Annual Drinking Water Quality Report 2012
Town of Pocahontas, VA
300 Centre St.
P.O. Box 128
Pocahontas, Va. 24635
PWS# WV 3302852
PWS# VA 1185625
Date Prepared: 4/5/2013

Why am I receiving this report?

In compliance with the Safe Drinking Water Act Amendments, the **Town of Pocahontas** is providing its customers with this annual water quality report. This report explains where your water comes from, what it contains, and how it compares to standards set by regulatory agencies. The information in this report shows the results of our monitoring for the period of January 1st to December 31st, 2012 or earlier if not on a yearly schedule.

If you have any questions concerning this report, you may contact **Douglas C Taylor, Chief Operator 304-248-8156** or **Benjamin Gibson, Mayor at 276-945-9522**. If you have any further questions, comments or suggestions, please attend any of our regularly schedule **Town council meetings** held on the **3rd**. Monday of every month at **7.00 PM** at the **Pocahontas Court House on 117 West Saint Claire Street, Pocahontas,Va.**

Where does my water come from?

Your drinking water source is **surface water** from Big Spring Branch also known as Abbs Creek or Abbs Valley Creek.

Source Water Assessment

A Source Water Assessment was conducted by the West Virginia Bureau for Public Health (WVBPH). The intake that supplies drinking water to the **Town of Pocahontas.VA** has a higher susceptibility to contamination, due to the sensitive nature of surface water supplies and the potential contaminant sources identified within the area. This does not mean that this intake will become contaminated only that conditions are such that the surface water could be impacted by a potential contaminant source. Future contamination may be avoided by implementing protective measures. The source water assessment report which contains more information is available for review or a copy will be provided to you at our office during business hours or from the WVBPH 304-558-2981.

The Virginia Department of Health conducted a source water assessment of our system during 2002. The source was determined to be of high susceptibility using the criteria developed by the state in its approved Source Water Assessment Program. The assessment report consists of maps showing the source water assessment area, and inventory of known land use activities or concern, and documentation of any known contamination within the last 5 years. The report is available by contacting your water system representative at the phone number or address given elsewhere in this drinking water report.

Why must water be treated?

All drinking water contains various amounts and kinds of contaminants. Federal and state regulations establish limits, controls, and treatment practices to minimize these contaminants and to reduce any subsequent health effects.

Contaminants in Water

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 of contaminants in bottled water which 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 these 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 source of drinking water (both tap and bottled water) includes rivers, lakes, streams, ponds, reservoirs, springs, and wells. As water travels over the surface of 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:

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, farming.

Pesticides and herbicides, which may come from a variety of sources such as agriculture, 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 the result of oil and gas production and mining activities.

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

Water Quality Data Table

Definitions of terms and abbreviations used in the table or report:

- **MCLG - Maximum Contaminant Level Goal**, or 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.

- **MCL - Maximum Contaminant Level**, or 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 technique.

- **MRDLG - Maximum Residual Disinfectant Level Goal**, or the level of drinking water disinfectant below which there is no known or expected risk to health. MRDLGs do not Reflect benefits of use of disinfectants to control microbial contaminants.

- **MRDL - Maximum Residual Disinfectant Level,** or the highest level of disinfectant allowed in drinking water. There is convincing evidence that addition of disinfectant is necessary to control microbial contaminants.

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

- **TT –Treatment Technique,** or a required process intended to reduce the level of a contaminant in drinking water

Abbreviations that may be found in the table:

- **ppm** - parts per million or milligrams per liter

- **ppb** - parts per billion or micrograms per liter

- **NA** – not applicable

- **NE** - not established

- **NTU –**Nephelometric Turbidity Unit, used to measure cloudiness in water

The **Town of Pocahontas** routinely monitors for contaminants in your drinking water according to federal and state laws. The tables below show the results of our monitoring for contaminants.

Table of Test Results - Regulated Contaminants – 2012 for PWS# WV3302852 and PWS# VA1185625

Contaminant	Violation Y/N	Level Detected	Unit of Measure	MCLG	MCL	Likely Source of Contamination
Microbiological Contaminants						
Turbidity	N	.06 100% of monthly samples <0.3	NTU	0	TT met if 95% of samples <0.3	Soil runoff
Total organic carbon	N	1.09	ppm	NA	TT met if ≥ 1.0	Naturally present in the environment
Inorganic Contaminants						
Copper*	N	0.29	ppm	1.3	AL=1.3	Corrosion of household plumbing
Lead*	N	4.75	ppb	0	AL=15	Corrosion of household plumbing
Arsenic	N	2	ppb	10	10	Erosion of natural deposits; runoff from orchards; runoff from glass and electronics production wastes
Cyanide	N	<10	ppm	200	200	Discharge from steel/metal factories; discharge from plastic and fertilizer plants
Nitrate + Nitrite	N	1.14	ppm	10	10	Runoff from fertilizer use; leakage from septic tanks, sewage; erosion of natural deposits
Volatile Organic Contaminants						
Chlorine	N	Annual avg. 2.3 Range 2.1-2.5	ppm	4 MRDLG	4 MRDL	Water additive used to control microbes
Haloacetic acids (HAAC5)	N	Annual avg. 12.4 Range. 11-21	ppb	NA	60	By-product of drinking water disinfection
Total Trihalomethanes (TTHMs)	N	Annual avg.14.7 Range. 7.4-20	ppb	NA	80	By-product of drinking water chlorination

