MARYLAND AMERICAN WATER

Dear Valued Customer,

Welcome to Maryland American Water.

Each year, water utilities produce a Water Quality Report to let customers know how the water quality stacks up against established federal and state drinking water standards.

We were not your water service provider during the year covered in this report. However, we are sharing a copy of the report prepared by your previous water provider given the importance of sharing this information.

We encourage you to review this report, because it provides details about the source and quality of the drinking water delivered to your community.

For landlords, businesses, schools and other groups, please share this information with tenants, students and other water users at your location who are not billed customers of Maryland American Water.

Este informe contiene informacion muy importante sobre su agua beber. Traduzcalo o hable con alguien que lo entienda bien.

Sincerely,

Maryland American Water

Maryland Water Service, Inc.
Highland Estates Water System

PWS ID: **MD0010049**

Annual Water Quality Report 2025

Message from Justin Kersey, President

Dear Maryland Water Service, Inc. Customers,

I am pleased to present your Annual Water Quality Report for 2025. We strive to do our part in delivering vital, safe and reliable water services that help our communities to thrive. Included in this report are details about where your water comes from, what it contains, and how it compares to regulatory standards.

We are proud to share this report which is based on water quality testing through December 2025. We continually strive to supply water that meets and/or exceeds all federal and state water quality regulations at your tap.

Providing a safe and reliable water supply is hard work, but it is satisfying. Our team of local water experts are proudly dedicated to providing safe, reliable, and cost-effective service every day. This commitment includes acting with integrity, protecting the environment, and enhancing the local community.

Best regards,

Este informe contiene información muy importante sobre su agua beber. Tradúzcalo ó hable con alguien que lo entienda bien.

We ask that all our customers help us protect our water sources which are the heart of our future community, our way of life and our children's future

Visit us online at www.myutility.us/MD to view the Water Quality Reports. Also visit our website for water conservation tips and other educational material.

Source of Drinking Water

We purchase your water from the City of Cumberland. Their water source is treated surface water obtained from the Lake Koon and Gordon reservoirs (surface water) located in the Cumberland Valley Township, Bedford County Pennsylvania. The primary tributaries supplying water to the reservoirs are Evitts Creek, Growden Run, Oster Run, as well as several unnamed tributaries.

How is Water Treated?

Surface water treatment plants are designed to take a raw water source of variable quality and produce consistent high quality drinking water. Multiple treatment processes are provided in series and each process represents a barrier to prevent the passage of particulate matter, cysts and other microbial contaminants. The Water Treatment Facility utilizes barriers which include clarification, filtration, and disinfection.

Source Water Assessment (SWA)

In accordance with the Drinking Water Act Amendments, Maryland Department of the Environment and Pennsylvania Department of Environmental Protection has prepared a Source Water Assessment Plan for the Evitts Creek Watershed. The Plan(s) evaluate the existing land use and water quality conditions, describes potential contamination threats as well as providing background to support ongoing efforts to protect the watershed through the Evitts Creek Steering Committee.

The source for City of Cumberland's water supply is Lake Koon and Lake Gordon in which the watershed area consists of mixed land use with the majority consisting of forested land. The SWA area for the City of Cumberland's watershed was delineated using U.S. EPA approved methods specifically designed for each source. Potential sources of contamination within the assessment area were identified based on site visits, database reviews, and land use maps. Watershed information and water quality data were also reviewed. Figures showing land use and potential contaminant sources within the SWA area and aerial photographs of the watershed locations are enclosed in the full (SWA) report. The susceptibility analysis of the City of Cumberland's water supply was based on the review of the water quality data, potential sources of contamination, and other factors. At the time the report was compiled, it was determined that the City of Cumberland's water supply is susceptible to contamination by microbiological contaminants, protozoa, viruses, disinfection byproducts, and turbidity, but not susceptible to volatile organic compounds (VOCs), synthetic organic compounds (SOCs), radionuclides, and other regulated inorganic compounds (IOCs).

If you would like to review the report or have any other questions or concerns regarding it please call our office at (844) 310-6660 or you can contact the City of Cumberland – Environmental Technician at (301) 759-6604 for additional information regarding the water quality results in this report.

