

2023 Annual Drinking Water Quality Report

Marlboro Water Company, Inc.

SCDHEC # 3420001

April 1, 2024

We're pleased to present to you this year's Annual Quality Water Report for the period of January 1, 2023, through December 31, 2023. This report is intended to provide you with important information 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. I'm 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 utility, please contact **Pamela Herring at 843-479-8988**. 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 second Thursday of each month at 6 p.m. in our office located at 830 Highway 38 South, Bennettsville.

The source for drinking water used by Marlboro Water Co., Inc. is ground water. Our wells draw from the Middendorf Aquifer. Our Source Water Assessment Plan is available for your review. Please contact **Pamela Herring at 843-479-8988** to make arrangements to review this document.

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:

- 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, or 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 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.

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).

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.

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 (1-800-426-4791).

If present, elevated lead levels 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 or at <http://www.epa.gov/safewater/lead>.

Marlboro Water Company, Inc. routinely monitors 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, 2023.

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:

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.

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.

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

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

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.

Maximum Contaminant Level Goal (MCLG) - 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 Contaminant Level (MCL) - The highest level of 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.

Avg - Regulatory compliance with some MCLs are based on running annual average of monthly samples.

TEST RESULTS						
Contaminant	Violation Y/N	90 th percentile	Unit Measurement	Action Level	Sites over action level	Likely Source of Contamination
Lead 2022	N	2.4	ppb	15	0	Corrosion of household plumbing systems; erosion of natural deposits
Copper 2022	N	0.37	ppm	1.3	0	Corrosion of household plumbing systems; erosion of natural deposits; leaching from wood preservatives
Regulated Contaminants						
Disinfectants and Disinfection By-Products	Violation Y/N	Level Detected	Unit Measurement	MRDL	MRDLG	Likely Source of Contamination
Chlorine 2023	N	1.0 Range 0.64-1.05	ppm	4	4	Water additive used to control microbes
TTHM's [Total trihalomethanes] (2023)	N	4.0 Range 3.8-3.8	ppb	80	n/a	By-product of drinking water chlorination
Inorganic Contaminant	Violation Y/N	Level Detected	Unit Measurement	MCLG	MCL	Likely Source of Contamination
Nitrate (measured as Nitrogen) (2023)	N	1.5 Range 1.3-1.5	ppm	10	10	Runoff from fertilizer use; leaching from septic tanks, sewage; erosion of natural deposits
Sodium ** Unregulated (2020)	N	4.5 Range 4.4-4.5	ppm	N/A	N/A	Runoff from fertilizer use; leaching from septic tanks, sewage; erosion of natural deposits
Barium (2020)	N	0.063 Range 0.0-0.063	ppm	2	2	Discharge of drilling wastes; discharge from metal refineries; erosion of natural deposits
Thallium (2020)	N	0.55 Range 0-0.55	ppb	2.0	2	Discharge from electronics, glass, and Leaching from ore-processing sites; drug factories.
Radioactive Contaminants	Violation Y/N	Level Detected	Unit Measurement	MCLG	MCL	Likely Source of Contamination
Beta/photon emitters* (2022)	N	3.53 Range 0-3.53	pCi/L	0	50	Decay of natural and man-made deposits.
Combined Radium 226/228 (2022)	N	3.34 Range 1.86-3.34	pCi/L	0	5	Erosion of natural deposits
Gross alpha excluding radon and uranium (2022)	N	2.78 Range 0-2.78	pCi/L	0	15	Erosion of natural deposits
**EPA considers 50 pCi/L to be the level of concern for beta particles.						

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 constituents have been detected. The EPA has determined that your water is safe at these levels.

Please call our office if you have any questions.

We at Marlboro Water Company, Inc. work around the clock to provide top quality water to every tap. 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.