

# 2022 Annual Drinking Water Quality Report

FUNKSTOWN

PWSID # 0210008

April, 2023

We're pleased to provide you with this year's Annual Water Quality Report. We want to keep you informed about the excellent water and services we have delivered to you over the past year. Our goal has been to provide to you a safe and dependable supply of drinking water.

A source water assessment was performed by the Maryland Department of the Environment (MDE). Results of the assessment can be found on the MDE website:  
[https://mde.maryland.gov/programs/Water/water\\_supply/Source\\_Water\\_Assessment\\_Program/Pages/cl.aspx](https://mde.maryland.gov/programs/Water/water_supply/Source_Water_Assessment_Program/Pages/cl.aspx)

We're pleased to report that our drinking water is safe and meets federal and state requirements.

If you have any questions about this report or concerning your water, please call our Town Hall at 301-791-0948 and ask to speak to Brenda Haynes. We want our residents to be informed about their water quality.

We routinely monitor 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, to December 31, 2022. 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:

*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.

*Picocuries per liter (pCi/L)* - picocuries per liter is a measure of the radioactivity in water.

*Action Level* - the concentration of a contaminant, which, if exceeded, triggers treatment or other requirements that 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.

| TEST RESULTS  |                  |                     |                     |                       |     |   |
|---|------------------|---------------------|---------------------|-----------------------|-----|---|
| Contaminant   | Violation<br>Y/N | Level<br>Detected   | Unit<br>Measurement | MCLG                  | MCL | Likely Source of Contamination            |
| <b>Disinfectants and Disinfection by-products</b>           |                  |                     |                     |                       |     |   |
| Chlorine (2022)   | N                | 2.7                 | ppm                 | 4                     | 4   | Water Additive used to control microbes   |
| Total Trihalomethanes (Average)(TTHM) (2022)<br><br>(Range) | N                | 30<br><br>13.4-38.8 | ppb                 | No goal for the total | 80  | By-product of drinking water disinfection |
| Haloacetic Acids (Average) (HAA5) (2022)<br><br>(Range)     | N                | 16<br><br>8.5-20.5  | ppb                 | No goal for the total | 60  | By-product of drinking water disinfection |

Note: Test results are for year 2022 unless otherwise noted. All contaminants do not require annual testing.

#### *Inorganic Contaminants* 😊

Nitrate in drinking water at levels above 10 ppm is a health risk for infants of less than six months of age. High nitrate levels in drinking water can cause blue baby syndrome. Nitrate levels may rise quickly for short periods of time because of rainfall or agricultural activity. If you are caring for an infant you should ask advice from your health care provider

As you can see by the table, our system had no violations. We're proud that your drinking water meets or exceeds all Federal and State requirements. We have learned through our monitoring and testing that some contaminants have been detected. The EPA has determined that your water IS SAFE at these levels.

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.

PFAS – or 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.

Beginning in 2020, the Maryland Department of the Environment (MDE) initiated a PFAS monitoring program. Our water system was not tested for PFAS in 2022. In March 2023, EPA announced proposed Maximum Contaminant Levels (MCLs) of 4 ppt for PFOA and 4 ppt for PFOS, and a Group Hazard Index for four additional PFAS compounds. Future regulations would require additional monitoring as well as certain actions for systems above the MCLs. EPA will publish the final MCLs and requirements by the end of 2023 or beginning of 2024. Additional information about PFAS can be found on the MDE website: [mde.maryland.gov/PublicHealth/Pages/PFAS-Landing-Page.aspx](https://mde.maryland.gov/PublicHealth/Pages/PFAS-Landing-Page.aspx)

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. Funkstown 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 Funkstown at 301-791-0948. 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>.

MCL's are set at very stringent levels. To understand the possible health effects described for many regulated contaminants, 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.

**Nitrates:** As a precaution we always notify physicians and health care providers in this area if there is ever a higher than normal level of nitrates in the water supply.