This information is also available at the City of Cumberland's web site at www.ci.cumberland.md.us.

Other water distribution systems in your area include the LaVale Sanitary Commission (301) 729-1638 and Allegany County Sanitary Districts at (301) 777-5942.

EPA Wants You To Know

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:

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

What measures are in place to ensure water is safe to drink?

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

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.

Special notice from EPA for the elderly, infants, cancer patients and people with HIV/AIDS or other immune system problems

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. USEPA/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).

Information Concerning Lead in Water

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. Maryland Water Service, Inc. 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 Maryland Water Service, Inc. at (844) 310-6660. 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.

We have been working to identify service line materials throughout the water system and prepared an inventory of all service lines in our water system. An initial Service Line Inventory was submitted to the Maryland Department of the Environment on 10/15/24. As a result, the Service Line Inventory requirement was fulfilled. To request access to this inventory or request to review the complete lead tap sampling data, email us at: lead.lines@nexuswg.com.

Drain Disposal Information

Sewer overflows and backups can cause health hazards, damage home interiors, and threaten the environment. A common cause is sewer pipes blocked by grease, which gets into the sewer from household drains. Grease sticks to the insides of pipes. Over time, the grease can build up and block the entire pipe. Help solve the grease problem by keeping this material out of the sewer system in the first place:

- Never pour grease down sink drains or into toilets. Scrape grease into a can or trash.
- Put strainers in sink drains to catch food scraps / solids for disposal.

Prescription Medication and Hazardous Waste

Household products such as paints, cleaners, oils, and pesticides, are considered to be household hazardous waste. Prescription and over-the-counter drugs poured down the sink or flushed down the toilet can pass through the wastewater treatment system and enter rivers and lakes (or leach into the ground and seep into groundwater in a septic system). Follow the directions for proper disposal procedures. **Do not flush hazardous waste or prescription and over-the-counter drugs down the toilet or drain.** They may flow downstream to serve as sources for community drinking water supplies. Many communities offer a variety of options for conveniently and safely managing these items. For more information, visit the EPA website at: www.epa.gov/hw/household-hazardous-waste-hhw.

The Safe Drinking Water Act was passed in 1974 due to congressional concerns about organic chemical contaminants in drinking water and the inefficient manner by which states supervised and monitored drinking water supplies. Congress' aim was to assure that all citizens served by public water systems would be provided high quality water. As a result, the EPA set enforceable standards for health-related drinking water contaminants. The Act also established programs to protect underground sources of drinking water from contamination.

Understanding This Report In order to help you understand this report, we want you to understand a few terms and abbreviations that are contained in it.	
Action level (AL)	The concentration of a contaminant which, if exceeded, triggers treatment or other requirements that 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. ALG's allow for a margin of safety.
Compliance Level (CL)	Is the value used to determine compliance with MCL or TT. The CL for contaminants can be a maximum test value, an average, or meeting a condition for a certain percentage of the time.
EPA	Environmental Protection Agency.
Intestinal Parasites	Microorganisms like Cryptosporidium and Giardia lamblia can cause gastrointestinal illness (e.g., diarrhea, vomiting, cramps). In 2004, two samples of untreated river water showed the presence of Giardia lamblia and Cryptosporidium. None were found in the treated drinking water.
Maximum Contaminant Level (MCL)	The highest level of a contaminant that is allowed in drinking water. MCL's are set as close to the MCLG's as feasible using the best available treatment technology.
Maximum Contaminant Level Goal (MCLG)	The "goal" is the level of a contaminant in drinking water below which there is no known or expected risk to health. MCLG's 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.
Not applicable (N/A)	Not applicable.
Not Detected (ND)	Analysis or test results indicate the constituent is not detectable at minimum reporting limit.
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 (ug/l)	One part per billion corresponds to one minute in 2,000 years or a single penny in $10,000,000.
Picocuries per liter (pCi/L)	A measure of radioactivity in the water.
Running Annual Average (RAA)	Calculated running annual average of all contaminant levels detected.
Standard units (S.U.)	Is a measurement of that particular regulated contaminant
Nephelometric Turbidity Units (NTU)	A measure of water clarity. Turbidity in excess of 5 NTU is just noticeable to the average person
Treatment Technique (TT)	A treatment technique is a required process intended to reduce the level of a contaminant in drinking water.

