PWSID# 0060015 CCR 2024

City of Westminster's Cranberry Water System

We are pleased to present to you the Annual Water Quality Report (Consumer Confidence Report) for the year, for the period of January 1 to December 31, 2024. This report is intended to provide you with important information about your drinking water and the efforts made by the water system to provide safe drinking water.

For more information regarding this report, contact:

City of Westminster
(410)848-1566
CityofWestminsterWTP@westminstermd.gov

Water Sources

The Cranberry Water System is supplied by a blended source of groundwater and surface water. The surface water source is obtained from the Patapsco River. The groundwater supply is pumped from twelve (12) wells around the community, which contribute 20 to 30 percent of the total water supply. Source water assessments are completed for the Cranberry Water Plant and the wells in the Cranberry System. A copy of each of the reports is available at the Westminster Branch of the Carroll County Public Library.

Important Health Information

Drinking water, including bottled water, may reasonably be expected to contain at least some small amounts of contaminants. The presence of contaminants does not necessarily indicate that 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 (800-426-4791).

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.

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. 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 ***[City of Westminster Water Treatment: 410-848-7040]***

Immuno- compromised individuals such as those with cancer undergoing chemotherapy, people 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 microbial contaminants are available from the Safe Drinking Water Hotline (800-426-4791).

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. The City of Westminster 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 the ***[City of Westminster Water Treatment: 410-848-7040]***. 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.

An initial Service Line Inventory was submitted to the Maryland Department of the Environment on 10/15/2024. As a result, the Service Line Inventory requirement was fulfilled. The report is available upon request.

Radon was tested for in your water and found it to be present at levels of 0 to 218.1 picocuries per liter. There is no regulation for radon levels in drinking water at this time. Radon is found throughout the U.S. It is a radioactive gas that you can't see, taste, or smell. Radon can move up through the ground and into a home through cracks and holes in the foundation. Radon can also get into indoor air when released from tap water from showering, washing dishes, and other household activities. Compared to radon entering the home through soil, radon entering the home through tap water will in most cases be a small source of radon in indoor air. If you are concerned about radon in your home and would like additional information on how to test your home, contact the EPA's Radon Hotline (800-SOS- RADON).

Nitrate in drinking water at levels above 10 ppm is a health risk for infants of less than 6 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 agriculture activity. If you are caring for an infant, you should ask for advice from your healthcare provider.

How to Read the Water Quality Table

The results of tests performed in **2024** or the most recent testing available are presented in the table. Terms used in the Water Quality Table and in other parts of this report are defined here.

Action Level (AL): The concentration of a contaminant which, if exceeded, triggers treatment or other requirements which 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. ALGs allow for a margin of safety.

Level 1 Assessment: A Level 1 assessment is a study of the water system to identify potential problems and determine (if possible) why total coliform bacteria have been found in our water system.

Level 2 Assessment: A Level 2 assessment is a very detailed study of the water system to identify potential problems and determine (if possible) why an E. coli MCL violation has occurred and/or why total coliform bacteria have been found in our water system on multiple occasions.

Maximum Contaminant Level or MCL: 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 or MCLG: 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 goal or 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 residual disinfectant level or 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.

Treatment Technique or TT: A required process intended to reduce the level of a contaminant in drinking water.

Variances and Exemptions: State or EPA permission not to meet an MCL or a treatment technique under certain conditions.

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

LRAA: Locational Running Annual Average

mrem: millirems per year (a measure of radiation absorbed by the body)

ppt: One part per trillion is equivalent to one nanogram (ng/L) per liter. A single drop of food coloring in 18 million gallons of water.

ppb: micrograms per liter (ug/L) or parts per billion - or one ounce in 7,350,000 gallons of water.

ppm: milligrams per liter (mg/L) or parts per million - or one ounce in 7,350 gallons of water

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

na: not applicable.

Our water system tested a minimum of 40 sample(s) per month in accordance with the Total Coliform Rule for microbiological contaminants. With the microbiological samples collected, the water system collects disinfectant residuals to ensure control of microbial growth.

