011 CONSUMER CONFIDENCE REPORT
PWSID# 0210010

In compliance with the requirements of the Safe Drinking Water Act, the Hagerstown Utilities Department Water Division is distributing to all of its customers this Consumer Confidence Report (CCR) which lists the results of sampling for the Environmental Protection Agency (EPA) regulated and unregulated contaminants detected in the City's potable water supply in 2011. Tested contaminants include metals, organic and inorganic compounds, pesticides and volatile organic contaminants. The comparison of these values to the EPA's Maximum Contaminant Level (MCL) for each contaminant is also listed.

If you desire further information about this report or about your water utility in general, please call the Utilities Department Water Division at (301) 739-8577 x 680. If you wish to participate in decisions that may affect water quality, you are welcome to attend any of the meetings of the Mayor and Council held in the Council Chambers of City Hall. The meetings are open to the public and are generally held on the 1st, 2nd, and 3rd Tuesdays of every month at 4:00 pm and on the 4th Tuesday at 7:00 pm. Please check your newspaper for exact times.

What Is the Source of City Water?

Hagerstown City water is surface water that comes from one of two City-owned treatment plants. The main plant is the R.C. Willson Water Treatment Plant which uses the Potomac River as the water source. The second plant is the W. M. Breichner Water Treatment Plant which uses the Edgemont Reservoir as its source. The reservoir is fed by two streams, the Warner Hollow and the Raven Rock. The Willson Plant is located near Williamsport and the Breichner Plant is near Smithsburg. The source of your water can be found by your location in the drawing below.



What Happens to the Water at the Treatment Plants?

Both plants use the same basic processes to treat the water. Aluminum coagulants are added causing small particles to adhere to each other, making them heavy enough to either settle out of the water in sedimentation basins or be removed in clarifiers. The settled or clarified water is then filtered through anthracite coal and sand to remove the remaining fine particles. Chlorine is added to kill harmful bacteria and viruses and lime or caustic soda is added to minimize the dissolution of lead and copper from household plumbing. Fluoride is added to help prevent dental problems with children's teeth. Potassium permanganate and powdered activated carbon can be added if necessary to reduce taste and odor sometimes present in the raw water. Treated water is then pumped through the distribution system and to your home.

What Is Found in the Water?

As mentioned previously, tests are periodically conducted for the regulated and unregulated contaminants. The table found in this report is a listing of those that were detected in Hagerstown water during the period from January 1, 2011 to December 31, 2011. The remaining contaminants have not been detected. The regulatory agencies (the State of Maryland and the EPA) have waived the requirement to sample for contaminants that would not normally be found in our environment.

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.

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 Utilities Dept. Water Div. 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 on the internet at http://www.epa.gov/safewater/lead.

Certain people may be more vulnerable to contaminants in drinking water than the general population. Immuno-compromised persons such as those undergoing chemotherapy, those who have undergone organ transplants, those with HIV/AIDS or other immune system disorders, some elderly, or infants can be particularly at risk of infection. These people should seek advice about drinking water from their health care provider. The Environmental Protection Agency/Center for Disease Control guidelines for the appropriate means to lessen the risk of infection by cryptosporidium and other microbial contaminants are available from the EPA Safe Drinking Water Hotline at 1-800-426-4791.

Some maximum contaminant level (MCL) regulations are based on a yearly average of sample results. Occasionally an individual result may exceed the MCL but the yearly average does not. This is the case with trihalomethanes.

WATER QUALITY DATA TABLE

Contaminant (units)	MCLG	MCL	Level Found @ Willson	Level Found @ Breichner	Range of Detection	Violation	Typical Sources of Contaminants
Barium (ppm)	2	2	0.035	0.015	-	no	Discharge of drilling wastes, metal refineries and erosion of natural deposits
Fluoride (ppm)	4	4	1.21	n/d	n/d-1.21	no	Additive promoting strong teeth, natural deposits erosion, fertilizer and aluminum factory discharges
Alpha emitters (pCi/l)	0	15	n/d	n/a	-	no	Erosion of natural deposits
Beta/photon emitters (pCi/l)	0	50	n/d	n/a	-	no	Decay of natural and man-made deposits
Combined Radium (pCi/l)	0	5	n/d	n/a	-	no	Decay of natural and man-made deposits
Copper (ppm)	1.3	AL=1.3	.08	.08	0.01-.10	no	Corrosion of household plumbing
Lead (ppb)	0	AL=15	1	1	<1-3	no	Corrosion of household plumbing
Nitrate(ppm)	10	10	1.09	0.583	-	no	Runoff from fertilizer; Leaching of septic tanks, sewage; Erosion of natural deposits
Total Coliform Bacteria (% of monthly samples)	0	5%	0.0	0.0%	0.0%	no	Naturally present in the environment
Haloacetic Acids (ppb/yr. avg.)	0	60	24	24	10-50	no	By-products of drinking water chlorination process
Trihalomethanes (ppb/yr. avg.)	0	80	51	51	12-132	no	By-products of drinking water chlorination process
Turbidity samples below 0.3 NTU (lowest monthly %)	n/a	95	100	100	-	no	Soil runoff
Maximum Turbidity (NTU)	n/a	1	0.06	0.18	0.02-0.18	no	Soil runoff
Unregulated Contaminants							
Perchlorate (ppb)	n/a	n/a	0.62	n/d	n/d-0.62	no	Road flare, explosive, rocket fuel manufacturing
Sodium (ppm)	n/a	n/a	11	7	-	no	n/a

Some people who drink water containing trihalomethanes in excess of the MCL over many years may experience problems with their liver, kidneys, or central nervous system, and may have an increased risk of getting cancer.

Source Water Assessment

A Source Water Assessment (SWA) was performed for the Potomac and Edgemont water supplies. The SWA was done to identify potential sources of contamination that include non-point sources, including transportation, agriculture, on-site septic systems, wildlife, and runoff from developed land and timber harvest operations. Recommendations of the SWA include the development of a watershed protection group representing stakeholders, aggressive barrier management plans to control agriculture and animal farming runoff, phosphorus control, and a proactive spill management program.

Is Your Water Safe to Drink?

Hagerstown City Water meets all Federal (EPA) and State (Maryland) regulatory requirements. If any of the Maximum Contaminant Levels (MCLs) or reporting requirements were exceeded or violated during the period that this report covers, the health effects and reasons for the violations would be required to be stated in this report.

The Hagerstown Utilities Department Water Division works hard to maintain the highest quality water in the Tri-State area and we will continue to strive for this goal. If you have questions about this report or any other topic related to your drinking water, please feel free to call us at 301-739-8577 x 680.