

Annual Drinking Water Quality Report

Fancy Gap Water System

PWSID No. 1035581

INTRODUCTION

This Annual Drinking Water Quality Report for calendar year 2015 is designed to inform you about your drinking water quality. Our goal is to provide you with a safe and dependable supply of drinking water, and we want you to understand the efforts we make to protect your water supply. The quality of your drinking water must meet state and federal requirements administered by the Virginia Department of Health (VDH).

If you have questions about this report or want additional information about any aspect of your drinking water or want to know how to participate in decisions that may affect the quality of your drinking water, please contact: Dana Phillips, Assistant Director CCPSA at (276)730-3170 or John Dougill, Water Operator III at (276)730-3174.

The time and location of regularly scheduled Carroll County Public Service Authority meetings is the second Monday of each month at 3:00 pm in the Supervisor Board Meeting Room on the 2nd floor of the Carroll County Governmental Center, Hillsville, VA 24343.

GENERAL INFORMATION

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. Contaminants that may be present in source water include: (1) Microbial contaminants, such as viruses and bacteria, which may come from sewage treatment plants, septic systems, agricultural livestock operations, and wildlife. (2) 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. (3) Pesticides and herbicides, which may come from a variety of sources such as agriculture, urban storm water runoff, and residential uses. (4) Organic chemical contaminants, including synthetic and volatile organic chemicals, which are byproducts of industrial processes and petroleum production, and can also, come from gas stations, urban storm water runoff, and septic systems. (5) 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. Food and Drug Administration regulations establish limits for contaminants in bottled water which must provide the same protection for public health.

Drinking water, including bottled drinking 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 can be obtained by calling the Environmental Protection Agency's Safe Drinking Water Hotline (800-426-4791).

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

SOURCES OF YOUR DRINKING WATER: The sources of your drinking water are groundwater wells as described below:

Exit 8 Well, Reedside Well, and Frog Spur Well are all located in the Fancy Gap area.

THE VIRGINIA DEPARTMENT OF HEALTH SOURCE WATER ASSESSMENT REPORT dated March 8, 2002 states that Exit 8 Well has a **High Susceptibility to Contamination** because the Groundwater Source is constructed in an area that promotes migration of contaminants with land use activities of concern and potential conduits to groundwater in Zone 1 assessment area and / or potential sources of contamination in the Zone 1 or Zone 2 assessment areas. **Information in this report is provided to aid in efforts toward Source Water Protection.** To obtain a copy of the complete assessment report, make a request to the Carroll Co. PSA office at 605-2 Pine Street, Hillsville, VA 24343 ph. (276)730-3170. The Source Water Assessment has not been conducted for Frogspur or Reedside.

DEFINITIONS

Contaminants in your drinking water are routinely monitored according to Federal and State regulations. The table on the next page shows the results of our monitoring for the period of January 1st to December 31st, 2015. In the table and elsewhere in this report you will find many terms and abbreviations you might not be familiar with. The following definitions are provided to help you better understand these terms:

Maximum Contaminant Level (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 (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.

Non-detects (ND) - lab analysis indicates that the contaminant is not present

Parts per million (ppm) or Milligrams per liter (mg/l) - one part per million corresponds to one minute in two years or a single penny in \$10,000.

Parts per billion (ppb) or Micrograms per liter (µg/l)- one part per billion corresponds to one minute in 2,000 years, or a single penny in \$10,000,000.

Parts per trillion (ppt) or Nanograms per liter (ng/l) - one part per trillion corresponds to one minute in 2,000,000 years, or a single penny in \$10,000,000,000.

Picocuries per liter (pCi/L) - Picocuries per liter is a measure of the radioactivity in water.

Action Level or (AL) - the concentration of a contaminant which, if exceeded, triggers treatment or other requirements which a water system must follow.

Treatment Technique (TT) - a required process intended to reduce the level of a contaminant in drinking water.

Maximum Residual Disinfectant Level Goal (MRDLG) -the level of 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 (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.

The water from our wells is mixed within the distribution system. Therefore the results reported in the following tables are representative of all wells. Results from individual wells, where sampled, are available upon request.

