



# 2013 CONSUMER CONFIDENCE REPORT

  
A  
Closer  
Look at  
Water  
Quality

Naval Support Activity South Potomac  
Naval Support Facility Indian Head, Maryland  
Maryland Public Water System PWSID #0080058 and #1080039

◆ This is an annual report on the quality of water delivered by the Naval Support Facility Indian Head (NSFIH) to our consumers at Indian Head and Stump Neck Annex (SN). This report gives information on the source of our water, its components and the health risks associated with any contaminants.

◆ In order to ensure that tap water is safe to drink, the EPA prescribes regulations that limit the amount of certain contaminants in water provided by public water systems. Food and Drug Administration (FDA) regulations establish limits for contaminants in bottled water that must provide 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 EPA's [Safe Drinking Water Hotline \(800-426-4791\)](tel:800-426-4791) or visiting the EPA website [www.epa.gov/OGWDW](http://www.epa.gov/OGWDW).

## WATER SAFETY TIPS

It's Summertime! Bring out the beach towels, swimsuits, and tanning lotion. Enjoy. Have fun and keep SAFETY in mind. With so many people planning to be in, on or near the water, it is important to follow the basics of water safety. Before you leave for vacation or go to the pool check into the American Red Cross website by Googling "red cross water safety" or go to the US Army website at <http://watersafety.usace.army.mil/safetytips.htm> for safety tips like the ones below to keep the good times rolling.

- *Swim in designated areas supervised by lifeguards*
- *Always swim with a buddy; do not allow anyone to swim alone*
- *Never leave a young child unattended near water and do not trust a child's life to another child; teach children to always ask permission to go near water*
- *Have young children or inexperienced swimmers wear U.S. Coast Guard-approved life jackets around water, but do not rely on life jackets alone*
- *Enroll in water safety, first aid and CPR courses to learn how to respond to an emergency*
- *If a child is missing, check the water first. Seconds count in preventing death or disability*
- *Have access to reaching or throwing equipment, a cell phone, life jackets and a first aid kit*



- *Practice safe sun habits by using appropriate SPF sunscreen to prevent skin cancer*
- *When out of the water in the evening, protect yourself with insect repellants – mosquitoes like water too*
- *Keep small objects and trash off the ground to avoid slips, falls or cuts*



NSFIH continually monitors its drinking water for contaminants. This water is safe to drink; however, 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/Center for Disease Control (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.

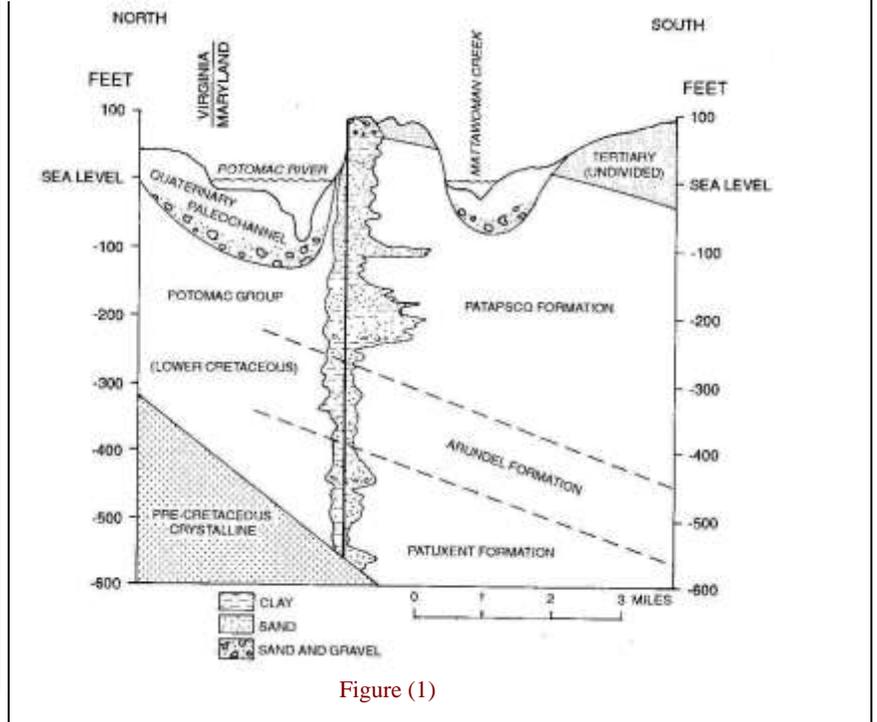
**Safe Drinking Water Hotline - 1-800-426-4791 - [www.epa.gov/OGWDW](http://www.epa.gov/OGWDW)**

# Water Source Information

◆ Groundwater from four Indian Head wells and two Stump Neck wells drilled to the Patapsco and Patuxent Aquifers supply the water for both NSFIH and Stump Neck Annex.

