

Annual Drinking Water Quality Report

TOWN OF UNION BRIDGE

Public Water System ID: MD0060013

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, 2025. 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. (Este informe contiene información muy importante sobre su agua potable. Tradúzcalo o hable con alguien que lo entienda bien).

For more information regarding this report, contact:

Name: Dawn Metcalf

Phone: 410.775.2711

Sources of Drinking Water

TOWN OF UNION BRIDGE is Groundwater UDI Surfacewater.

Our water source(s) and source water assessment information are listed below:

Source Name	Type of Water	Report Status	Location
UNION BRIDGE TOWN HALL NOPERMIT GU	Ground water under direct influence of surface water		Town Hall Property
WHYTE ST WELL (FIRE DEPT) CL940608 GU	CL940608 Ground water under direct influence of surface water		Fire Department property

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 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.

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 water poses a health risk. More information about contaminants and potential health effects can be obtained by calling the EPA's Safe Drinking Water Hotline at (800) 426-4791. 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 stormwater 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 stormwater 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 stormwater runoff, and septic systems.

Radioactive Contaminants - which can be naturally-occurring or be the result of oil and gas production and mining activities.

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.

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.

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 microbial contaminants are available from the Safe Drinking Water Hotline (800-426-4791).

There is no safe level of lead in drinking water. Exposure to lead in drinking water can cause serious health effects in all age groups, especially pregnant people, infants (both formula-fed and breastfed), and young children. Some of the health effects to infants and children include decreases in IQ and attention span. Lead exposure can also result in new or worsened learning and behavior problems. The children of persons who are exposed to lead before or during pregnancy may be at increased risk of these harmful health effects. Adults have increased risks of heart disease, high blood pressure, kidney or nervous system problems. Contact your health care provider for more information about your risks.

An initial Service Line Inventory was submitted to the Maryland Department of the Environment on 10/16/24. As a result, the Service Line Inventory requirement was fulfilled. The report is available at Town Offices upon request.

Source water assessment has been performed by the Maryland Department of the Environment and is accessible on their website at:

https://mde.maryland.gov/programs/Water/water_supply/Source_Water_Assessment_Program/Pages/by_county.aspx

In the tables below, 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:

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.

Variations 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.

ND: Non-detect – Constituent was not present or was present at levels below the detection limit of the testing method.

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 1 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	2025	1.6	ppm	0.04 - 1.77	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, 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
COPPER, FREE	2022 - 2024	0.542	.028 -.775	ppm	1.3	0	Corrosion of household plumbing systems; Erosion of natural deposits; Leaching from wood preservatives
LEAD	2022 - 2024	.004	0.0008 - .007	ppm	15	0	Corrosion of household plumbing systems; Erosion of natural deposits

NOTE: The MCLG for lead is 0. The MCLG for copper is 1.3 ppm

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. TOWN OF UNION BRIDGE 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 TOWN OF UNION BRIDGE at 410-775-2711 or unionbr@carr.org. 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>.

Disinfection Byproducts	Sample Point	Period	Highest LRAA	Range	Unit	MCL	MCLG	Typical Source
TOTAL HALOACETIC ACIDS (HAA5)	211 HONEYSUCKLE LANE - SITE 1	2025	7	<2 - 11.8	ppb	60	0	By-product of drinking water disinfection
TOTAL HALOACETIC ACIDS (HAA5)	4770 LADIESBURG ROAD - SITE 2	2025	2	<2 - 4.1	ppb	60	0	By-product of drinking water disinfection
TTHM	211 HONEYSUCKLE LANE - SITE 1	2025	40	20 - 53.2	ppb	80	0	By-product of drinking water chlorination
TTHM	4770 LADIESBURG ROAD - SITE 2	2025	14	7.6 - 17.9	ppb	80	0	By-product of drinking water chlorination

Regulated Contaminants	Collection Date	Highest Value	Range	Unit	MCL	MCLG	Typical Source
NITRATE	1/15/2025	5.47	5.13 - 5.47	ppm	10	10	Runoff from fertilizer use; Leaching from septic tanks, sewage; Erosion of natural deposits

NITRATE-NITRITE	5/27/2025	5.6	5.6	ppm	10	10	Runoff from fertilizer use; Leaching from septic tanks, sewage; Erosion of natural deposits
Radiological Contaminants	Collection Date	Highest Value	Range	Unit	MCL	MCLG	Typical Source
RADIUM-228	6/12/2024	0.3	0.3	PCI/L	5	0	Erosion of natural deposits

PFAS Initial Monitoring Requirements	Collection Date of Highest Value	Highest Value	Range of Sample Results	Unit
Perfluorobutane Sulfonic Acid (PFBS)	4/23/25	2.91	2.91	ppt
Perfluorohexane Sulfonic Acid (PFHxS)	4/23/25	4.12	4.12	ppt
Perfluorooctane Sulfonic Acid (PFOS)	4/23/25	9.19	9.19	ppt
Perfluorooctanoic Acid (PFOA)	4/23/25	3.48	3.48	ppt
Perfluoronanoic Acid (PFNA)	4/23/25	ND	ND	ppt
Hexafluoropropylene Oxide Dimer Acid (HFPO-DA)	4/23/25	ND	ND	ppt

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, ground water 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 or 1.0 (unitless) to determine if the combined and co-concurring 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_PublicWatererSyetemStudyMap/

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	0.16	February	TOWN HALL WELLS 1 & 3	Yes

Additional Required Health Effects Language:

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 for advice from your health care provider.

Monitoring and Reporting Violation

The Town experienced a Monitoring and Reporting violation for May 2025. This was due to a lapse in certification renewal by a sampler from the Towns contracted Lab. The Town communicated the necessity and responsibility for the Lab to correct the excursion. In turn, the Lab immediately corrected the issue and has remained compliant since that time. The Notice of violation, corrective actions and explanation letter from the lab are included below.

