



**Annual Drinking Water Quality Report for 2017**  
**City of Rehoboth Beach**  
**229 Rehoboth Avenue, P. O. Box 1163**  
**Rehoboth Beach, Delaware 19971**  
**PSWID#0000723**  
**June 12, 2018**

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 contact the **City of Rehoboth Beach Water Department or go online @ <http://delawaresourcewater.org/assessments>**. Overall, Rehoboth Beach Water has exceeded drinking water standards for pesticides, metals, and other inorganic compounds 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 302-227-3194**. 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 at 7:00 p.m., second floor of City Hall, 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 1<sup>st</sup> to December 31<sup>st</sup>, **2017**.

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.

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.

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

<b>TEST RESULTS</b>						
Contaminant	Violation Y/N	Level Detected	Unit Measurement	MCLG/MRDLG	MCL/MRDL	Likely Source of Contamination
<b>Lead and Copper</b>						
Copper (0) sites were over the AL	N	0.42 *(2015) 90 <sup>th</sup> percentile	ppm	1.3	AL=1.3	Corrosion of household plumbing systems; erosion of natural deposits; leaching from wood preservatives
Lead (0) sites were over the AL	N	ND *(2015) 90 <sup>th</sup> percentile	ppb	0	AL=15	Corrosion of household plumbing systems, erosion of natural deposits
<b>Disinfectants/Disinfection By-Products</b>						
(TTHM) Total trihalomethanes	N	10.05	ppb	0	80	By-product of drinking water chlorination
Chlorine	N	0.4-0.5	ppm	4	4	Water additive used to control microbes
Haloacetic Acids (HAA5)	N	1.9	ppb	n/a	60	By-product of drinking water disinfection
<b>Inorganic Contaminants</b>						
Barium	N	0.1099 *(2013)	ppm	2	2	Discharge of drilling wastes; discharge from metal refineries; erosion of natural deposits
Chromium	N	2.3 *(2013)	ppb	100	100	Discharge from steel and pulp mills; erosion of natural deposits
Fluoride	N	0 - 0.56	ppm	2	2	Erosion of natural deposits; water additive which promotes strong teeth; discharge from fertilizer and aluminum factories
Nitrate	N	3.6-9.3	ppm	10	10	Runoff from fertilizer use; leaching from septic tanks, sewage; erosion of natural deposits
<b>Synthetic Organic Contaminants including Pesticides and Herbicides</b>						
Atrazine	N	0-0.15	ppb	3	3	Runoff from herbicide used on row crops
Di(2-ethylhexyl) adipate	N	0-0.27	ppb	400	400	Discharge from chemical factories
Di(2-ethylhexyl) phthalate	N	0-0.5	ppb	0	6	Discharge from rubber and chemical factories

<b>Secondary Standards – Delaware</b>						
Alkalinity	N	9.8-36.6 (average 23.28)	ppm		N/A	
Nickel	N	2.3 *(2013)	ppb		100	Naturally occurring
Manganese	N	92.5 *(2013)	ppb		50	
pH	N	6.6-7.4 (average 6.95)	ppm		6.5 – 8.5	
Chloride (Cl)	N	11.5-37.4 (average 24.58)	ppm		250	
Sodium (Na)	N	18.3-24.4 (average 21.35)	ppm		N/A	
Sulfate	N	12.1-19.7 (average 14.55)	ppm		250	

\*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.**

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.

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: 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. City of Rehoboth Beach 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 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 (1-800-426-4791 or at [www.epa.gov/safewater/lead](http://www.epa.gov/safewater/lead)).

All sources of drinking water are subject to potential contamination by substances that are naturally occurring or manmade. These substances can be microbes, inorganic or organic chemicals, pesticides and herbicides 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, or at <http://www.epa.gov/safewater/lead>.

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.

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.**

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.

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).

Please call our office if you have questions.

We at 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.



