



Annual Drinking Water Quality Report for 2019
City of Rehoboth Beach
229 Rehoboth Avenue, P. O. Box 1163
Rehoboth Beach, Delaware 19971
PSWID#0000723
June 3, 2020

We're pleased to present to you this year's Annual Quality Water Report. This report is designed to inform you about the quality water and services we deliver to you every day. Our constant goal is to provide you with a safe and dependable supply of drinking water. We want you to understand the efforts we make to continually improve the water treatment process and protect our water resources. We are committed to ensuring the quality of your water. Our water source is **Groundwater. Our wells draw from the Columbia Aquifer.**

The Division of Public Health in conjunction with the Department of Natural Resources and Environmental Control has conducted a source water assessment. If you are interested in reviewing the assessment, please **go online @ <http://delawaresourcewater.org/assessments>**. Overall, Rehoboth Beach Water has exceeded drinking water standards for pesticides, metals, and other inorganic compound based on analytical data. It has a very high susceptibility rating to nutrients, a high susceptibility to pathogens, petroleum hydrocarbons, PCB's and other organic compounds.

If you have any questions about this report or concerning your water utility, please contact **Robert Downs, Water Supervisor at 302-227-6181, ext. 640**. We want our valued customers to be informed about their water utility. If you want to learn more, please attend any of our regularly scheduled meetings. They are held on **the third Friday of each month a 3:00 pm. in the Board of Commissioners Room, 229 Rehoboth Avenue.**

The City of Rehoboth Beach routinely monitor for constituents in your drinking water according to Federal and State laws. This table shows the results of our monitoring for the period of January 1st to December 31st, **2019**.

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 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.

Contaminants may be found in drinking water that may cause taste, color, or odor problems. These types of problems are not necessarily causes for health concerns. For more information on taste, odor, or color of drinking water, please contact the system's business office.

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 EPA's Safe Drinking Water Hotline at 1-800-426-4791.

The following tables contain scientific terms and measures, some of which may require explanation.

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. Or 1 drop in 13 gallons.

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. Or 1 drop in 13,000 gallons.

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

Maximum Contaminant Level (MCL) - 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 (MCLG). 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.

Maximum Residual Disinfectant Level (MRDL) – 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.

Maximum Residual Disinfectant Level Goal (MRDLG) - 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.

MCL's are set at very stringent levels. The MCL's are set such that out of every 10,000 or 1,000,000 people (depends upon how the MCL was developed) drinking 2 liters of water every day for a lifetime, only 1 of those people may experience the described health effect.

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

Lead and Copper						
Contaminant	Violation Y/N	90 th Percentile	Units	MCLG	AL	
Copper (0) sites over AL 08-20-2018	N	0.223	ppm	1.3	1.3	Erosion of natural deposits; Leaching from wood preservatives; Corrosion of household plumbing systems.
Lead 08-20-2018 (0 sites over the AL)	N	0.998	ppb	0	15	Corrosion of household plumbing systems; Erosion of natural deposits.

Inorganic Contaminants						
Contaminant	Violation Y/N	Level Detected	Units	MCLG	MCL	Likely source of contamination
Barium	N	0.10423	ppm	2	2	Discharge of drilling wastes; discharge from metal refineries; erosion of natural deposits
Fluoride	N	0-1.1662	ppm	2	2	Erosion of natural deposits; water additive which promotes strong teeth; discharge from fertilizer and aluminum factories
Nitrate	N	2.7316-9.5006	ppm	10	10	Runoff from fertilizer use; leaching from septic tanks, sewage; erosion of natural deposits
Selenium	N	1.22	ppb	50	50	Discharge from petroleum and metal refineries; Erosion of natural deposits; Discharge from mines.

Disinfectants/Disinfection By-Products						
Contaminant	Violation	Level Detected	Units	MCLG/MRDG	MCL/MRDL	Likely Source of Contamination
Chlorine	N	0.47-0.84	ppm	4	4	Water additive used to control microbes.
TTHM Total trihalomethanes]	N	11.35	ppb	0	80	By-product of drinking water disinfection.

Secondary Standards - Delaware						
Contaminant	Date	Level Detected	Units	Average Level detected	MCL/MRDL	
Sodium (Na)	2019	21.65-37.79	ppm	26.85	N/A	
Alkalinity (Alk)	2019	11-54.4	ppm	25.6	N/A	
Chloride (Cl)	2019	14.03-50.85	ppm	19.83	250	
Sulfate	2019	10.22-21.98	ppm	16.43	250	
pH	2018	7.2	ppm	7.2	6.5-8.5	

The state allows us to monitor for some contaminants less than once per year because the concentrations of these contaminants do not change frequently. Some of our data, though representative, are more than one year old.

*** All other contaminants were ND in compliance with the Safe Drinking Water Act.**

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 at www.epa.gov/safewater/lead.

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 and 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 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.

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).

Thank you for allowing us to continue providing your family with clean, quality water this year. In order to maintain a safe and dependable water supply we sometimes need to make improvements that will benefit all of our customers. These improvements are sometimes reflected as rate structure adjustments. Thank you for understanding.

We at the City of Rehoboth Beach work around the clock to provide top quality water to every tap, said Robert Downs. 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.