Help Protect our Resources

Help put a stop to the more than **1 trillion gallons of water lost annually** nationwide due to household leaks. These easy to fix leaks waste the average family the amount of water used to fill a backyard swimming pool each year. Plumbing leaks can run up your family's water bill an extra 10 percent or more, but chasing down these water and money wasting culprits is as easy as 1—2—3. Simply check, twist, and replace your way to fewer leaks and more water savings:

⇒ **Check** for silent leaks in the toilet with a few drops of food coloring in the tank, and check your sprinkler system for winter damage.

⇒ **Twist** faucet valves; tighten pipe connections; and secure your hose to the spigot. For additional savings, twist a WaterSense labeled aerator onto each bathroom faucet to save water without noticing a difference in flow. They can save a household more than 500 gallons each year—equivalent to the amount water used to shower 180 times!

⇒ **Replace** old plumbing fixtures and irrigation controllers that are wasting water with WaterSense labeled models that are independently certified to use 20 percent less water and perform well.

For more information visit www.epa.gov/watersense.

Monitoring Your Water

We routinely monitor for contaminants in your drinking water according to Federal and State laws. The tables below lists all the drinking water contaminants that were detected in the last round of sampling for each particular contaminant group. The presence of contaminants does not necessarily indicate that water poses a health risk. **Unless otherwise noted, the data presented in the table is from testing done January 1 through December 31, 2025.** The EPA or 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. Some of the data, though representative of the water quality, maybe more than one year old.

MCLs 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.

If You Have Questions Or Want To Get Involved

Maryland Water Service, Inc. does not currently hold regular public meetings. Should the Utility hold a public meeting, you will be notified through the mail or public notice. Please call customer service at (844) 310-6660 if you have any questions.

Violations

In 2025, Maryland Water Service, Inc. performed all required monitoring for contaminants and did not exceed any allowable levels of these contaminants. In addition, we received no violations from MDE and were in compliance with applicable testing and reporting requirements.

Visit us online at www.myutility.us/MD to view the Water Quality Reports. Also visit our website for water conservation tips and other educational material.

Lead Service Line Inventory

An initial inventory of service line pipe materials located within our service area was required to be submitted to the Maryland Department of the Environment (MDE) by October 16, 2024. Our initial inventory was submitted to MDE on October 15, 2024 and is available upon request.

Water Quality Test Results-Highland Estates Distribution System

Disinfection By-Product Contaminants

Contaminant (units)	Sample Date	Violation	Highest LRAA	Range of Levels Detected	MCL	MCLG	Likely Source of Contamination
TTHM (ppb) [Total Trihalomethanes]	2025	N	64	49.2 - 63.6	80	0	By-product of drinking water disinfection
HAA5 (ppb) [Total Haloacetic Acids]	2025	N	79	49.2 - 79.0	60	0	By-product of drinking water disinfection

Some people who drink water containing haloacetic acids in excess of the MCL over many years may have an increased risk of getting cancer.

Disinfectant Contaminants

Contaminant (units)	Date	Highest RAA	Highest Level Detected	Range Low High	MRDL	MRDLG	Likely Source of Contamination
Chlorine (ppm)	2025	2.6	2.82	1.58 - 2.82	4	4	Water additive used to control microbes

PFAS Testing - Maryland Department of the Environment (MDE)

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 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.

The Environmental Protection Agency (EPA) announced regulations for 6 PFAS compounds in drinking water in April 2024. The MCLs for PFOA and PFOS are 4.0 parts per trillion (ppt). The MCLs for HFPO-DA (GenX), PFNA and PFHxS are 10 ppt. PFAS mixtures containing at least two or more of PFHxS, PFNA, HFPO-DA, and PFBS use a Hazard Index of 1.0 (unitless) to determine if the combined and co-occurring levels of these PFAS pose a risk and require action. Public water systems have three years (by 2029) to implement solutions that reduce these PFAS if monitoring shows that drinking water levels exceed these MCLs.

