

BOONSBORO/KEEDYSVILLE REGIONAL WATER SYSTEM
2009 ANNUAL DRINKING WATER QUALITY REPORT
PWSID #0210002

We are very pleased to present to you the Boonsboro/Keedysville Regional Water System's Annual Drinking Water Quality Report for the 2009 calendar year. Our goal is to consistently provide you with a safe and dependable supply of drinking water by continuing to improve the water treatment process and taking the extra steps to protect our valuable water resources. We are committed to ensuring the safe quality of the water that reaches your tap which is reflected in the monitoring results included in this report.

Your drinking water comes from the Tomstown Dolomite, a ground water source made of carbonate rock, which forms an aquifer feeding a combination of wells and springs which is filtered, chlorinated and processed *with fluoride* through the Boonsboro and Keedysville Water Treatment Plants. The Boonsboro/Keedysville Water System staff diligently monitor for constituents in your drinking water insuring safety according to Federal and State laws.

Your water is tested because all sources of drinking water are subject to potential contamination by substances that are naturally occurring or man made. As water travels over the land or underground, it can pick up substances or contaminants such as microbes, inorganic and organic chemicals, and radioactive substances. All drinking water, including bottled drinking water, may be reasonably 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.

Is my water safe? Last year we conducted tests for over 118 contaminants. We only detected 10 of those contaminants, and found none at a level higher than the Environmental Protection Agency (EPA) allows to ensure that your tap water is safe to drink.

Do I need to take special precautions? Food and Drug Administration (FDA) regulations set limits for contaminants in bottled water that 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 those 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 EPA *Safe Drinking Water Hotline* 1-800-426-4791.

If present, elevated levels of lead can also 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. 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>."

A **Source Water Assessment** for the Boonsboro/Keedysville Regional Water System was prepared by the Maryland Department of the Environment's Water Supply Program and is available for public review by contacting the Town of Boonsboro at 301-432-5141 or the Town of Keedysville at 301-432-5795.

To learn more about your town's water system, please attend the monthly meeting of the Boonsboro Municipal Utilities Commission or the Keedysville Water Board. For information regarding meeting dates, times and locations, please contact your local town hall or visit www.town.boonsboro.md.us and www.keedysvillemd.com

Monitoring and reporting of compliance data violations- monthly operating reports (MORs) are required to be received by the Maryland Department of the Environment by the 10th of each month. A delay in obtaining test results from the lab caused the August 2009 report to be received 15 days past the due date resulting in a reporting violation.

2009 Boonsboro/Keedysville Water Quality Data Table

The table below represents drinking water contaminants detected for the 2009 calendar year. Some of the data represented in this report is more than one year old. This is because the state allows us to monitor for some contaminants less than once per year because the concentrations of these contaminants do not change frequently.

Contaminant	Source	Sample Date	Unit of Measure	MCLG	MCL/ TT	Your Water	Violation	Typical Source of Contamination
Volatile Organic Chemicals (VOC's)								
HAA5 Haloacetic Acids	D	2009	ppb	N/A	60	.58	N	By-product of drinking water chlorination
TTHM Total Trihalomethanes	D	2009	ppb	N/A	80	2.03	N	By-product of drinking water chlorination
Inorganic Contaminants								
Fluoride	1	2009	ppm	4	4	.635	N	Erosion of natural deposits; water additives promoting strong teeth; discharge from fertilizer and aluminum factories
Fluoride	2	2007	ppm	4	4	1.06	N	
Fluoride	3	2009	ppm	4	4	.487	N	
Nitrate	1	2009	ppm	10	10	4.7	N	Fertilizer runoff; leaching from septic tanks, sewage; erosion of natural deposits
Nitrate	2	2009	ppm	10	10	4.7	N	
Nitrate	3	2009	ppm	10	10	3.2	N	
Copper	consumers tap	2008	ppm	1.3	1.3	.18	N	Corrosion of household plumbing systems, Erosion of natural deposits
Lead	consumers tap	2008	ppm	0	0.015	0	N	
Mercury	2	2007	ppm	2	2	.0005	N	Erosion of natural deposits
Synthetic Organic Contaminants including Pesticides and Herbicides								
Di-(2-ethylhexyl) phthalate	1	2008	ppb	0	6	.53	N	Discharge from rubber and chemical factories
Di-(2-ethylhexyl) phthalate	2	2007	ppb	0	6	.6	N	
Pentachloro-phenol	3	2009	ppb	0	1	.04	N	Discharge from wood preserving factories
Unregulated Contaminants- monitoring of unregulated contaminants helps EPA to determine where certain contaminants occur and whether the Agency should consider regulating those contaminants in the future.								
Sodium	1	2009	ppm	N/A	N/A	31.1	N	Erosion of natural deposits
Sodium	2	2007	ppm	N/A	N/A	24.2	N	
Sodium	3	2009	ppm	N/A	N/A	19	N	

Drinking Water Definitions and (Unit) Descriptions

MCLG	Maximum Contaminant Level Goal; 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.
MCL	Maximum Contaminant Level; 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.
NA	Not Applicable
NTU	Nephelometric Turbidity Unit. A measure of the clarity of water.
ppb (ug/L)	Parts Per Billion (micrograms per liter). One part per billion corresponds to one minute in 2,000 years.
ppm (mg/L)	Parts Per Million (milligrams per liter). One part per million corresponds to one minute in two years.
pCi/L	Picocuries per liter--measure of radioactivity in water.
Source	Monitoring results are for three water sources and the distribution system as a whole (noted as 1, 2, 3 & D)
TT	Treatment Technique. Required process to reduce the level of a contaminant in drinking water.

The Town's of Boonsboro and Keedysville take great pride in providing the best quality of water possible to every tap. We ask all of our customers to invest in the welfare of our children's future by helping us to protect and safeguard our water sources.

For more information or questions regarding this report, please contact Debra A. Smith, Boonsboro Town Manager at 301-432--5141 or town.manager@myactv.net or visit the EPA website at www.epa.gov/safewater