WATER QUALITY REPORT FOR 2013

The data presented in this report is from the most recent testing done in accordance with regulations.

Public Water Supply (PWS) ID#4089000

This Report is Presented in May 2014

This report explains how drinking water provided by the Edgartown Water Department is of the highest quality. Included is a listing of results from water-quality tests as well as an explanation of where our water comes from and tips on how to interpret the data. This “Consumer Confidence Report” is required by law. We’re proud to share our results with you. Please read them carefully. Edgartown Water Department’s drinking water meets or surpasses all federal and state drinking-water standards. We encourage public interest and participation in our community’s decisions affecting drinking water. Regular water commissioners meetings occur on the second Tuesday each month, at the water department office 58 Kavanagh Way, at 4:00 p.m. The public is welcome.

What Is The Source Of Our Water?

Five wells at depths ranging from 60 to 120 feet in Edgartown supply our system with groundwater of high purity. The wells and pump stations are located at Machacket, Machacket Road. Lily Pond, Vineyard Haven Road, Wintucket, Kavanagh Way, Quenomica, Kavanagh Way and Nunnepog, Lovewell Way. Edgartown pumps water from the Martha’s Vineyard Sole Source Aquifer.

How Do I Read This Chart?

This report is based upon tests conducted in the year 2013 by Edgartown Water Department. Terms used in the Water-Quality Table and in other parts of this report are defined here.

Important Definitions

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.

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.

Action Level (AL):

The concentration of a contaminant which, if exceeded, triggers treatment or other requirement that a water system must follow.

Treatment Technique (TT):

A required process intended to reduce the level of a contaminant in drinking water.

Overview

"In order to ensure that tap water is safe to drink, MassDEP and US EPA prescribe regulations that limit the amount of certain contaminants in water provided by public water systems. Food and Drug Administration (FDA) and the Massachusetts Department of Public Health regulations establish limits for contaminants in bottled water that must provide the same protection for public health."

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. More information about contaminants and potential health effects can be obtained by calling the Environmental Protection Agency's Safe drinking Water Hotline (800-426-4791). The sources of drinking water (both tap water and bottled water) include rivers, lakes, streams, ponds & reservoirs. As water travels over the surface of the land or through the ground, it dissolves naturally-occurring minerals and radioactive material, and can pick up substances resulting from the presence of animals or from human activity.

Potential Contaminants

(A) Microbial contaminants, such as viruses and bacteria, which may come from sewage septic systems, agricultural livestock operations, and wildlife.

(B) Inorganic contaminants, such as salts and metals, which can be naturally-occurring or result from urban storm runoff, industrial or domestic waste-water discharges, oil and gas storage or farming.

(C) Pesticides and herbicides, which may come from a variety of sources such as agriculture, storm water runoff, and residential uses.

(D) Organic chemical contaminants, including synthetic and volatile organics, which are by-products of industrial processes and petroleum production, and can also come from gas stations, urban storm water runoff and septic systems.

(E) 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.

Health Cautions

Some people may be more vulnerable to contaminants in drinking water than is the general population. Immunocompromised 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 Cryptosporium are available from the Safe Drinking Water Hotline (800-426-4791).

EDGARTOWN WATER DEPARTMENT

2013 WATER QUALITY TESTING DATA
PWSID #4089000

Contaminants	Date Tested	Units	MCL	MCLG	Detected Level	Range	Major Sources	Violation (Yes/No)
Regulated Substances								
Inorganic Contaminants								
Arsenic	2011	ppb	10	0	ND	n/a	Erosion of natural deposits; runoff from orchards;runoff from glass and electronics	No
Barium	2011	ppm	2	2	ND	n/a	Discharge from drilling wastes; discharge from metal refineries; erosion of natural deposits;	No
Nitrate	2013	ppm	10	10	0.69	0.14 - 0.69	Runoff from fertilzer use; leaching from septic tanks; sewerage; erosion of natural deposits	No
Perchlorate	2011	ppb	2	0	ND	n/a	Rocket propellants, fireworks, munitions, flares, blasting agents	No
Asbestos	2013	MFL	7	0	ND	n/a	Asbestos-cement water main pipe.	No
Radioactive Contaminants								
Gross Alpha Activity	2012	pCi/L	15	0	0.41	0.08 - 0.41	Erosion of natural deposits	No
Radium 226 & 228	2012	pCi/L	5	0	0.65	0 - 0.65	Erosion of natural deposits	No
Synthetic Organic Contaminants								
Di(2-Ethylhexyl)phthalate	2012	ppb	6	0	ND	n/a	Discharge from rubber and chemical factories	No
Volatile Organic Contaminants								
Chloroform	2013	ppb			4.77	2.31 - 4.77	Erosion of natural deposits	No
Tetrachloroethylene (PCE)	2013	ppb	5	0	0.98	ND - 0.98	Lining of asbestos cement water mains	No
Lead & Copper								
Tap water samples were collected for lead and copper analysis from 31 homes throughout the service area.								
			AL		90th Percentile			
Lead	2013	ppm	0.015	0	0.003	ND - 0.006	Corrosion in household plumbing	No
Copper	2013	ppm	1.30	1.30	0.250	0.003 - 0.29	Corrosion in household plumbing	No
Unregulated Substances	**Date**	**Units**	**SMCL**	**ORSG**	**Range**			
Sodium	2011	ppm	-	20	10.0 - 28.0		Road run-off and corrosion control chemicals; Naturally occurring in the environment	No
Sulfate	2013	ppm	250	-	4.3 - 7.2		Naturally occurring in the environment	No
Iron	2013	ppm	0.3		0.01 - 1.72		Naturally occurring in the environment	
Manganese	2013	ppm	0.05		ND - 0.078		Naturally occurring in the environment	

Key To Table

AL =Action Level

MCL = Maximum Contaminant Level

MCGL = Maximum Contaminant Level Goal

FL = Million fibers per liter

Mrem/year = millirems per year (a measure of radiation absorbed by the body)

pci/l = picocurries per liter (a measure of radioactivity)

ppm = parts per million, or milligrams per liter (mg/l)

ppb = parts per billion, or micrograms per liter (ug/l)

ppt = parts per trillion, or nanograms per liter

ppq = parts per quadrillion, or picograms per liter

TT = Treatment Technique

Facts About Lead

"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 Edgartown Water Department 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 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."

SWAP (Source Water Assessment and Protection)

The DEP has prepared a Source Water Assessment Program (SWAP) Report for Edgartown Water Department. The report assesses the susceptibility of public water supplies to contamination and makes recommendations. This report is available on the Massachusetts Department of Environmental Protections (Mass DEP) website: http://www.mass.gov/eea/docs/dep/water/drinking/swap/sero/4089000.pdf

Additional Information

Any questions or comments on Water Quality issues can be directed to:
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