WATER QUALITY RESULTS
Microbiological Contaminants

Contaminant	MCLG	MCL	No. of Samples Indicating Presence of Bacteria	Violation (Y/N)	Month of Sampling	Typical Source of Contamination
Total Coliform Bacteria	0	1 positive monthly sample	1	N	June	Naturally present in the environment

WATER QUALITY RESULTS
Regulated Contaminants

Contaminant (units)	MCLG	MCL	Level Detected	Violation (Y/N)	Range	Date of Sample	Typical Source of Contamination
Nitrate (ppm)	10	10	0.05-0.68	N	ND – 0.68	2015	Runoff from fertilizer use; Leaching from Septic tanks, Sewage; Erosion of natural deposits.
Alpha,Emitters (pCi/L)	0	15	1.6	N	ND – 1.7	2013, 2014	Erosion of natural deposits
Combined Radium (pCi/L)	0	5	3.0	N	ND – 2.7	2013, 2014	Erosion of natural deposits
Chlorine (ppm)	Mrdlg= 4	Mrdl= 4	1.08	N	0.5 – 1.5	2015	Water additive used to control microbes
Barium (ppm)	2	2	0.02	N	ND - 0.02	2015	Discharge of drilling waste; Discharge from metal refineries; Erosion of natural deposits

LEAD & COPPER CONTAMINANTS

Contaminant (units)	MCLG	Action Level	90 th Percentile	Date of Sampling	# of Sampling Sites Exceeding Action Level	Typical Source of Contamination
Lead (ppb)	0	15	3.8	2013	0	Corrosion of household plumbing Systems; erosion of natural deposits
Copper (ppm)	1300	1.3	0.17	2013	0	Corrosion of household plumbing Systems; Erosion of natural Deposits; Leaching from wood preservatives

The water quality results in the above table are from testing done in 2015. However, the state allows us to monitor for some contaminants less than once a year because the concentrations of these contaminants do not change frequently. Some of our data, though accurate, is more than one year old.

MCL's are set at very stringent levels by the U.S. Environmental Protection Agency. In developing the standards EPA assumes that the average adult drinks 2 liters of water each day throughout a 70-year life span. EPA generally sets MCLs at levels that will result in no adverse health effects for some contaminants or a one-in-ten-thousand to one-in-a-million chance of having the described health effect for other contaminants.

ADDITIONAL INFORMATION

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 CARROLL COUNTY PUBLIC SERVICE AUTHORITY 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 15 to 30 seconds or until it becomes cold or reaches a steady temperature before using water for drinking or cooking. If you are concerned about lead in your 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>.

VIOLATION SUMMARY:

During the month of November we failed to collect the proper number of samples for bacteriological examination. One sample was required and none was submitted for analysis. We have since resumed collecting and submitting for analysis the proper number of samples. The health effects as a result of not sampling are unknown.

We welcome your questions and comments and look forward to your continued cooperation and support through the coming years to provide the safest water possible for all our communities.

NOTICE TO CONSUMERS

of the Fancy Gap

Waterworks ID No. 1035581

We have been advised by State health officials of a failure to perform required monitoring in accordance with the Commonwealth of Virginia/State Board of Health *Waterworks Regulations*.

We are required to monitor your drinking water for specific contaminants on a regular basis. Results of regular monitoring are an indicator of whether or not our drinking water meets health standards. During the month of November 2015, we did not complete all monitoring for coliform bacteria and chlorine residual concentrations and therefore we cannot be sure of the quality of our drinking water during that time.

One routine sample was required for analysis and none was analyzed.

State health officials feel there is little need for concern about the safety of your water because past records show that our waterworks has had no documented problems with bacteriological contamination; however, routine sampling and examination are required to determine the quality of water delivered to our customers.

There is nothing you need to do at this time.

We will attempt to collect and have analyzed the required number of bacteriological samples in the future.

For more information, please contact:

John Dougill
605-2 Pine Street
Hillsville, VA 24343
276-730-3174

Please share this information with all the other people who drink this water, especially those who may not have received this notice directly (for example, people in apartments, nursing homes, schools, and businesses). You can do this by posting this notice in a public place or distributing copies by hand or mail.