

**Annual Drinking Water Quality Report for 2023**  
**TOWN OF PITTSVILLE**  
**April, 2024**  
**PWSID #0220009**

We are very pleased to provide you with this year's Annual Quality Water Report. We want to keep you informed about the 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 two wells approximately 115 feet deep in Pocomoke aquifer located at the Water Treatment Facility on Gumboro Road.

We are pleased to report that our drinking water meets federal and state requirements. In April and May 2019, we initiated improvements to operational and treatment practices in order to address problems associated with excessive iron concentrations in the finished water. Iron, is considered to be a secondary or aesthetic contaminant which can affect color, taste, and odor. Efforts to improve the iron removal treatment are being coordinated by the Town, engineering consultants, and the Maryland Department of the Environment (MDE).

The Town of Pittsville has completed its well head protection report and passed an ordinance establishing protection areas and criteria. A copy of the well head protection program and ordinance is available at town hall. **Results of the assessment can be found on the MDE website:**

[https://mde.maryland.gov/programs/Water/water\\_supply/Source\\_Water\\_Assessment\\_Program/Pages/by\\_county.aspx](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 utility, please contact one of our Water Plant Operators, 410-835-2386. We want our valued customers to be informed about their water utility. If you want to learn more, please contact our Town office 410-835-8872 and leave a message for our administrative officer. You may attend any of our regularly scheduled Town Commissioner meetings. They are each third Monday, 7:30p.m. at the Town Office Building, 7505 Gumboro Road.

The Town of Pittsville Water Treatment Facility 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 1<sup>st</sup> to December 31<sup>st</sup>, 2023. 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. It's important to remember that the presence of these contaminants does not necessarily pose a health risk.

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:

*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* - one part per billion corresponds to one minute in 2,000 years, or a single penny in \$10,000,000.

*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.

*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.

*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.

<b>TEST RESULTS</b>						
Contaminant	Violation Y/N	Level Detected	Unit Measurement	MCLG	MCL	Likely Source of Contamination
<b>Inorganic Contaminants</b>						
Lead (distribution) (2023)	N	3.7	ppb	0	AL=15	Corrosion of household plumbing systems, erosion of natural deposits
Copper (distribution) (2022)	N	0.0361	ppm	1.3	1.3	Erosion of natural deposits; Leaching from wood preservatives; Corrosion of household plumbing systems
<b>Disinfection and Disinfection By-Products</b>						
Chlorine (2023) Range	N	0.9 0.6-0.9	ppm	4	4	Water Additive used to control microbes
<b>Stage 2 DBPR Testing Results</b>						
TTHM (distribution) (2023) [Total]trihalomethanes Annual Average Range	N	75 65-86.9	ppb	N/A	80	By-product of drinking water chlorination
Haloacetic Acids (Distribution) (2023) Annual Average Range	N	33 12.2-31.7	ppb	N/A	60	By-product of drinking water chlorination
Barium (2022)	N	0.0356	ppm	2	2	Discharge of drilling waste; Discharge from metal refineries; Erosion of natural deposits

**Note: Test results are for year 2023 or as otherwise indicated; All contaminants are not required to be tested for annually.**

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. Pittsville is responsible for providing high quality drinking water and removing lead pipes, but cannot control the variety of materials used in plumbing components in your home. You share the responsibility for protecting yourself and your family from the lead in your home plumbing. You can take responsibility by identifying and removing lead materials within your home plumbing and taking steps to reduce your family's risk. Before drinking tap water, flush your pipes for several minutes by running your tap, taking a shower, doing laundry or a load of dishes. You can also use a filter certified by an American National Standards Institute accredited certifier to reduce lead in drinking water. If you are concerned about lead in your water and wish to have your water tested, contact Pittsville at 410-835-8872. Information on lead in drinking water, testing methods, and steps you can take to minimize exposure is available at <http://www.epa.gov/safewater/lead>

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.

The Maryland Department of the Environment (MDE) conducted a PFAS monitoring program for Community Water Systems from 2020 to 2022. The results are available on MDE's website:

<https://mde.maryland.gov/PublicHealth/Pages/PFAS-Landing-Page.aspx>.

The Environmental Protection Agency (EPA) finalized regulations for 6 PFAS compounds in drinking water in April 2024. The MCLs for PFOA and PFOS are each 4.0 parts per trillion (ppt). The MCLs for PFNA, PFHxS, and HFPO-DA (GenX chemicals) are each 10 ppt. Additionally, a mixture of two or more of the following chemicals (PFNA, PFHxS, HFPO-DA, and PFBS) will be regulated with a Hazard Index of 1 (unitless) to determine if the combined levels of these PFAS pose a risk and require action.

The 5<sup>th</sup> Unregulated Contaminant Monitoring Rule (UCMR5) began testing for 29 PFAS compounds and lithium in 2023, and testing will run through 2025. The UCMR5 should test all community water systems with populations of at least 3300 people. Three randomly selected systems in Maryland with populations less than 3300 people will also be tested under the UCMR5. Detections greater than the minimum reporting levels for each constituent should be reported in the CCR.

The Maryland Rural Water Association's State Circuit Rider assisted with the completion of this report.

All sources of drinking water are subject to potential contamination by substances that are naturally occurring or man made. These substances can be 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 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.