



ANNUAL WATER

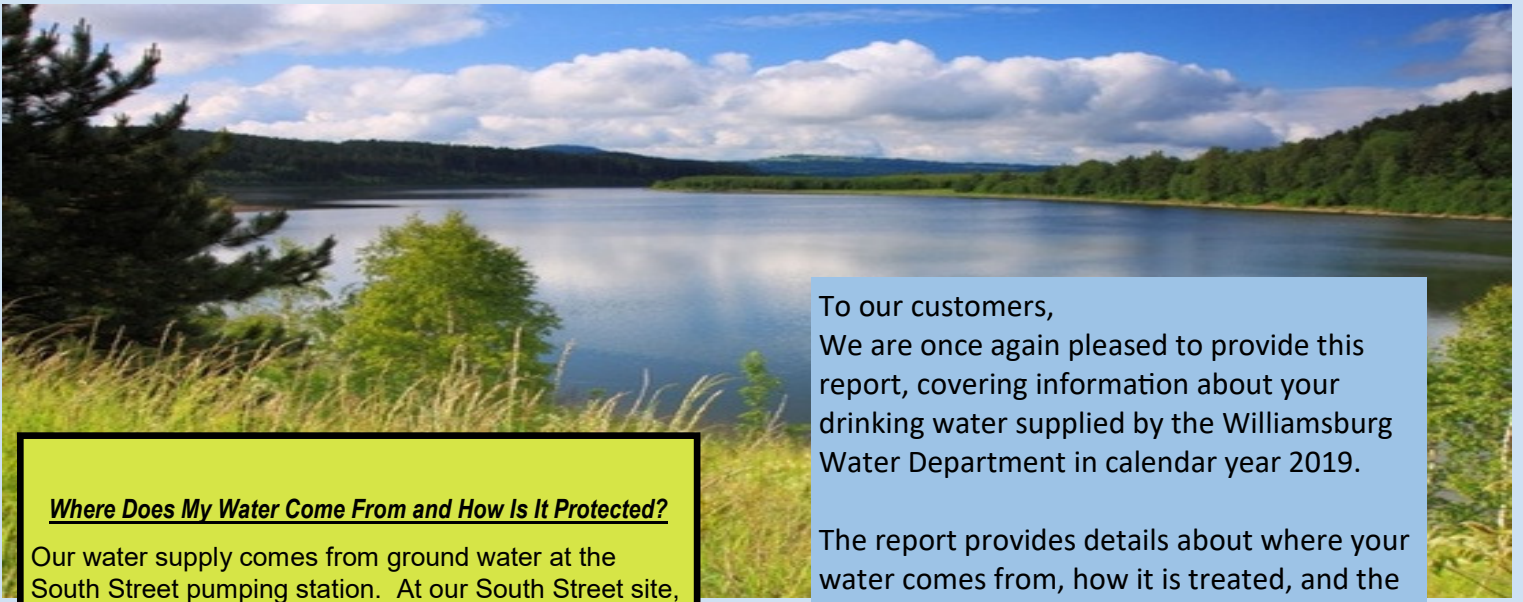
QUALITY

REPORT

REPORTING YEAR 2019

**Presented by the
Williamsburg
Water Commission**

PWS #1340000



Where Does My Water Come From and How Is It Protected?

Our water supply comes from ground water at the South Street pumping station. At our South Street site, we have two wells, treatment facilities, and storage tanks. Treatment processes include disinfection by chlorination. Additionally, we treat water with sodium hydroxide to adjust the pH to help make the water less corrosive to the distribution system and to the plumbing in the homes. We own all the land in the Zone #1 area and a large portion in Zone #2. This helps to protect your water supply from contaminants. The Department of Environmental Protection (DEP) has prepared a Source Water Assessment Program (SWAP) Report for water supply source(s) serving this water system. The SWAP Report notes the key issues of the activities in the Zone 1, Residential uses, transportation corridors, agricultural activities and Comprehensive Well-head Protection Planning in the water supply protection area. The SWAP Report recommends beaver control, prohibiting all non-water supply activities, ensuring that all residents upstream are aware of Best Management practices with respect to household hazardous materials and lawn chemicals, and no storage of pesticides, fertilizer or road salt within Zone 1. Williamsburg Water & Sewer Commission plans to address the protection recommendations by working on educating the residents to BMP, monitoring the beaver activity, monitoring the livestock on neighboring properties, and working on a Comprehensive Wellhead Protection Plan. Residents can help protect sources by: practicing good septic system maintenance, supporting water supply protection initiatives at the next Town Meeting, taking hazardous household chemicals to hazardous materials collection days, limiting pesticide and fertilizer use and using buffer strips to prevent animals from accessing Unquomonk Brook and prevent pasture runoff. The complete SWAP Report is available at the Town Clerk's Office or online at www.burgy.org If you have any health concerns relating to the information in this report, we encourage you to contact your health care provider. For more information about this report, or for any other questions relating to your drinking water, please call Eric Cerreta, Chairman, at (413) 268-8430 or Tony Lastowski, Water Operator at (413) 345-0345

To our customers,
We are once again pleased to provide this report, covering information about your drinking water supplied by the Williamsburg Water Department in calendar year 2019.

