

## Annual Drinking Water Quality Report

**MD0060013**

**TOWN OF UNION BRIDGE**

Annual Water Quality Report for the period of January 1 to December 31, 2023

For more information regarding this report contact:

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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.

Public participation is encouraged at the regularly scheduled Town Hall meetings occurring on the Fourth Monday of every month at the Town Hall  
104 West Locust St.

TOWN OF UNION BRIDGE is Ground Water Under Direct Influence  
of Surface water

Este informe contiene información muy importante sobre el agua que  
usted. bebe. Tradúzcalo ó hable con alguien que lo entienda bien

A 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](https://mde.maryland.gov/programs/Water/water_Supply/Source_Water_Assessment_Program/Pages/by_county.aspx)

-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.

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).

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 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. 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 tap 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 Town of Union Bridge. 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>.

"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 MDES's website: [mde.maryland.gov/PublicHealth/PFAS-Landing-Page.aspx](https://mde.maryland.gov/PublicHealth/PFAS-Landing-Page.aspx)"

The Environmental Protection Agency (EPA) proposed regulations for 6 PFAS compounds in drinking water in March 2023. The MCL's for PFOA and PFOS are proposed to be 4.0 parts per trillion (ppt). The proposal for HFPO-DA (GenX), PFBS, PFNA and PFHxS is to use a Hazard Index of 1.0 (unitless) to determine if the combined levels of these PFAS pose a risk and require action.

The 5<sup>th</sup> Unregulated Contaminant Monitoring Rule (UCMR5) began testing for 29 PFAS compounds and Lithium in 2023, and testing will run through 2025. The UCMR5 should test all community water systems with populations of at least 3300 people. Three randomly selected systems in Maryland with populations less than 3300 people will also be tested under the UCMR5. Detections greater than the minimum reporting levels for each constituent should be reported in the CCR

**Source Water Information**

SWA = Source Water Assessment

Source Water Name	Type of Water	Report Status	Location
UNION BRIDGE TOWN HALL NOPERMIT GU	GU	Y	
WHYTE ST WELL (FIRE DEPT) CL940608 GUCL940608	GU	Y	T OF UNION BRIDGE APPROX. 50 FT S OF LOCUST

**2023 Regulated Contaminants Detected**

**Lead and Copper**

Definitions:

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. Action Level: The concentration of a contaminant which, if exceeded, triggers treatment or other requirements which a water system must follow.

Lead and Copper	Date Sampled	MCLG	Action Level (AL)	90th Percentile	# Sites Over AL	Units	Lead and Copper	Likely Source of contamination
Copper	09/24/2021	1.3	1.3	0.42	0	ppm	Copper	Erosion of natural deposits

<b>Lead</b>	09/24/2021	0	15	<5	0	ppb	Lead	Leaching from wood preservatives; Corrosion of household plumbing systems.
								Corrosion of household plumbing systems; Erosion of natural deposits.

**Disinfectants and**

<b>Disinfection By-Products</b>	Collection Date	Highest Level	Range of Levels	MCLG	MCL	Units	Violation	Likely Source of contamination
Chlorine	2023	Detected 1.7	Detected 1.6 - 1.8	MRDLG = 4	MRDL = 4	ppm	N	Water additive used to control microbes.
Haloacetic Acids (HAA5)	2023	12	7.4 – 19.1	No goal for the total	60	ppb	N	By-product of drinking water disinfection
Total Trihalomethanes(TTHM)	2023	50	15.2 – 60.8	No goal for the total	80	ppb	N	By-product of drinking water disinfection.

**Inorganic Contaminants**

Barium	08/14/2021	0.033	0.033 - 0.033	2	2	ppm	N	Discharge of drilling wastes;
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Discharge from metal refineries; Erosion of natural deposits.

<b>Nitrate [measured as Nitrogen] 2023</b>	6	5.2 – 5.68	10	10	ppm	N	Runoff from fertilizer Leaching of septic tanks Erosion of natural deposits
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**- 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 advice from your health care provider.**

**Turbidity**

	Limit (Treatment Technique)	Level Detected	Violation	Likely source of contamination
<b>Highest single measurement</b>	1 NTU	0.17 NTU	N	Soil runoff.

Information Statement: 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

**Lowest monthly % meeting limit** 0.3 NTU 100% N Soil runoff.

## Unregulated Contaminants

### PFAS

	Collection Date		Highest Level	Range of Levels	MCLG	MCL	Units	Violation	Likely Source of contamination
			Detected	Detected					
PFAS	Quarterly	2023	27	17.7-27	NA	NA	ppt	N	Anthropogenic activity
PFOS	Quarterly	2023	12	9.9-12	NA	NA	ppt	N	Anthropogenic activity
PFOA	Quarterly	2023	3.3	2.6-3.3	NA	NA	ppt	N	Anthropogenic activity
PFHxS	Quarterly	2023	6.2	1.8-6.2	NA	NA	ppt	N	Anthropogenic activity
PFBS	Quarterly	2023	3.2	2.3-3.2	NA	NA	ppt	N	Anthropogenic activity

## Water Quality Test Results

**Definitions:** The following tables contain scientific terms and measures, some of which may require explanation.

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

**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.

**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.

**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.

**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 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.

**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.

na: not applicable.

ppt: nanograms per liter or parts per trillion – or one ounce in 7,350,000,000 gallons of water

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

ppm: milligrams per liter or parts per million - or one ounce in 7,350 gallons of water.

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