Disinfectant	Date	Highest RAA	Unit	Range	MRDL	MRDLG	Typical Source
CHLORINE	2024	1.23	ppm	-	4	4	Water additive used to control microbes

Regulated Contaminants

In the tables below, we have shown the regulated contaminants that were detected. Chemical Sampling of our drinking water may not be required on an annual basis; therefore, the information provided in this table refers back to the latest year of chemical sampling results.

Lead and Copper	Period	90TH Percentile: 90% of your water utility levels were less than	Range of Sampled Results (low - high)	Unit	AL	Sites Over AL	Typical Source
Lead	2024	0.005	<0.005 – 0.010	ppm	0.015	0	Corrosion of household plumbing systems; Erosion of natural deposits
Copper	2024	0.36	<0.05 – 0.69	ppm	1.3	0	Corrosion of household plumbing systems; Erosion of natural deposits; Leaching from wood preservatives

Disinfection Byproducts	Sample Point	Period	Highest LRAA	Range	Unit	MCL	MCLG	Typical Source
TOTAL HALOACETIC ACIDS (HAA5)	27 Liberty St	2023 - 2024	22	1.3 - 37.5	ppb	60	0	By-product of drinking water disinfection
TOTAL HALOACETIC ACIDS (HAA5)	525 Old Westminster	2023 - 2024	44	15.1 - 61.5	ppb	60	0	By-product of drinking water disinfection
TOTAL HALOACETIC ACIDS (HAA5)	Pump Station 7	2023 - 2024	43	14.2 - 62.5	ppb	60	0	By-product of drinking water disinfection
TOTAL HALOACETIC ACIDS (HAA5)	140 Village Shopping Center	2023 - 2024	45	16.7 - 67	ppb	60	0	By-product of drinking water disinfection
TTHM	27 Liberty St	2023 - 2024	27	5.4 - 38.8	ppb	80	0	By-product of drinking water chlorination
TTHM	525 Old Westminster	2023 - 2024	66	29 - 92.9	ppb	80	0	By-product of drinking water chlorination
TTHM	Pump Station 7	2023 - 2024	73	29.6 - 112.1	ppb	80	0	By-product of drinking water chlorination
TTHM	140 Village Shopping Center	2023 - 2024	60	29.1 - 55.8	ppb	80	0	By-product of drinking water chlorination

Regulated Contaminants	Collection Date	Highest Value	Range	Unit	MCL	MCLG	Typical Source
BARIUM	3/5/2024	0.095	0 - 0.095	ppm	2	2	Discharge of drilling wastes; Discharge from metal refineries; Erosion of natural deposits
CADMIUM	11/13/2024	3	0 - 3	ppb	5	5	Corrosion of galvanized pipes; Erosion of natural deposits; Discharge from metal refineries; Runoff from waste batteries and paints
CHROMIUM	3/4/2024	4.2	0 - 4.2	ppb	100	100	Discharge from steel and pulp mills; Erosion of natural deposits
FLUORIDE	3/4/2024	0.57	0 - 0.57	ppm	4	4	Erosion of natural deposits; Water additive which promotes strong teeth; Discharge from fertilizer and aluminum factories
NICKEL	11/13/2024	0.02	0 - 0.02	MG/L	0.1	0.1	Discharge from metal refineries; Erosion of natural deposits; Leaching from pipes and fittings
NITRATE	1/9/2024	5.61	1.78 - 5.61	ppm	10	10	Runoff from fertilizer use; Leaching from septic tanks, sewage; Erosion of natural deposits
NITRATE-NITRITE	8/26/2024	5.6	2.6 - 5.6	ppm	10	10	Runoff from fertilizer use; Leaching from septic tanks, sewage; Erosion of natural deposits
SELENIUM	11/13/2024	4	0 - 4	ppb	50	50	Discharge from petroleum and metal refineries; Erosion of natural deposits; Discharge from mines

Radiological Contaminants	Collection Date	Highest Value	Range	Unit	MCL	MCLG	Typical Source
COMBINED RADIUM (-226 & -228)	7/23/2024	0.9	0.9	pCi/L	5	0	Erosion of natural deposits
GROSS ALPHA, EXCL. RADON & U	7/23/2024	9.6	0 - 9.6	pCi/L	15	0	Erosion of natural deposits
GROSS BETA PARTICLE ACTIVITY	7/23/2024	7.2	0 - 7.2	pCi/L	50	0	Decay of natural and man-made deposits.
RADIUM-226	7/23/2024	0.9	0.9	PCI/L	5	0	Erosion of natural deposits
RADIUM-228	8/26/2024	1.3	0 - 1.3	PCI/L	5	0	Erosion of natural deposits
RADON	1/22/2019	218.1	0 - 218.1	PCI/L	0	0	Decay of natural and man-made deposits.