◆ An aquifer is an underground geologic formation of sand, gravel or rock through which water can pass and is stored. Because the layers of sand, gravel and rock provide a natural filtration, groundwater is usually clear when it is pumped out of the ground; thus, it can be disinfected without prior treatment. NSFIH wells are deep wells and are protected by these layers from most contaminants and bacteria.

Sources of your drinking water include the Patapsco and Patuxent Aquifers.



◆ As water is pumped from the well, chlorine is added as a disinfectant to protect water from any bacteria in the distribution system. Water from

all the wells then either flows into the pipes of the distribution system, where it is delivered to the tap and you, the consumer, or it is directed into storage tanks and held there until needed.

# Source Water Assessment

As of March 31, 2006, the Maryland Department of the Environment (MDE) has completed source water assessments for all public water systems in the State. The required components of this report are 1) delineation of an area that contributes water to each source, 2) identification of potential sources of contamination within the areas, and 3) determination of the susceptibility of each water supply system to contamination. A Source Water Assessment was completed for both the Naval Support Facility Indian Head and the Stump Neck Annex. Both water systems were determined not susceptible to contaminants originating at the land surface due to the protected nature of confined aquifers. The Naval Support Facility Indian Head

water system was determined to be susceptible to naturally occurring radiological contaminants. For information on the Source Water Assessment report, go to the MDE website at:

[http://www.mde.maryland.gov/programs/water/water\\_supply/source\\_water\\_assessment\\_program/pages/program\\_s/waterprograms/water\\_supply/sourcewaterassessment/factsheet.aspx](http://www.mde.maryland.gov/programs/water/water_supply/source_water_assessment_program/pages/program_s/waterprograms/water_supply/sourcewaterassessment/factsheet.aspx)

# Water Quality Monitoring for 2012



◆ The 2012 NSF/ISH drinking water monitoring schedule involved collecting routine monthly samples for bacteria at several sites

approved by the MDE and samples collected annually for nitrates, total trihalomethanes (TTHM) & haloacetic acids (HAA5) (disinfection byproducts). MDE assisted NSF/ISH in 2012 by taking samples for volatile organic chemicals and radionuclides. [All sample results were under the maximum contaminant levels allowed by EPA and MDE regulations.](#) The table below shows the contaminants detected in your finished water

between January 1 and December 31, 2012 at both NSF Indian Head and Stump Neck Annex water systems. The table also shows the highest results for samples taken within the past five years for contaminants that were not sampled in 2012.

◆ Samples for iron exceeded Secondary Maximum Contaminant Levels which are non-enforceable guidelines regulating contaminants based on aesthetic considerations (e.g., taste, odor, or color) and are not considered a health issue by EPA.

◆ Samples will be taken in 2013 for coliforms, nitrates, lead and copper, metals Phase II/V, Secondary Contaminants, arsenic, fluoride, sodium, corrosivity, disinfection by-products (TTHM and HAA5), volatile organic chemicals, and gross alpha particles. Any detected levels for these contaminants will appear in the 2014 Consumer Confidence Report.

## DEFINITIONS FOR WATER QUALITY MONITORING RESULTS

**Community Water System** – A public water system which serves at least 15 service connections used by year-round residents or regularly serves at least 25 year-round residents.

**Inorganic Chemicals** – Chemical substances of mineral origin, such as lead and copper.

**Maximum Contaminant Level (MCL)** – The highest level of a contaminant 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 contaminant in drinking water below which there is no known or expected risk to health.

**Microbiological Contaminants** – Tiny organisms, such as bacteria, algae, plankton, and fungi.

**mg/L** – Milligrams per liter; parts of contaminant per thousand parts of water

**ND** – Non-Detection. Laboratory analysis indicates the contaminant is not present.

**ppm, ppb** – part per million, part per billion. Measurements of the amount of contaminant per unit of water. One part per million corresponds to one minute in two years or a single penny in \$10,000 and a part per billion is like a penny in \$10,000,000.

**pCi/L** – picocuries per liter (a measure of radioactivity in water)

**Secondary Maximum Contaminant Level (SMCL)** – These levels represent reasonable goals for drinking water quality and are not federally enforceable.

**Trihalomethanes (THM)** – Four separate compounds (chloroform, dichlorobromomethane, dibromochloro- methane, and bromoform) that form as a result of disinfection.

**Unregulated Contaminants** – Substances that do not pose a threat to public health or are under consideration for further study to determine if a health risk exists.

# 💧 WATER QUALITY DATA CHART FOR 2012 💧

(Of contaminants sampled, only the highest and most recent result is listed – if a contaminant is not detected, it is not listed.)