IMPORTANT INFORMATION ABOUT YOUR DRINKING WATER

Town of Union Bridge

PWSID 006-0013

**Reporting Requirements Not Met During
May 2025**

We are required to collect, analyze and report your drinking water for specific contaminants on a regular basis. Results of regular monitoring are an indicator of whether your drinking water meets health standards.

*The drinking water samples were not collected by a certified sampler during **May 2025**.*

Although public health was not impacted, as customers, you have a right to know what happened and what we did to correct the situation."

What should I do?

There is nothing you need to do currently. You do not need to boil your water or take other actions.

What is being done?

While we did not notify the state as quickly as we should have, we have: *(Enter corrective action)*

The Town was unaware that the testing contractor, Fountain Valley Labs, had allowed their sampling certification to expire, see attached correspondance. The Town communicated this issue with Fountain Valley
on June 13, 2025 *(Date corrective action)*

For additional information, please contact.

Dawn Metcalf at 410-775-2711, 104 W. Locust St., Union Bridge, MD 21791

contact name

telephone number

Mailing Address

Please share this information with all other people who drink this water, especially those who do not receive this notice directly (for example: house renters, apartment dwellers, college students, nursing home patients, prison inmates, etc.). You can do this by posting this notice in a public place, distributing copies by hand, or mail.

This notice is being sent to you by **Town of Union Bridge**

State Water System ID# **PWSID MD0060013**

Date distributed: 7/1/26



Maryland
Department of
the Environment

Wes Moore, Governor
Aruna Miller, Lt. Governor

Serena McIlwain, Secretary
Suzanne E. Dorsey, Deputy Secretary
Adam Ortiz, Deputy Secretary

SENT VIA EMAIL

April 21, 2026
Perry Jones
Mayor and Council
104 Locust st - P.O. Box 350
Union Bridge, MD 21791

Re: Notice of Violation of the Revised Total Coliform Rule
Monitoring Violation for May 2025
Town of Union Bridge (MD0060013)

Dear Mr. Jones:

This letter is to inform you that **Town of Union Bridge (MD0060013)** has accrued one (1) *Revised Total Coliform Rule* monitoring violations. The Maryland Department of the Environment (MDE) has received the bacteriological monitoring reports from the system for the monitoring period of **May 2025**. However, based on the reports submitted, the samples were not acceptable for compliance due to expiration of the sample collector's certification credentials. Thus, monitoring violations have been issued for the monitoring periods noted above. *Please continue to collect monthly bacteria samples.*

Required Actions:

- Samples must be collected by a certified sampler. MDE maintains a list of certified samplers: https://mde.maryland.gov/programs/water/water_supply/Documents/Current-Certified-Water-Samplers.pdf
- Revised Total Coliform Rule monitoring and reporting must be continued and results reported electronically by you or your lab via the Compliance Monitoring Data Portal (CMDP).
- Within one year of learning about these violations, the system must provide Public Notice (PN) to customers. Attached is a PN template that you may use; any modifications must be approved before distribution. The completed PN must be distributed to all persons regularly served by the system by April 21, 2027. The PN must be mailed or hand delivered to customers. The system has the option of delivering the PN with the next Consumer Confidence Report (CCR). The *Public Notice Compliance Certification* (attached) must be returned to MDE, along with a copy of the PN, within 10 days after distributing the PN. Please email the *Public Notice Compliance Certification* to fern.desilva1@maryland.gov as well as watersupply.sampleresults@maryland.gov.

If you have any questions regarding these or other requirements under the Safe Drinking Water Act (SDWA), please contact me at fern.desilva1@maryland.gov.

Fern DeSilva

Sincerely,
Fern De Silva
Natural Resources Planner
Water Supply Program

Enclosures – *May 2025 Monitoring Violation PN Template, PN Compliance Certification*

cc: Carroll County Environmental Health Director
ETAD - Zoe Goodson/Bobin Shrestha, MDE

Fountain Valley Analytical Laboratory, Inc.

1413 Old Taneytown Rd. • Westminster, MD 21158 • (410) 848-1014 • info@fval.com

CHEMICAL • MICROBIOLOGICAL • PHYSICAL • RADIOLOGICAL • WATER ANALYSIS

June 12, 2025

To: Our valued customers
From: Charles Mooshian, President
Fountain Valley Analytical Lab, Inc.
Re: Water Sampler Certification

Dear Valued Clients,

One of our Certified Water Samplers, Richard (Tony) Ott's Sampler Certification card expired on April 6, 2025. He has taken his test and is up and running again, but compliance samples collected in the second quarter by Richard, according to MDE, must be re-collected.

Monthly samples for bacteria and nitrate in April and May can't be resampled and will be violated, although systems will be automatically returned to compliance after the June samples are taken and pass. We are feverishly working on getting all quarterly samples recollected before the end of the 2nd quarter (June) and data sent to MDE.

I won't make any excuses. This was an oversight on our part, but we will go to any length to correct our mistakes. Please address any questions or comments to me, or one of my staff.

Cathy Siegman	Laboratory Director
Cass Holland	Office Manager
Lori Ott	Bookkeeping
Chuck Mooshian	President

You may reach me and all the above members of my staff (in one email) by sending your correspondence to: info@fval.com. Phone numbers are: 410-848-1014 or 410-876-4554.

Thank you for your business over the past 39 years.

Sincerely,



Charles Mooshian, BS, MT (HHS)
President/ Fountain Valley Lab, Inc.

MD State Certification #133
Visit our web site at www.fval.com
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