Radioactive Contaminants**						
Gross Alpha	N	0.3	pci/L	NA	15pci/L	Erosion of natural deposits of certain minerals that are radioactive
Gross Beta	N	0.7	pci/L	NA	5pci/L	Erosion of natural deposits of certain minerals that are radioactive
Combined Radium	N	0.8	Pci/L	NA	5pci/L	Erosion of natural deposits of certain minerals that are radioactive

***Copper and Lead samples are collected every three years. They were collected from 10 homes in our community water system on August 30, 2010. Only the 90th percentile is reported. One of the samples collected exceeded the action level.**

****Radiological constituents are tested every six years. They were last tested on March 24, 2009.**

The Town of Pocahontas has received "Notice of Violations" from the Virginia Department of Health and from the WV Bureau for Public Health for failing to monitor for certain Contaminants in 2012. We are taking every precaution and making every effort to return to compliance.

Additional Information

All other water test results for the reporting year 2012 were all non-detects.

Turbidity is a measure of the cloudiness in water. We monitor it because it is a good indicator of the effectiveness of our filters.

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 Pocahontas** 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 Safe Drinking Water Hotline or at http://www.epa.gov/safewater/lead.

The Town has experienced difficulties with staffing at the water treatment plant in 2012. These difficulties have resulted in the Town not meeting all monitoring requirements of the Commonwealth of Virginia and State of West Virginia, as noted in the SUMMARY OF VIOLATIONS. State health officials feel there is little need for concern about the safety of your water during this time; however, routine sampling and examination are required to determine the quality of water delivered to our customers. The Town has employed a Designated Operator who is expected to stabilize operations and who has already brought the Town's waterworks into compliance with the monitoring requirements of both states.

There is nothing you need to do at this time.

This report will not be mailed. A copy will be provided to you upon request at our office during regular business hours.

SUMMARY OF VIOLATIONS OCCURING IN 2012

Virginia Violations

VIOLATION	MONITORING PERIOD
Failure to follow approved Bacteriological Sample Site Plan	January
Failure to follow approved Bacteriological Sample Site Plan	February
Failure to collect adequate number of samples for bacteriological analysis	February
Failure to collect adequate number of samples for residual disinfectant analysis	February
Failure to follow approved Bacteriological Sample Site Plan	March
Failure to collect samples for haloacetic acid analysis	January - March
Failure to collect samples for trihalomethane analysis	January - March
Failure to collect samples for total organic carbon analysis	January - March
Failure to follow approved Bacteriological Sample Site Plan	April
Failure to follow approved Bacteriological Sample Site Plan	May
Failure to follow approved Bacteriological Sample Site Plan	June
Failure to follow approved Bacteriological Sample Site Plan	July
Failure to follow approved Bacteriological Sample Site Plan	August
Failure to collect adequate number of samples for bacteriological analysis	August
Failure to collect adequate number of samples for residual disinfectant analysis	August
Failure to collect samples for haloacetic acid analysis	September
Failure to collect samples for trihalomethane analysis	September
Failure to collect adequate number of samples for bacteriological analysis	September
Failure to collect adequate number of samples for residual disinfectant analysis	September
Failure to follow approved Bacteriological Sample Site Plan	October
Failure to collect annual sample for inorganic chemical analysis	January – December
Failure to collect annual sample for metals analysis	January – December
Failure to collect annual sample for volatile organic chemicals analysis	January – December

West Virginia Violations

VIOLATION	MONITORING PERIOD
Failure to collect adequate number of samples for bacteriological analysis	January
Failure to collect adequate number of samples for residual disinfectant analysis	January
Failure to collect adequate number of samples for bacteriological analysis	February
Failure to collect adequate number of samples for residual disinfectant analysis	February
Failure to collect adequate number of samples for residual disinfectant analysis	April
Failure to collect adequate number of samples for residual disinfectant analysis	May
Failure to collect adequate number of samples for residual disinfectant analysis	June
Failure to collect adequate number of samples for residual disinfectant analysis	July
Failure to collect adequate number of samples for residual disinfectant analysis	August
Failure to collect adequate number of samples for residual disinfectant analysis	September
Failure to collect adequate number of samples for residual disinfectant analysis	October
Failure to collect annual sample for inorganic chemical analysis	January – December
Failure to collect annual sample for metals analysis	January – December
Failure to collect annual sample for volatile organic chemicals analysis	January – December

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