In order to maintain a safe and dependable water supply we sometimes need to make improvements that will benefit all of our residents. These improvements are sometimes reflected as rate adjustments. Thank you for understanding.

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).

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

Please call our office at 301-791-0948 if you have questions about this report.



# Water Quality Report 2022

The City of Hagerstown is pleased to provide you with the 2022 Annual Drinking Water Quality Report. 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 report is distributed to all our customers and provides them with information on source water, testing results, and public health guidance for environmental contaminants. The City of Hagerstown Utilities Department is committed to providing our customers with safe and reliable drinking water. Drinking water supplied to our customers has met all stringent EPA and MDE standards of quality for the year 2022.

*Este informe contiene información muy importante sobre el agua que usted bebe. Tradúzcalo ó hable con alguien que lo entienda bien.*

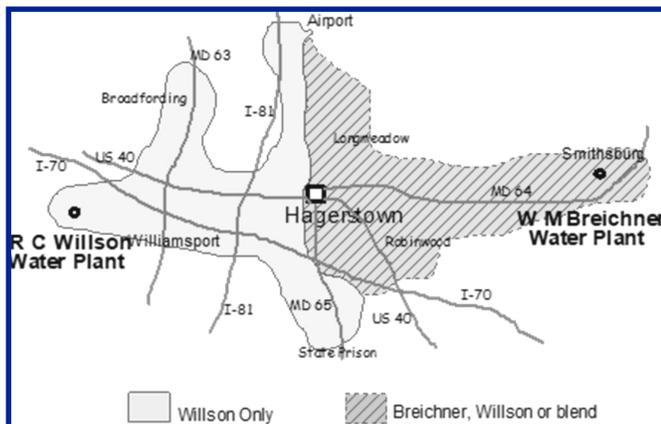
## Sources of Drinking Water

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.

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

Hagerstown City water is surface water that comes from one of two City-owned treatment plants. The main facility is the R.C. Willson Water Treatment Plant which uses the Potomac River as the water source. The second facility is the W.M. Breichner Water Treatment Plant which uses the Edgemont Reservoir as its source. The Edgemont Reservoir and W.M.

Breichner Plant are off-line while repairs and upgrades are made to the dam and treatment facility. Therefore, all water is currently being sourced from the R.C. Willson Water Treatment Plant.



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## Additional Information & Resources

For more information on your water supply or the information contained in this report you may want to contact the following agencies:

### City of Hagerstown Water Division

☎(301) 739-8577 x680

### City of Hagerstown Drinking Water Laboratory

☎(301) 739-8577 x667

### Maryland Department of the Environment

☎(410) 537-3000 or (800) 633-6101

### U.S. Environment Protection Agency Safe Drinking Water Act Hotline

☎(800) 426-4791

You are always welcome to attend any of the meetings of the Mayor and Council Meetings held at Council Chambers in City Hall 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 the City website for exact times.

## Compliance with Safe Drinking Water Act

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 for public health.

Hagerstown City Water meets all Federal (EPA) and State (MDE) regulatory requirements. The Hagerstown Utilities Department Water Division works hard to maintain the highest quality water possible 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 using the numbers on page 1.

## Water Treatment Process

Our water supply source water from the Potomac River is disinfected by filtration followed by addition of chloramine prior to distribution to our customers. A corrosion inhibitor is added to minimize the dissolution of any lead or copper particles from private household plumbing. Fluoride is added to help prevent dental problems with children's teeth. Total chlorine residual is monitored daily throughout the distribution system to ensure drinking water quality.



*The Safe Drinking Water Act (SDWA) was passed in 1974 as a law to protect human public health by regulating the public drinking water supply. SDWA establishes national health-based standards for drinking water to protect against both naturally-occurring and man-made contaminants.*

## Testing Requirements

Testing is periodically conducted for regulated and unregulated contaminants. The table found in this report summarizes the results of our monitoring for the period of January 1, 2022 to December 31, 2022. The regulatory agencies (MDE and the EPA) have waived the requirement to sample for some contaminants that would not normally be found in our environment.