The Maryland Department of the Environment (MDE) conducted a PFAS monitoring program for Community Water Systems from 2020 to 2022. The results are available on MDE's website at:

https://marylanddepartmentoftheenvironment.shinyapps.io/MDE_PFAS_PublicWaterSystemStudyMap/

City of Cumberland - 2025 Water Quality Data Chart

Maryland Public Water Service # 0010008 - Pennsylvania Public Water Service Identification # 4050028

Data for both MD and PA water distribution systems unless otherwise noted

Regulated Parameter	UNITS	RESULT	RANGE	MCLG	MCL	VIOLATION	Typical Sources of Contaminant
Water Treatment Facility (Point of Entry)							
Turbidity (max)	NTU	0.07	NA	NA	1	NO	Soil run-off. Turbidity is a measurement of cloudiness of the water caused by suspended particles and is monitored as a good indicator of water quality and
Turbidity Samples <0.3	%	100%	NA	NA	<95	NO	
Fluoride (highest value)	ppm	0.51	0.51	4	4*	NO	Erosion of natural deposits; Water additive which promotes strong teeth; Discharge from fertilizer and
Nitrate-Nitrite	ppm	0.5	0.5	10	10	NO	Runoff from fertilizer use; Leaching from septic tanks,
Unregulated Parameters - Maryland & Pennsylvania							
Sodium	ppm	7.23	7.23	NA	NA	NO	
Maryland Distribution System							
	UNITS	**90th Per-centile**	**RANGE**	**MCLG**	**AL**	**VIOLATION**	
Copper tap samples (2023)	ppm	0.092	(ND)<0.0125 - 0.319	1.3	1.3	NO	Erosion of natural deposits; Leaching from wood pre-servatives; Corrosion of household plumbing systems
Number of sampling sites exceeding the action level for Copper - zero (0)							
Lead tap samples (2023)	ppb	1	(ND)<0.5 - 8.04	0	10	NO	
Number of sampling sites exceeding the action level for Lead - zero (0)							
	UNITS	**RESULT**	**RANGE**	**MCLG**	**MCL**	**VIOLATION**	
Chloramines (as Chlorine)	ppm	2.2	0.5 - 3.5	4	4	NO	Water additive used to control microbes
Total Trihalomethanes (LRAA)	ppb	48	28.6 - 71.4	NA	80	NO	By-product of drinking water disinfection
Haloacetic Acids (LRAA)	ppb	43	19.5 - 59.9	NA	60	NO	
Total Coliform Bacteria	count	0	0	0	>1	NO	Naturally present in the environment
Pennsylvania Distribution System							
	UNITS	**90th Percentile**	**RANGE**	**MCLG**	**AL**	**VIOLATION**	
Copper tap samples (2025)	ppm	0.066	ND - 0.174	1.3	1.3	NO	Erosion of natural deposits; Leaching from wood pre-servatives; Corrosion of household plumbing systems
Number of sampling sites exceeding the action level for Copper - zero (0)							
Lead tap samples (2025)	ppb	0.29	ND - 4.53	0	15	NO	
Number of sampling sites exceeding the action level for Lead - zero (0)							
	UNITS	**RESULT**	**RANGE**	**MCLG**	**MCL**	**VIOLATION**	
Chloramines (as Chlorine)	ppm	2.99	2.5-2.99	4	4	NO	Water additive used to control microbes
Total Trihalomethanes	ppb	55	48-63	NA	80	NO	By-product of drinking water disinfection
Haloacetic Acids	ppb	56	39-76	NA	60	NO	
Total Coliform Bacteria	count	0	0	0	>1	NO	Naturally present in the environment
Entry Point Disinfection Residual	**UNITS**	**RESULT**	**RANGE**	**MINIMUM**		**DATE**	
Chlorine	ppm	1.7	1.7 - 2.8	0.2		2025	Water additive used to control microbes
THE 5th UNREGULATED CONTAMINANT MONITORING RULE (UCMR5)							
Results for all 30 contaminants analyzed under UCMR5 are available at the City's website link. Results received for UCMR5 in 2023, 2024 & 2025 were non-detect at the method detection levels (Methods EPA 533, EPA 537.1 & EPA 200.7)							https://www.ci.cumberland.md.us/731/UCMR-5-Public-Notification

* *PA DEP maximum contaminant level for Fluoride is 2 ppm*