Unregulated Contaminant Monitoring Rule (UCMR)	Collection Date of HV	Highest Value (HV)	Range of Sampled Result(s)	Unit
PFOA	12/3/2024	11.4	0 – 11.4	ppt
PFOS	12/3/2024	6.9	0 – 6.9	ppt
PFBS	12/3/2024	8.4	0 – 8.4	ppt
PFHxS	1/31/2023	3.9	0 – 3.9	ppt
PFPeA	12/3/2024	26.5	0 – 26.5	ppt
PFHxA	12/3/2024	24.6	0 – 24.6	ppt
PFBA	12/3/2024	8.2	0 – 8.2	ppt
PFHpA	12/3/2024	8.1	0 – 8.1	ppt

WHAT IS PFAS?

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 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: https://mde.maryland.gov/PublicHealth/Pages/PFAS-Landing-Page.aspx.

The Environmental Protection Agency (EPA) finalized regulations for 6 PFAS compounds in drinking water in April 2024. The MCLs for PFOA and PFOS are each 4.0 parts per trillion (ppt). The MCLs for PFNA, PFHxS, and HFPO-DA (GenX chemicals) are each 10 ppt. Additionally, a mixture of two or more of the following chemicals (PFNA, PFHxS, HFPO-DA, and PFBS) will be regulated with a Hazard Index of 1 (unitless) to determine if the combined levels of these PFAS pose a risk and require action.

Turbidity

Turbidity is a measurement of the cloudiness of the water caused by suspended particles. We monitor it because it is a good indicator of water quality and the effectiveness of our filtration.

Percentage of samples in compliance with Std	Months Occurred	Violation	Highest Single Measurement	Month Occurred	Sources	Level Indicator
100.00	12	NO	0.25	May	CARFARO WELL 7	Yes
100.00	12	NO	0.181	August	CRANBERRY WTP	Yes
100.00	12	NO	0.07	November	WTP - GESELL	Yes
100.00	12	NO	0.5	July	WTP - KRIDERS CHURCH WELL5	Yes

Total Organic Carbon

The percentage of Total Organic Carbon (TOC) removal was measured each month and the system met all TOC removal requirements set, unless a TOC violation is noted in the violations section.

TOC	Collection Date	Highest Value	Range	Unit	TT	Typical Source
CARBON, TOTAL	7/31/2024	2.4	0 - 2.4		0	Naturally present in the environment

Additional Required Health Effects Language:

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

Some people who drink water containing trihalomethanes in excess of the MCL over many years may experience problems with their liver, kidneys, or central nervous systems, and may have an increased risk of getting cancer.

Violations

Violation Period	Analyte	Violation Type	Violation Explanation
4/1/2025 – 5/31/2025	Microbacterial contaminant	MONITORING, ROUTINE MAJOR	Not enough monitoring samples were taken or reported

IMPORTANT INFORMATION ABOUT YOUR DRINKING WATER

Monitoring Requirements Not Met for

Cranberry

Drinking Water System

We are required to monitor your drinking water for specific contaminants on a regular basis. Results of regular monitoring are an indicator of whether or not our drinking water meets health standards. During the* months of April and May, 2025 *we did not monitor for* Total Coliforms*, and therefore cannot be sure of the quality of the drinking water during that time.

What should I do?
There is nothing you need to do at this time.

What is being done?
We are in the process of collecting Total Coliform samples for the month of June.

We anticipate returning to compliance by 6/30/2025

For more information, please contact Gregory Howell of City of Westminster at 410-848-1566 or ghowell@westminstermd.gov.

Please share this information with all the other people who drink this water, especially those who may not have received this notice directly (for example, people in apartments, nursing homes, schools, and businesses). You can do this by posting this notice in a public place or distributing copies by hand or mail.

Water System Number: 0060015 Date Distributed: 6/26/2025