## Source Water Contaminant Information

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;
- pesticides and herbicides, which may come from a variety of sources such as agricultural, urban storm water runoff, and residential uses;
- 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;
- 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

## Vulnerable Populations

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 are responsible for providing high quality drinking water, but 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>

## Information Statement from the EPA on Lead

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 City of Hagerstown 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 The City of Hagerstown Water Division at (301) 739-8577 x680. 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>



## What is PFAS?

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 firefighting 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.

Beginning in 2020, the Maryland Department of the Environment (MDE) initiated a PFAS monitoring program. Our water system was not tested for PFAS in 2022. In March 2023, EPA announced proposed Maximum Contaminant Levels (MCLs) of 4 ppt for PFOA and 4 ppt for PFOS and a Group Hazard Index for four additional PFAS compounds. Future regulations would require additional monitoring as well as certain actions for systems above the MCLs. EPA will publish the final MCLs and requirements by the end of 2023 or beginning of 2024.

Additional information about PFAS can be found on the MDE website: <https://mde.maryland.gov/PublicHealth/Pages/PFAS-Landing-Page.aspx>

## Terms, Units & Abbreviations

**The tables on the following page contain scientific terms and measures:**

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

**Action Level Goal (ALG):** The level of a contaminant in drinking water below which there is no known or expected risk to health. ALGs allow for a margin of safety.

**AVG:** Regulatory compliance with some MCLs are based on running annual average of monthly samples.

**Level 1 Assessment:** A study of the water system to identify potential problems and determine (if possible) why total coliform bacteria have been found in our water system.

**Level 2 Assessment:** A very detailed study of the water system to identify potential problems and determine (if possible) why an *E. coli* MCL violation has occurred and/or why total coliform bacteria have been found in our water system on multiple occasions.

**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.

**MCLG: Maximum Contaminant Level Goal**– A target level for contaminants below which there is no known or expected health risk. MCLGs allow for a margin of safety.

**MRDL: Maximum Disinfectant Residual 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.

**MDRLG: Maximum Disinfectant Residual Level Goal**– The level of a drinking water disinfectant below which there is no known or expected health risk. MRDLGs do not reflect the benefits of the use of disinfectants to control microbial contaminants.

**mrem:** Millirems per year (a measure of radiation absorbed by the body).

**N/A:** Not applicable

**NTU:** Nephelometric Turbidity Units– A measure of water clarity.

**ppm:** Milligrams per liter (mg/L) or parts per million; equal to one ounce in 7,350 gallons of water.

**ppb:** Micrograms per liter (µg/L) or parts per billion; equal to one ounce in 7,350,000 gallons of water.

**ppt:** Nanograms per liter (ng/L) or parts per trillion; equal to one ounce in 7,350,000, 000 gallons of water.

**TT-Treatment Technique:** A required process intended to reduce the level of a contaminant in drinking water.



# Water Quality Data Table

## DISINFECTANTS AND DISINFECTION BY-PRODUCTS \*Values for TTHM and HAA5 are the highest Locational Running Annual Averages (LRAAs) for 2022

| Regulated Contaminants        | Collection Date | Highest Level Detected    | Range of Levels Detected | MCLG              | MCL          | Violation | Typical Sources                                    |
|-------------------------------|-----------------|---------------------------|--------------------------|-------------------|--------------|-----------|--|
| Chlorine                      | 2022            | 2.7 ppm                   | 2.7 - 2.7 ppm            | MRDLG = 4 ppm     | MRDL = 4 ppm | NO        | Water additive to control microbes                 |
| Total Haloacetic Acids (HAA5) | 2022            | 18 ppb                    | 5.22 - 27.21 ppb         | No goal for Total | 60 ppb       | NO        | By-products of drinking water disinfection process |
| Total Trihalomethanes (TTHM)  | 2022            | 32 ppb                    | 8.01 - 56.24 ppb         | No goal for Total | 80 ppb       | NO        | By-products of drinking water disinfection process |
| Total Coliform                | 2022 (90/month) | 3% (month)<br>0.4% (year) | 0%-3% (month)            | 0%                | 5%           | NO        | Naturally present in the environment               |