Contaminant	Unit	MCL (Highest Level Allowed)	MCLG (EPA Goal)	Highest Level Detected	Violation Y/N	Year Tested	Typical Source of Contaminant
<b>MICROBIOLOGICAL CONTAMINANTS</b>							
Total Coliform Bacteria	Sample	1 positive per month	0 positive	0 positives in year 2012	N	2012	Naturally present in the environment
<b>DISINFECTION BYPRODUCTS</b>							
Total Trihalomethanes	ppb	80	N/A	Range: 2.4 – 51.5	N	2012	Byproduct of drinking water disinfection.
Haloacetic Acids	ppb	60	N/A	Range: 0.002 – 5.1	N	2012	Byproduct of drinking water disinfection.
<b>INORGANIC CONTAMINANTS</b>							
Barium	ppb	2000	2000	14	N	2010	Discharge of drilling wastes and metal refineries; erosion of natural deposits.
Chromium	ppb	100	100	3	N	2010	Discharge from steel and pulp mills; Erosion of natural deposits
Fluoride	ppb	4000	4000	1600	N	2010	Erosion from natural deposits; Runoff from fertilizer and aluminum factories
Nitrate	ppb	10000	10000	ND	N	2012	Runoff from fertilizer use; leaching from septic tanks, sewage; erosion of natural deposits
<b>ORGANIC CONTAMINANTS</b>							
Dalapon	ppb	200	200	0.29	N	2010	Runoff from herbicide used on rights of way
Di(2-ethylhexyl) p-phthalate	ppb	6	0	ND	N	2010	Discharge from rubber and chemical factories.
Toluene	ppb	1000	1000	7.1	N	2012	Discharge from petroleum factories
<b>RADIONUCLIDES</b>							
Gross Beta	pCi/L	50	0	6.7	N	2010	Decay of natural and man-made deposits
Gross Alpha	pCi/L	15	0	2.8	N	2010	Erosion of natural deposits of certain minerals that are radioactive and may emit a form of radiation known as alpha radiation.
Radium – 226	pCi/L	5	0	0.3	N	2010	Erosion of natural deposits.
Combined Radium 226 & 228	pCi/L	5	0	0.3	N	2010	Erosion of natural deposits.
<b>Lead and Copper in Distribution System MCL determined in the 90<sup>th</sup> Percentile</b>							
Lead	ppb	15	N/A	5	N	2010	Lead present in pipes and soldered connections dissolves into water.
Copper	ppb	1300	N/A	249	N	2010	Copper from pipes dissolves into water.
<b>Secondary Contaminants</b> <b>SMCLs are non-enforceable guidelines regulating contaminants that may cause aesthetic effects</b>							
Iron	ppb	SMCL 300	N/A	430	N	2010	Erosion of natural deposits; household piping

UNREGULATED CONTAMINANTS							
Sampling not required by Federal or State Law							
Substance	Unit	MCL (Highest Level Allowed)	MCLG (EPA Goal)	Highest Level Detected		Year Tested	Major Source
Nickel	ppb	N/A	N/A	2.3	N	2010	Erosion of natural deposits;
Radon – 222*	pCi/L	N/A	N/A	167.1	N	2010	Erosion of natural deposits.
Sodium	ppm	N/A	N/A	Range 67 to 170	N	2010	N/A
Sulfate	ppm	N/A	N/A	7.85	N	2010	N/A

\*Radon – 222 is a colorless, odorless gas that occurs naturally in soil, air and water. Radon is formed from the radioactive decay products of natural uranium that is found in many soils. Most radon in indoor air comes from the soils below the foundation of the home and in some locations can accumulate to dangerous levels in the absence of proper ventilation. In most homes, the health risk from radon in drinking water is very small compared to the health risk from radon in indoor air. For more information, call the EPA's Radon Hotline at 1-800-SOS-RADON.

We have detected radon in the finished water supply as noted in the unregulated contaminants table above. There is currently no federal regulation for radon levels in drinking water; however, in 1999 the EPA proposed an MCL of 300 pCi/l and an alternative MCL (AMCL) of 4,000 pCi/L. At present, these are still in the proposal stage. Exposure to air-transmitted radon over a long period of time may cause adverse health effects.



# STATEMENT ABOUT LEAD

(This statement is required by 2009 EPA promulgated revisions to the CCR)

“ 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. NSF/ISH 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 drinking 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 EPA Safe Drinking Water Hotline at 1-800-426-4791 or at <http://www.epa.gov/safewater/lead>.”



### For Additional Information

◆ For more information on the Consumer Confidence Report or water quality, please contact the persons listed.

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