

# Town of Millington 2019 Drinking Water Quality Report



## Important Information About Your Drinking Water

We're pleased to present to you the Annual Water Quality Report for 2019. This report is designed to inform you about the water quality and services we deliver to you every day. Maryland Environmental Service (MES), an Agency of the State of Maryland, operates the water treatment facility and prepared this report on behalf of the Town of Millington.

The Environmental Protection Agency (EPA) regulates Public Water Systems and the contaminants found in water through the implementation of the Safe Drinking Water Act (SDWA). The SDWA sets regulations and guidelines for how public water systems operate and identifies several hundred drinking water contaminants, establishes monitoring frequencies and limitations. The Maryland Department of the Environment (MDE) is responsible for the enforcement of the SDWA and routinely complete Sanitary Surveys as part of their ongoing inspection and monitoring program. MES provides safe dependable operations of the water system and is dedicated to consistently providing high quality drinking water that meets or exceeds the SDWA standards.

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 **jjann@menv.com**.

### For More Information:

For the opportunity to ask more questions or participate in decisions that may affect your drinking water quality, the Town Council generally meets on the **second Tuesday of each month at 6:30 P.M. at the Town Hall**

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**T**he Town of Millington water works consists of three drilled wells in the Aquia formation. After the water is pumped from the ground, it goes through a water softener filter. Softeners decrease the hardness of the water and reduces iron levels in the water. Before the water enters the distribution network chlorine is added to protect against microbial contaminants. The Maryland Department of the Environment has performed an assessment of the source water. A copy of the results is available. Call **Maryland Environmental Service at 410-729-8350**

**S**ome 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)**.

# Town of Millington Treated Water Quality Report 2019

## 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.
- ◆ **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 at the Town of Millington is tested for over 120 different compounds. The Town of Millington's Drinking Water met all of the State and Federal requirements.

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)**

## Important Information Regarding Gross Beta Emitters:

Beta emitters are naturally occurring radiations in soil, air, and water. These emitters generally occur when certain elements decay or break down in the environment. The emitters enter drinking water through various methods including the erosion of natural deposits. There are no immediate health risks from consuming water that contains gross Beta, however some people who drink water containing Beta emitters in excess of the MCL over many years may have an increased risk of getting cancer. Currently, the highest level of gross beta detected is 2 pCi/L which is below the 50 pCi/L MCL.

# Town of Millington Treated Water Quality Report 2019

Contaminant	Highest Level Allowed (EPA's MCL)	Highest Level Detected	Ideal Goal (EPA's MCLG)
<b>Regulated at the Treatment Plant</b>			
Barium (2019 Testing) <small>Source: Water Additive used to control microbes</small>	2000 ppb	48 ppb (Range 40 ppb - 48 ppb)	2000 ppb
<b>Regulated in the Distribution System</b>			
Chlorine <small>Source: By-product of drinking water chlorination</small>	MCL 4 ppm	Highest Level 1.05 ppm* (Range 0.76 ppm - 1.44 ppm) <small>* Average of results</small>	MCLG 4 ppm
Haloacetic Acids (HAA5) (2019 Testing) <small>Source: By-product of drinking water chlorination</small>	60 ppb	1.5 ppb	n/a
Total Trihalomethanes (TTHM) (2019 Testing) <small>Source: By-product of drinking water chlorination</small>	80 ppb	5.2 ppb	n/a
<b>Regulated in the Distribution System</b>			
Copper (2017 Testing) <small>Source: Corrosion of household plumbing fixtures and systems</small>	Action Level 1300 ppb	90th percentile 346 ppb	Ideal Goal 1300 ppb
Lead (2017 Testing) <small>Source: Corrosion of household plumbing fixtures and systems</small>	15 ppb	1.3 ppb	0 ppb
<b>Regulated in the Distribution System</b>			
Total Coliform <small>Source: Naturally present in the environment</small>	MCL 1	Highest number of positive results in any month 3*	Ideal Goal 0
<small>*MCL was not exceeded in 2019 - While not a violation, an investigation found the cause to be a result of water line work completed in the system.</small>			

The table above lists all the drinking water contaminants that were detected during the 2019 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, 2019. 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.

## 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.

## 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 Town of Millington 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>.

## Water Security is Everyone's Responsibility

Water system security continues to be an enormously important issue. If you notice suspicious activities in or around local water utilities, such as persons cutting or climbing facility fencing, loitering, tampering with equipment or other similar activities, please contact your local law enforcement agency immediately by dialing 911.

*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 [jjann@menv.com](mailto:jjann@menv.com).*

