



**Town of Chesapeake City**  
108 Bohemia Avenue  
Chesapeake City, MD 21915  
**2019 WATER QUALITY REPORT**  
PWSID: MD0070006  
Report Created: June 2020



The Town of Chesapeake City is pleased to provide this Annual Water Quality Report for the period of January 1 to December 31, 2019. This report is intended to provide you with important information about your drinking water and the efforts made by the water system to provide safe drinking water. The source of drinking water used by the Town of Chesapeake City is purchased ground water from the Artesian Water Company. The entire Artesian Water Company Water Quality Report is available at [www.artesianwater.com/WQR/AWC2019.pdf](http://www.artesianwater.com/WQR/AWC2019.pdf). If you have any questions about this report or the quality of your tap water, please call Chesapeake City Town Hall at (410) 885-5298. To find more information about our Town Meetings or a digital copy of the Water Quality Report please visit, [www.chesapeakecity-md.gov](http://www.chesapeakecity-md.gov).

## **Source of Drinking Water**

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 water poses a health risk. More information about contaminants and potential health effects can be obtained by calling the EPA's Safe Drinking Water Hotline at (800) 426-4791.

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. Contaminants that may be present in source water include:

- Microbial contaminants, such as viruses and bacteria, which may come from sewage treatment plants, septic systems, agricultural livestock operations, and wildlife.
- Inorganic contaminants, such as salts and metals, which can be naturally-occurring or result from urban storm water runoff, industrial or domestic wastewater discharges, oil and gas production, mining, or farming.
- Pesticides and herbicides, which may come from a variety of sources such as agriculture, urban storm water runoff, and residential uses.
- 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 storm water runoff, and septic systems.
- Radioactive contaminants, which can be naturally occurring or be the result of oil and gas production and mining activities.

In order to ensure that tap water is safe to drink, EPA prescribes regulations which limit the amount of certain contaminants in water provided by public water systems. FDA regulations establish limits for contaminants in bottled water which must provide the same protection in for public health.

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 (800-426-4791).

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. We 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 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 Safe Drinking Water Hotline or at <http://www.epa.gov/safewater/lead>.

# Town of Chesapeake City Water Quality Report for 2019

## PUBLIC WATER SYSTEM I.D. MD0070006

In order to ensure that tap water is safe to drink, EPA prescribes regulations which limit the amount of contaminants in water provided by public water systems. The table below lists all of the drinking water contaminants that we detected. Although many more contaminants were tested, only those substances listed below were found in your water. All sources of drinking water contain some naturally occurring contaminants. At low levels, these substances are generally not harmful in our drinking water. Removing all contaminants would be extremely expensive, and in most cases, would not provide increased protection of public health. A few naturally occurring minerals may actually improve the taste of drinking water and have nutritional value at low levels. Unless otherwise noted, the data presented in this table is from testing done in the calendar year of the report. The EPA or the State requires us to monitor for certain contaminants less than once per year because the concentrations of these contaminants do not vary significantly from year to year, or the system is not considered vulnerable to this type of contamination. As such, some of our data, though representative, may be more than one year old. In this table you will find terms and abbreviations that might not be familiar to you. To help you better understand these terms, we have provided the definitions below the table.

	Unit of Measure	Highest Level Allowed (MCL)	Ideal Goal (MCLG)	Highest Level Detected	Range of Level Detected	Sample Date	Violation	Likely Source of Contamination
<b>Disinfection/Disinfection By-products</b>								
Chlorine (free)	ppm	4 (MRDL)	4 (MRDLG) <sup>1</sup>	1.94	0.50 – 1.94	2019	No	Disinfectant used in drinking water industry.
Haloacetic Acids, total	ppb	60		1.28	1.28	2019	No	By-product of drinking water chlorination.
Trihalomethanes, total	ppb	80		8.3	8.3	2019	No	By-product of drinking water disinfection.

	Unit of Measure	MCL	Average Level Detected	Range of Level Detected	Sample Date	Violation?	Likely Source of Contamination
<b>Unregulated Contaminants</b>							
Phosphate, total	ppm	n/r	1.47	0.09 – 2.82	2019	n/a	

	Unit of Measure	SMCL	Average Level Detected	Range of Level Detected	Sample Date	Violation?	Likely Source of Contamination
<b>Secondary Contaminants</b>							
Iron	ppm	0.3	0.08	ND – 0.40	2019	n/a	Short-term fluctuations related to iron removal treatment.
pH, Field	0 - 14 scale	6.5 – 8.5	7.68	6.91 – 8.28	2019	n/a	

### Unit Descriptions

- ppm — Parts per million, or milligrams per liter (mg/L)
- ppb — Parts per billion, or micrograms per liter (µg/L)
- pCi/L — Picocuries per liter (a measure of radioactivity)
- umhos — Measurement of conductivity
- n/a — Not applicable.
- ND — Not detected.
- n/r — Monitoring not required, but recommended.

### Note

1. The U.S. Environmental Protection Agency sets the MRDLG for chlorine residual at 4 parts per million (ppm).

### Important Drinking Water Definitions

- MCLG — MAXIMUM CONTAMINANT LEVEL GOAL:** 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.
- MCL — MAXIMUM CONTAMINANT LEVEL:** 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.
- AL — ACTION LEVEL :** The concentration of a contaminant which, if exceeded, triggers treatment or other requirements which a water system must follow.
- MRDLG — MAXIMUM RESIDUAL DISINFECTANT LEVEL GOAL:** the level of a drinking water disinfectant below which there is no known or expected risk to health. MRDLGs do not reflect the benefits of the use of disinfectants to control microbial contaminants.
- MRDL — MAXIMUM RESIDUAL DISINFECTANT LEVEL:** The highest level of a disinfectant allowed in drinking water. There is convincing evidence that addition of a disinfectant is necessary for control of microbial contaminants.
- SMCL — SECONDARY MAXIMUM CONTAMINANT LEVEL:** Non-enforceable guideline which is not directly related to public health, commonly associated with cosmetic or aesthetics within the water.