



# Water Quality Report 2022

The City of Hagerstown is pleased to provide you with the 2022 Annual Drinking Water Quality Report. 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.

The report is distributed to all our customers and provides them with information on source water, testing results, and public health guidance for environmental contaminants. The City of Hagerstown Utilities Department is committed to providing our customers with safe and reliable drinking water. Drinking water supplied to our customers has met all stringent EPA and MDE standards of quality for the year 2022.

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

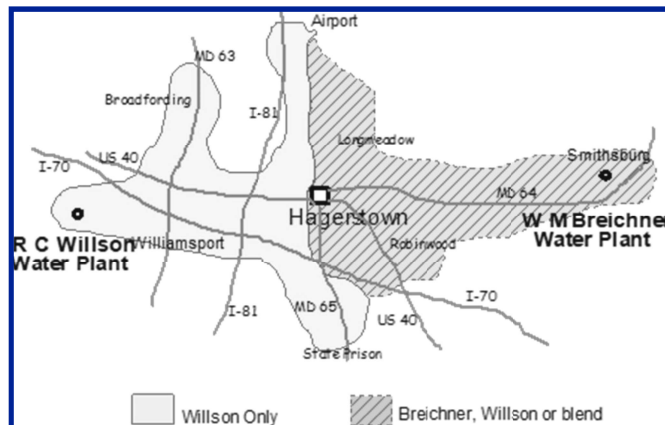
## Sources of Drinking Water

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.

Drinking water, including bottled water, may reasonably be expected to contain at least small amounts of certain 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 EPAs Safe Drinking Water Hotline at (800) 426-4791.

Hagerstown City water is surface water that comes from one of two City-owned treatment plants. The main facility is the R.C. Willson Water Treatment Plant which uses the Potomac River as the water source. The second facility is the W.M. Breichner Water Treatment Plant which uses the Edgemont Reservoir as its source. The Edgemont Reservoir and W.M.

Breichner Plant are off-line while repairs and upgrades are made to the dam and treatment facility. Therefore, all water is currently being sourced from the R.C. Willson Water Treatment Plant.



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## Additional Information & Resources

For more information on your water supply or the information contained in this report you may want to contact the following agencies:

### City of Hagerstown Water Division

☎ (301) 739-8577 x680

### City of Hagerstown Drinking Water Laboratory

☎ (301) 739-8577 x667

### Maryland Department of the Environment

☎ (410) 537-3000 or (800) 633-6101

### U.S. Environment Protection Agency Safe Drinking Water Act Hotline

☎ (800) 426-4791

You are always welcome to attend any of the meetings of the Mayor and Council Meetings held at Council Chambers in City Hall on the 1st, 2nd, and 3rd Tuesdays of every month at 4:00 pm and on the 4th Tuesday at 7:00 pm. Please check the City website for exact times.

## Compliance with Safe Drinking Water Act

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.

Hagerstown City Water meets all Federal (EPA) and State (MDE) regulatory requirements. The Hagerstown Utilities Department Water Division works hard to maintain the highest quality water possible and we will continue to strive for this goal. If you have questions about this report or any other topic related to your drinking water, please feel free to call us using the numbers on page 1.

## Water Treatment Process

Our water supply source water from the Potomac River is disinfected by filtration followed by addition of chloramine prior to distribution to our customers. A corrosion inhibitor is added to minimize the dissolution of any lead or copper particles from private household plumbing. Fluoride is added to help prevent dental problems with children's teeth. Total chlorine residual is monitored daily throughout the distribution system to ensure drinking water quality.



*The Safe Drinking Water Act (SDWA) was passed in 1974 as a law to protect human public health by regulating the public drinking water supply. SDWA establishes national health-based standards for drinking water to protect against both naturally-occurring and man-made contaminants.*

## Testing Requirements

Testing is periodically conducted for regulated and unregulated contaminants. The table found in this report summarizes the results of our monitoring for the period of January 1, 2022 to December 31, 2022. The regulatory agencies (MDE and the EPA) have waived the requirement to sample for some contaminants that would not normally be found in our environment.

## Source Water Contaminant Information

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;
- pesticides and herbicides, which may come from a variety of sources such as agricultural, urban storm water runoff, and residential uses;
- 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;
- 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

## Vulnerable Populations

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).

If present, elevated levels of 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. We are responsible for providing high quality drinking water, but 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>