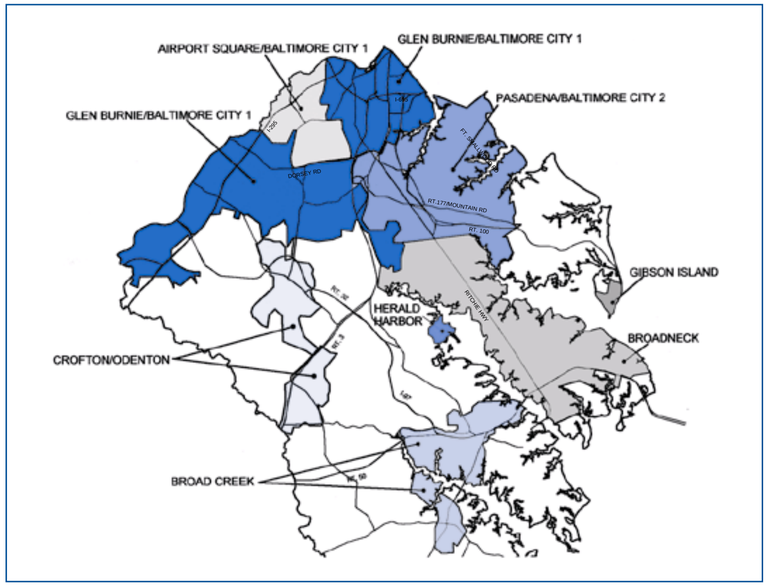
Anne Arundel County Water Service Areas



Terms and Definitions Used in Water Quality Data Table

* **Maximum Contaminant Level (MCL):** the highest level of a contaminant allowed in drinking water. MCLs are set as close to MCLGs as feasible using the best available treatment technology.
* **Maximum Contaminant Level Goal (MCLG):** the level of contaminant in drinking water below which there is no known or expected risk to health. MCLGs allow for a margin of safety.
* **Action Level (AL):** the concentration of a contaminant which, if exceeded, triggers a treatment or other requirement which a water system must follow
* **N/A:** not applicable
* **ND:** not detectable at testing limit
* **NT:** not tested
* **ppm:** parts per million or milligrams per liter. One part per million is the equivalent of 1 cent in $10,000 or one minute in two years.
* **ppb:** parts per billion or micrograms per liter. One part per billion is the equivalent of 1 cent in $10,000,000 or one minute in two thousand years.
* **pCi/l:** picocuries per liter (a measure of radiation)
* **mrems/l:** millirems per liter (a measure of radiation)
* **NTU:** nephelometric turbidity units (a measure of clarity)
* **TT:** treatment technique; a required process intended to reduce the level of a contaminant in drinking water

