

Delaware City Water Quality Report - 2004

Parameter	Unit of Measure	Highest Level Allowed (MCL)	Ideal Goal (MCLG)	Highest Level Detected	Annual Range	Major Sources
Regulated Contaminants						
Barium	ppb	2000	2000	11	1.7 - 4	Erosion of natural deposits
Halocetic Acids, total	ppb	60	0	4		Disinfection by-product
Iodide (2003 Data)	ppm	1.8	1.8	0.22		Naturally occurring in soil
Chlorine, Free Residual	ppm	4	4	1.65	nd - 1.65	Disinfectant used in drinking water industry
Chromium	ppb	(MRDL)	(MRDLG)	1.8	1.7 - 1.8	Erosion of natural deposits
Trihalomethanes, total	ppb	80	0	20.9	nd - 20.9	By-product of drinking water chlorination
Unregulated Contaminants						
Alkalinity, Total (2003 Data)	ppm	n/r		90	nd - 4.3	By-product of disinfection
Bromodichloromethane	ppb	n/r		4.3	nd - 0.9	By-product of disinfection
Bromoform	ppb	n/r		0.9		
Chloride (2003 Data)	ppm	250	250	13.7		
Chloroform	ppb	n/r		12	nd - 12	By-product of disinfection
Dibromochloromethane	ppb	n/r		3.8	nd - 3.8	By-product of disinfection
Dichloroacetic Acid	ppb	n/r		2.5	1.7 - 2.5	By-product of disinfection
Hardness, Total (2003 Data)	ppm	n/r	300	6		
Iron (2003 Data)	ppb	300	300	170	6.8 - 7.9	
Lead, Field	0-14 scale	n/r		7.9		
Sodium (2003 Data)	ppm	n/r	50	47		
Solids, Total Dissolved (2003 Data)	ppm	500	500	117		
Trichloroacetic Acid	ppb	n/r		1.5	nd - 1.5	
Lead & Copper						
90th Percentile Lead	ppb	Action Level	0	7	nd - 54	Corrosion of household plumbing systems, Erosion of natural deposits
Number of Sites Exceeding Lead Action Level				1		
10th Percentile Copper	ppb	1,300	0	460	15 - 670	Corrosion of household plumbing systems, Erosion of natural deposits
Number of Sites Exceeding Copper Action Level				0		
Microbiological Contaminants						
Total Coliform	Absent results in 100 % of samples collected					

DELAWARE CITY WATER QUALITY REPORT

407 Clinton Street, P.O. Box 4159

Delaware City, DE 19706

Report Written June 10, 2005

We are very pleased to provide you with this annual water quality report for 2004. We're also pleased to report that Delaware City drinking water meets or exceeds all the standards for reportable substances. You will see that substances such as iron, chloride, and sodium are commonly found in drinking water. They occur naturally and, at trace levels, are not harmful to drink. The report shows at what levels any substances were found during tests conducted from Jan. 1, 2004-Dec. 31, 2004, unless otherwise specified. If you have any questions about this report and the quality of your water, please contact Paul Morrill, City Manager at (302) 834-4573. If you wish to learn more, please attend any of the regularly scheduled meetings of Mayor & Council held the third Monday of each month at 7:30 p.m. in the Town Hall, located at the address above.

The water serving your home comes from the Potomac aquifer via 2 wells at depths of 720 and 737 feet. This aquifer is confined and protected from the influence of past farming activities and saltwater intrusion. The Division of Public Health in conjunction with the Department of Natural Resources and Environmental Control has conducted source water assessments for nearly all community water systems in the state. For a copy of the assessment, contact Paul Morrill at the Delaware City Town Hall (302) 834-4573.

All sources of drinking water (whether a river, lake, spring, well, or pond) are subject to potential contamination by substances that are naturally occurring or man made. As water travels through the ground or over the surface of the land, it can dissolve naturally occurring substances, including radioactive substances. Additionally, some substances result from the presence of animals or human activity. These substances (both natural and man-made) can be microbes, inorganic or organic chemicals, pesticides/herbicides and radioactive substances. All 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 the 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 at 1-800-426-4791. 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 mentioned above.

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 established limits for contaminants in bottled water, which must provide the same protection for public health.

In the table you will find many terms and abbreviations you might not be familiar with. To help you better understand these terms we've provided the following definitions:

90th PERCENTILE - A calculation based upon averaging the 4th and 5th highest lead/copper readings, used to determine compliance with the Lead and Copper Rule.

ACTION LEVEL - The concentration of a contaminant, which, if exceeded, triggers treatment or other requirements which a water system must follow.

MAXIMUM CONTAMINANT LEVEL - the "Maximum Allowed" (MCL) is 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 - the "Goal" (MCLG) is 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.

MAXIMUM DISINFECTION RESIDUAL LEVEL (MRDL) - the highest level of a disinfectant in drinking water. There is convincing evidence that addition of a disinfectant is necessary for the control of microbial contaminants.

MAXIMUM DISINFECTION RESIDUAL LEVEL GOAL (MRDLG) - the level of a drinking water disinfectant below which there is no known or expected risk to health. MRDLG's do not reflect the benefits of the use of disinfectants to control microbial contaminants.

NON-DETECTS (ND) - laboratory analysis indicates that the constituent is not present.

NOT REGULATED (N/R) - no MCL identified because this substance is unregulated.

PARTS PER MILLION (PPM) - one part per million corresponds to one minute in two years or a single penny in \$10,000.