## INORGANIC CONTAMINANTS

| Regulated Contaminants        | Collection Date | Highest Level Detected | Range of Levels Detected | MCLG    | MCL     | Violation | Typical Sources  |
|-------------------------------|-----------------|------------------------|--------------------------|---------|---------|-----------|--|
| Barium                        | 2022            | 0.048 ppm              | 0 - 0.048 ppm            | 2 ppm   | 2 ppm   | NO        | Discharge of drilling wastes; discharge from metal refineries; erosion of natural deposits   |
| Chromium                      | 2022            | 4.3 ppb                | 0 - 4.3 ppb              | 100 ppb | 100 ppb | NO        | Discharge from steel and pulp mills; erosion of natural deposits   |
| Fluoride                      | 2022            | 0.6 ppm                | 0.52 - 0.654 ppm         | 4 ppm   | 4 ppm   | NO        | Erosion of natural deposits; water additive which promotes strong teeth; discharge from fertilizer and aluminum factories.         |
| Nitrate (as Nitrogen)         | 2022            | 1.0 ppm                | 0.5 - 1.25 ppm           | 10 ppm  | 10 ppm  | NO        | Runoff from fertilizer use; Leaching from septic tanks, sewage; erosion of natural deposits  |
| Sodium ( <i>Unregulated</i> ) | 2022            | 15.9 ppm               | 14.7-15.9 ppm            | n/a     | n/a     | NO        | Naturally present in the environment; increased levels in water sources can occur from road salt, industrial waste, fertilizer use |

## LEAD AND COPPER: tested at customer's taps. Testing is conducted every 3 years.

| Regulated Contaminant | Date Sampled | MCLG    | AL      | 90th Percentile | # Sites Over AL | Violation | Typical Sources  |
|-----------------------|--------------|---------|---------|-----------------|-----------------|-----------|--|
| Lead                  | Jun-Sep 2022 | 0 ppb   | 10 ppb  | 0.944 ppb       | 0               | NO        | Corrosion of household plumbing systems; erosion of natural deposits                                   |
| Copper                | Jun-Sep 2022 | 1.3 ppm | 1.3 ppm | 0.0708 ppm      | 0               | NO        | Erosion of natural deposits; leaching from wood preservatives; corrosion of household plumbing systems |

## TURBIDITY: measurement of the cloudiness of the water caused by suspended particles. We monitor it because it is a good indicator of water quality and the effectiveness of our filtration

|                                | Limit (TT) | Level Detected | Violation | Typical Sources |
|--------------------------------|------------|----------------|-----------|-----------------|
| Highest Single Measurement     | 1.0 NTU    | 0.032 NTU      | NO        | Soil runoff     |
| Lowest Monthly % meeting limit | 0.3 NTU    | 100%           | NO        | Soil runoff     |

## TOTAL ORGANIC CARBON

The percentage of Total Organic Carbon (TOC) removal was measured each month and the system met all TOC requirements

## PFAS INFORMATION

| Contaminant | Date Sampled | MCL (proposed) | Level Detected | Violation | Typical Sources  |
|-------------|--------------|----------------|----------------|-----------|--|
| PFOA + PFOS | 2020         | 4 ppt          | Non-Detect     | NO        | Human-made chemicals found in stain-and water-resistant fabrics, carpeting, cleaning products, paints, cookware, food packaging, and fire-fighting foams |

*\*All results on this data table are for the R.C. Willson Plant only, the W.M. Breichner Plant was offline for this period of monitoring*