Annual Drinking Water Quality Report

Queenstown, Maryland Water System

May 1, 2016

PWSID#0170003

We're pleased to present this year's Annual Drinking Water Quality Report. This report is designed to inform Queenstown residents about the quality of water and services we deliver every day. Our goal is to provide a safe and dependable supply of drinking water.

The source of our drinking water is Two wells the Aquia aquifer, which lies about 300 feet beneath Queenstown and one well drilled into the Matawan aquifer, which lies about 600 feet beneath Queenstown. The Matawan is an underground layer of porous sand saturated with water and confined on the top and bottom by impervious layers of clay through which we pump water directly into our distribution system. Water in this aquifer is continuously replenished by surface water percolating through porous soils in southern Kent County and northern Queen Anne's County. As the water moves through the porous soils it is purified while at the same time it dissolves minerals such as iron, calcium, etc. from the soils.

The town's drinking water in 2015 meets Federal and State standards including the Maximum Contaminate Level (MCL) for Arsenic. The Maximum Contaminate Level for Arsenic was reduced by the EPA from .050 mg/l to .010 mg/l in 2005.

The following report is in compliance with Federal EPA regulations and is provided annually to the consumer. This report outlines the quality of our drinking water and what that quality means. The Town of Queenstown contracts with Miller Environmental, Inc. to operate and maintain our water system. They also monitor the quality of water we distribute to the consumer following guidelines established by Federal and State regulations.

If you have any questions about this report or the water utility, please contact the Town Office at (410) 827-7646. If you want to learn more, please attend any of our regularly scheduled meetings held on the second & fourth Tuesday of each month at the Town Office, 7013 Main Street, Queenstown, MD at 7:00 PM.

The table on the following page shows required monitoring results for January 1 – December 31, 2015. These samples represent a subset of over 50 elements and compounds that are monitored on a regularly scheduled basis.

"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. [Queenstown] 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."

Definitions

In this report 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:

Non-Detects (ND) - laboratory analysis indicates that the constituent is not present.

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 (u/l) - one part per billion corresponds to one minute in 2,000 years, or a single penny in $10,000,000.

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

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. If contaminant level is exceeded, that triggers action on the part of provider (action level – see above).

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.

NON-DETECTED CONSTITUENTS

The Town of Queenstown is only required to provide information on those constituents it has detected in the finished water supply.

Detected Constituents not in Violation of the Maximum Contaminant Level

Constituent	*Level*	*Unit of Measurement*	*Maximum Contaminate*	*MCLG*	*Year Tested*	*Likely Source*
1. Chloroform	*1.2*	*ppb*	*100*	*0*	*2011*	*disinfection byproduct*
2. Copper	*.069*	*mg/L*	*1.3*	*1.3*	*2012*	*Corrosion of household plumbing and erosion of natural deposits*
3. Fluoride	*0.2*	*mg/L*	*4.0*	*4.0*	*2012*	*Erosion of natural deposits; water additive*
4. Arsenic	*0.002*	*mg/L*	*. 010*		*2014*	*Erosion of natural deposits; runoff*
5. Iron	*.26*	*mg/L*	*n/a*	*n/a*	*2003*	*Naturally present in the environment*
6. Sodium	*14.*	*mg/L*	*n/a*	*n/a*	*2012*	*Monitor only, erosion of natural deposits*
7. Beta Emitters	*6.8*	*pci/L*	*n/a*	*n/a*	*2008*	*Decay of natural deposits*
8. Barium	*.168*	*mg/L*	*2*	*2*	*2012*	*Erosion of natural deposits*

9. Radon 222	*.9*	*pci/L*	*n/a*	*n/a*	*2008*	*unregulated; monitor only*
10. Lead	*.001*	*mg/L*	*0.015*	*0*	*2012*	*Corrosion of household plumbing and erosion of natural deposits*
11. Bromodi-chloromethane	*0.5*	*ug/L*	*0.01*	*0*	*2009*	*disinfection byproduct*
12. TTHM'S (Total Trihalomethanes)	*7.*	*ug/L*	*100*	*0*	*2014*	*byproduct of drinking water disinfection*
13. Nitrate	*. 05*	*mg/L*	*10*	*10*	*2014*	*run off from fertilizer use; leaching septic tanks, sewage; erosion of natural deposits*
14. Dibromochl Oromenthane	*0.05*	*uq/L*	*100*	*0*	*2013*	*byproduct of drinking water disinfection*
15. DI (2 Ethylene Phthalate)	*8*	*ug/L*	*60ug/L*	*0*	*2005*	*Discharge from rubber and chemical Factories*
16 HAA5 (Haloacetic Acids)	*2*	*ug/L*			*2014*	

Bacteria are monitored monthly at specific locations throughout the distribution system. When there is a positive result, the public would be notified immediately and a "boil water" order would be issued.

All sources of drinking water are subject to dissolving substances that are naturally occurring and/or man made. These substances include microbes, inorganic or organic chemicals and radioactive substances. All drinking water, **including bottled water**, may reasonably be expected to contain at least small amounts of certain substances. The presence of these substances 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).MCL's (maximum contaminate levels) are set at very stringent levels. To understand the possible health effects described for many regulated constituents, 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.

Usted puede obtener informacion en espanol por llamar por telefono la casa del ayuntamiento de Town of Queenstown at (410) 827-7646

Some people may be more vulnerable to certain substances 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 (1-800-426-4791). Please call the Town Office if you have questions. The Town of Queenstown is

Dedicated to provide top quality water to every tap. We ask that all our customers help us protect Our water sources, which are the heart of our community, our way of life and our children's future.

The Town of Queenstown, Maryland
P.O. Box 4
Queenstown, Maryland 21658
Phone (410) 827-7646