The report provides details about where your water comes from, how it is treated, and the quality of the water you receive.

We encourage you to contact the Water Department with questions, comments or suggestions about any aspect of the Town of Williamsburg's drinking water.

Sincerely,
Eric Cerreta, Chairman
Anthony Lastowski, Water Operator



WATER MAIN FLUSHING

Distribution mains (pipes) convey water to homes, businesses, and hydrants in your neighborhood. The water entering distribution mains is of very high quality; however, water quality can deteriorate in areas of the distribution mains over time. Water main flushing is the process of cleaning the interior of water distribution mains by sending a rapid flow of water through the mains.

Flushing maintains water quality in several ways. For example, flushing removes sediments like iron and manganese. Although iron and manganese do not pose health concerns, they can affect the taste, clarity, and color of the water. Additionally, sediments can shield microorganisms from the disinfecting power of chlorine, contributing to the growth of microorganisms within distribution mains. Flushing helps remove stale water and ensures the presence of fresh water with sufficient dissolved oxygen and disinfectant levels and an acceptable taste and smell.

During flushing operations in your neighborhood, some short-term deterioration of water quality, though uncommon, is possible. You should avoid tap water for household uses at that time. If you do use the tap, allow your cold water to run for a few minutes at full velocity before use and avoid using hot water to prevent sediment accumulation in your hot water tank.

Please contact us if you have any questions or if you would like more information on our water main flushing schedule.

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. The Town of Williamsburg Water Commission is responsible for providing high quality drinking water, but 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 two minutes before using water for cooking or drinking. 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>



Substances That Could Be in Water

To ensure that tap water is safe to drink, the U.S. Environmental Protection Agency (EPA) prescribes regulations that limit the amount of certain contaminants in water provided by public water systems. The Food and Drug Administration (FDA) regulations establish limits for contaminants in bottled water that must provide the same protection for public health. All 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.

The sources of drinking water (both tap 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 mineral, and in some cases, radioactive material. It can pick up substances resulting in the presence of animals or from human activity. 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 storm water 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 agricultural, urban storm water 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 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.

THINGS YOU CAN DO TO PROTECT YOUR WATER SUPPLY

- ◆ Reduce the amount of trash you create-reuse containers, recycle plastics, aluminum and glass.
- ◆ Do not litter-and yes, this includes cigarette butts
- ◆ Dispose of waste oil properly, never in drains or on the ground
- ◆ Check your car for oil leaks-repair leaks quickly
- ◆ Plant drought tolerant native plants in your yard in place of grass
- ◆ Apply pesticides and fertilizers minimally and properly
- ◆ If you walk your pet near any water supply area, pick up their waste
- ◆ Do not flush old medication
- ◆ Use alternative deicers such as calcium magnesium acetate and avoid table or rock salt.

Regulated Contaminants (Units)	Date(s) Collected	Highest Result or Highest Running Average Detected	Range Detected	MCL or MRDL	MCLG or MRDLG	Violation (Y/N)	Possible Sources of Contamination
Iron	5/28/19	ND	ND	0.051	n/a	N	Minerals, pipes
Manganese	5/28/19	ND	ND	0.0020	n/a	N	Minerals, Under-ground Pollution
Perchlorate	8/18/16	ND	ND	2.0	n/a	N	Rocket Propellants, Fireworks, Flares

	ACTION LEVEL	90TH PERCENTILE	NUMBER OF SAMPLES	NUMBER OVER LIMIT	TEST DATE
LEAD	0.0085 mg/L	14 ppb	10	0	09/20/2017
COPPER	0.951 ppm	15 ppb	10	0	09/20/2017

Bacteria (Tested)	Number of Tests Done 2019	Total # Positive	MCL	MCLG	Violation (Y/N)	Possible Sources of Contamination
Total Coliform	60	0	No more than 1 positive in a month	0	N	Naturally Present in the environment