DRINKING WATER QUALITY DATA — 2000

PARAMETER	(units)	MAXIMUM CONTAMINANT LEVELS		GLEN BURNIE/ BALTIMORE CITY #1 ZONE		PASADENA/ BALTIMORE CITY #2 ZONE		AIRPORT SQUARE/ BALTIMORE CITY #1 ZONE		BROADNECK ZONE		CROFTON/ ODENTON ZONE		BROAD CREEK ZONE		GIBSON ISLAND ZONE		HERALD HARBOR ZONE		NOTES	TYPICAL SOURCES OF CONTAMINATION
		MCL	MCLG	highest level	range of detection	highest level	range of detection	highest level	range of detection	highest level	range of detection	highest level	range of detection	highest level	range of detection	highest level	range of detection	highest level	range of detection		
Microbiological Contaminants																					
Total Coliforms	(#)	5% Positive	0% Positive	0%	N/A	0%	N/A	0%	N/A	0%	N/A	0%	N/A	0%	N/A	0%	N/A	0%	N/A	1	Naturally present in the environment.
Turbidity	(NTU)	TT	N/A	0.2	100%	0.4	100%	0.2	100%	NT	N/A	NT	N/A	NT	N/A	NT	N/A	NT	N/A	2	Soil run-off.
Radioactive Contaminants																					
Alpha Emitters	(pCi/l)	15	0	2.2	0.7 – 4.4	5.0	1.5 – 7.9	NT	N/A	1.7	0.8 – 13.7	4.5	1.0 – 14.5	1.4	1.0 – 1.9	1.1	0.8 – 1.4	1.3	1.1 – 1.5	3	Erosion and/or decay of natural deposits.
Combined Radium	(pCi/l)	5	0	2.6	1.2 – 4.2	4.4	0.9 – 6.3	NT	N/A	2.0	1.0 – 2.4	1.4	1.3 – 1.9	1.5	1.0 – 2.0	1.3	1.1 – 1.5	1.3	1.1 – 1.5	3	Erosion and/or decay of natural deposits.
Beta Emitters	(pCi/l)	50	0	2	2 – 2	2	2 – 2	2	2 – 2	NT	N/A	1	1 – 1	NT	N/A	NT	N/A	2	2 – 2	3, 5, 9	Erosion and/or decay of natural deposits.
Inorganic Contaminants																					
Barium	(ppm)	2	2	0.020	0.007 – 0.020	0.030	0.018 – 0.030	0.020	0.010 – 0.020	0.022	0.003 – 0.022	0.019	0.007 – 0.019	0.012	0.012 – 0.012	0.004	0.004 – 0.004	0.006	0.006 – 0.006	5	Erosion and/or decay of natural deposits; discharge of drilling wastes; discharge from metal refineries.
Fluoride	(ppm)	4	4	2.44	0.010 – 2.44	2.05	0.10 – 2.05	1.8	0.1 – 1.8	1.52	0.09 – 1.52	1.14	0.17 – 1.14	1.65	0.70 – 1.65	1.95	0.68 – 1.95	1.80	0.61 – 1.80	5	Erosion and/or decay of natural deposits; water additive which promotes strong teeth; discharge from fertilzer and aluminum factories.
Nitrate	(ppm)	10	10	2.0	0.62 – 2.0	2.16	1.3 – 2.16	2.0	1.4 – 2.0	ND	N/A	ND	N/A	ND	N/A	ND	N/A	ND	N/A		Erosion and/or decay of natural deposits; leaching from septic tanks; sewage.
Mercury	(ppb)	2	2	ND	N/A	ND	N/A	ND	N/A	0.0003	0.0003 – 0.0003	ND	N/A	ND	N/A	ND	N/A	ND	N/A	5	Erosion and/or decay of natural deposits; discharge of drilling wastes; discharge from metal refineries.
Lead	(ppb)	AL = 15	0	ND	3	ND	0	ND	0	ND	0	ND	0	ND	0	ND	0	ND	0	4, 5	Erosion and/or decay of natural deposits; corrosion of household plumbing systems.
Copper	(ppm)	AL = 1.3	1.3	0.11	0	ND	0	ND	0	ND	0	ND	0	ND	0	ND	0	ND	0	4, 5	Erosion and/or decay of natural deposits; corrosion of household plumbing systems.
Volatile Organic Contaminants																					
Tetrachloroethene	(ppb)	5	0	ND	N/A	3.4	2.5 – 3.4	ND	N/A	NT	N/A	NT	N/A	NT	N/A	NT	N/A	NT	N/A	5	Leaching from pvc pipes; discharge from factories and dry cleaners.
Disinfection By-Products																					
Total Trihalomethanes	(ppb)	100	N/A	84	22 – 84	80	26 – 80	84	22 – 84	ND	N/A	NT	N/A	NT	N/A	NT	N/A	NT	N/A	3, 5	By-product of drinking water treatment processes.
Unregulated Contaminants																					
Radon	(pCi/l)	N/A	N/A	35	35 – 35	130	25 – 130	NT	N/A	NT	N/A	NT	N/A	NT	N/A	NT	N/A	NT	N/A	7	Erosion and/or decay of natural deposits.
Sodium	(ppm)	N/A	N/A	10.80	0.83 – 10.80	13.40	3.00 – 13.40	10.80	10.80 – 10.80	2.38	0.58 – 2.38	2.24	0.95 – 2.24	1.04	0.55 – 1.04	7.02	2.14 – 7.02	2.99	0.86 – 2.99	5, 6	Naturally present in the environment; by-product of drinking water treatment processes.
Sulfate	(ppm)	N/A	N/A	14.5	14.5 – 14.5	15.0	1.84 – 15.0	14.5	14.5 – 14.5	12.97	10.48 – 12.97	NT	N/A	9.53	9.53 – 9.53	NT	N/A	9.43	9.43 – 9.43	5, 6	Naturally present in the environment.
Total Haloacetic Acids	(ppb)	N/A	N/A	48	13 – 98	40	1 – 109	48	13 – 98	NT	N/A	NT	N/A	NT	N/A	NT	N/A	NT	N/A	3, 5, 8	By-product of drinking water treatment processes.

Table Notes

Note 1: The "MCL" and "MCLG" for Total Coliforms is based on the percentage of "positive coliform results" in a given month. The MCL requires that less than or equal to 5% of the samples test positive. The percentage of positive sample results is shown in the "highest level" column.

Note 2: Turbidity standards are based on a "treatment technique" and are only applicable to systems using surface water as a source. The maximum turbidity allowed in a given month is 5 NTU, and 95% of the results must be less than 0.5 NTU. This is indicated in the "range of detection" column.

Note 3: Compliance with the MCL for these contaminants is based on the average of four quarterly samples. The "range of detection" numbers represent individual analysis results, not an average. There were no MCL violations at any facility.

Note 4: Compliance with the MCL for Lead and Copper is based on the "90th percentile" value of all analysis results. The number of sample results exceeding the MCL for these parameters is indicated in the "range of detection" column.

Note 5: Testing for some parameters is not required on an annual basis. Some results reflect the most recent testing between 1998-2000.

Note 6: Testing required by EPA to determine if an MCL/health standard should be set.

Note 7: Currently, there is no MCL for Radon. The proposed MCL is 300 pC/1.

Note 8: Currently, there is no MCL for total Haloacetic Acids. The proposed MCL is 60 ppb.

Note 9: EPA considers a level of 50 pCi/1 equivalent to the actual MCL of 4 mrems/1.