

Town of Sudlersville

2010 Drinking Water

Quality Report



Important Information About Your Drinking Water

We're pleased to present to you the Annual Water Quality Report for 2010. 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 Sudlersville.

Our goal is to provide you with a safe and dependable supply of drinking water. We encourage you to take the time to read this report and learn more about the quality of your drinking water. Last year more than 800 tests for over 120 different compounds were conducted on the water in the Town of Sudlersville. MES is dedicated to consistently providing drinking water that meets or exceeds State and Federal regulations. We're happy to report that your drinking water meets all State and Federal requirements.

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 Commissioners meet the 1st and 3rd Wednesday of each month in the Town Hall.

The Town of Sudlersville water works consists of two drilled wells in the Aquia aquifer. After the water is pumped out of the wells, it undergoes arsenic reduction treatment and disinfectant is added to protect against microbial contaminants. Treated water is then pumped into the distribution system. 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

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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 (1-800-426-4791)**.

Town of Sudlersville Treated Water Quality Report 2010

Definitions:

- ◆ **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.
- ◆ **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.
- ◆ **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:

Starting on November 2nd, 2010, Phoenix Fabricators & Erectors will begin taking down the top part of the water tank (shown in picture to the right). They will be dismantling a piece at a time and rebuilding it with new materials and paint. This will be done at no cost to the Town, due to a fabrication error on the part of the contractor. If you have any questions please contact the Town Office.

The water at the Town of Sudlersville is tested for over 120 different compounds.

The Town of Sudlersville 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)**



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Contaminant	Highest Level Allowed (EPA's MCL)	Highest Level Detected	Ideal Goal (EPA's MCLG)
Regulated at the Treatment Plant			
Di(2-ethylhexyl) phtalate (2008 testing)	6 ppb	1.6 ppb	0 ppb
Typical Source of Contamination: Discharge from chemical factories			
Arsenic (Range 2 ppb - 5 ppb)	10 ppb	3 ppb*	10 ppb
Typical Source of Contamination: Erosion of natural deposits			
Fluoride (Range 170 ppb - 180 ppb)	4000 ppb	176 ppb*	4000 ppb
Typical sources of contaminant: Water additive that promotes strong teeth			
Barium	2000 ppb	21 ppb	2000 ppb
Typical Source of Contamination: Erosion of natural deposits			
Regulated in the Distribution System			
Copper	1300 ppb (action level)	82 ppb 90th percentile	1300 ppb
Typical Source of Contamination: Corrosion of household plumbing fixtures and systems			
Lead	15 ppb (action level)	4 ppb 90th percentile	0 ppb
Typical Source of Contamination: Corrosion of household plumbing fixtures and systems			
Total Trihalomethanes (TTHMs) (2008 testing)	80 ppb	1.48 ppb	n/a

The table above lists all the drinking water contaminants that were detected during the 2010 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, 2010.

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.

Arsenic Information:

While your drinking water meets EPA's standard for arsenic, it does contain low levels of arsenic. EPA's standard balances the current understanding of arsenic's possible health effects against the costs of removing arsenic from drinking water. EPA continues to research the health effects of low levels of arsenic, which is a mineral known to cause cancer in humans at high concentrations and is linked to other health effects such as skin damage and circulatory problems. Currently, the arsenic level is below the MCL of 10 ppb.

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 Sudlersville 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.

