

# VENTNOR WATER & SEWER UTILITY ANNUAL DRINKING WATER QUALITY REPORT FOR THE YEAR 2017

Este informe contiene informaci3n muy importante sobre su agua beber. Traduzcalo 3 hable con alguien que lo entienda bien.

This report is prepared to inform you about the quality of water and services the Ventnor Water & Sewer Utility provides to you every day. Our goal is to provide you with a safe and dependable supply of drinking water. We are pleased to report that our drinking water is safe and meets federal and state requirements.

If you have any questions regarding this report or your water utility, please contact Ernest Gratz, Superintendent at (609) 823-7935. We want our consumers to be informed about their water utility. For your information, public City Commission Meetings are held once each month on the 3rd Thursday at 6:00 P.M. and Commission Workshops once each month on the 2<sup>nd</sup> Thursday at 4:00 P.M. Both meetings are held in the Commission Chamber on the second floor of City Hall, 6201 Atlantic Avenue.

The Ventnor Water & Sewer Utility obtains its water from six wells drilled into the Kirkwood aquifer, a confined aquifer approximately eight hundred feet below the surface. The main plant at Cornwall & Winchester Avenues has four wells which feed a half million gallon below ground reservoir. We also operate two half million gallon capacity water towers, each with their own well. For disinfecting purposes, chlorine is added to the water.

The Ventnor Water & Sewer Utility routinely monitors for constituents in your drinking water according to Federal and State laws. This table shows the results of our monitoring for the period of January 1<sup>st</sup> to December 31<sup>st</sup> 2016. The state requires us to monitor for certain contaminants less than once per year because the concentrations of these contaminants are not expected to vary significantly from year to year. Some of the data, through representative of the water quality, is more than one year old.

Since 1995, New Jersey DEP has granted us a waiver for Synthetic Organic Compounds and as such we do not test for these contaminants.

As water travels over the land or underground, it can pick up substances or contaminants such as microbes, inorganic and organic chemicals, and radioactive substances. All drinking water, including bottled drinking water, may be reasonably 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 (1-800-426-4791).

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 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. Ventnor's water supply comes from 800 foot sand filtered water on Absecon Island.

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 or 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 byproducts 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 be the result of oil and gas production and mining activities.

In order to ensure that tap water is safe to drink, the Environment Protection Agency 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.

**Nitrate:** Nitrate in drinking water at levels above 10 ppm is a health risk for infants of less than six months of age. High nitrate levels in drinking water can cause blue baby syndrome. Nitrate levels may rise quickly for short periods of time because of rainfall or agricultural activity. If you are caring for an infant, you should ask for advice from your health care provider.

**Lead:** Infants and young children are typically more vulnerable to lead in drinking water than the general population. It is possible that lead levels at your home may be higher than at other homes in the community as a result of materials used in your home plumbing. If you are concerned about elevated lead levels in your home water, you may wish to have your water tested and flush your tap for 30 seconds to 2 minutes before using tap water. Additional information is available from the Safe Drinking Water Hotline (1-800-426-4971). Lead monitoring is on a three year schedule. Lead samples will again be collected this year, (2017), Between June 1 & September 30. Our results will be posted in 2018 CCR. Results will be available in the Fall 2017. Please call (609)823.7935 if you would like the results.

The state considers our water system to have three points of entry. For certain contaminants we are required to monitor from each entry point as a separate system. As such, some results in the table will indicate system #1, #2 or #3. System #1 is the Main Plant; System #2 is the well/tower in Ventnor Heights and System #3 is the well/tower adjacent to the Lafayette Avenue School. During 2016 all monitoring was completed as required.

## ***DEFINITIONS***

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

Non-Detects (ND) laboratory analysis indicates that the constituent 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 one part per billion corresponds to one minute in 2,000 years, or a single penny in \$10,000,000.

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

Million Fibers per Liter (MFL) -million fibers per liter is a measure of the presence of asbestos fibers that are longer than 10 micrometers.

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

Treatment Technique (TT) A treatment technique is a required process intended to reduce the level of a contaminant in drinking water.

Maximum Contaminant Level The "Maximum Allowed" (MCL) is the highest level of a contaminant that is allowed in drinking water. MCL's are set as close to the MCLG's 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. MCLG's allow for a margin of safety.

Secondary Maximum Contaminant Level (SMCL) Federal drinking water measurements for substances that do not have an impact on health. These reflect aesthetic qualities such as odor, taste or appearance. Secondary standards are recommendations, not mandates.

## VENTNOR TEST RESULTS

Contaminant	Violation Y/N	Units of Measure	Test Date	MCL	MCLG	Level Detected	Likely Source of Contamination
<b>Volatile Organic Compounds</b>							
- no compounds detected in 2016 monitoring							
<b>Trihalomethanes (THM's)</b>	N	ppb	Annual Average	80	n/a	4.91	By-product of drinking water chlorination
			Range			<0.05 - 11.3	
<b>Haloacetic Acids (HAA's)</b>	N	ppb	Annual Average	60	n/a	2.1	By-product of drinking water chlorination
			Range			< 2.0 - 2.2	
<b>Inorganic Contaminants</b>							
Lead	N	ppb	9/18/14	AL	0	0.0033	Corrosion of household plumbing systems, No sites exceeded the AL
Copper	N	ppm	9/18/14	AL 1.3	1.30	0.209	Corrosion of household plumbing systems, leaching from woodpreservatives
Nitrate							
System 1	N	mg/l	6/7/16	10	-	<0.200	Erosion of natural deposits
System 2	N	mg/l	6/7/16	10	-	<0.200	
System 3	N	mg/l	6/7/16	10	-	<0.200	
Nitrite							
System 1	N	mg/l	6/7/16	10	-	<0.100	Erosion of natural deposits
System 2	N	mg/l	6/7/16	10	-	<0.100	
System 3	N	mg/l	6/7/16	10	-	<0.100	
<b>Radiological</b>							
Gross Alpha	N	pCi/L	Annual Average	15	0	0.25 to 0.70	Erosion of natural deposits
			Range			0.23 to 1.00	

MCL's are set at very stringent levels. To understand the possible health effects described for many regulated constituents, a person would have to drink two liters of water at the MCL level for a lifetime to have a one-in-a-million chance of having the described health effect.

*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 partially 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 effect of infection by Cryptosporidium and other microbiological contaminants are available from the State of New Jersey Safe Drinking Water Hotline. (1-800-426-4791)*

## VENTNOR TEST RESULTS

Contaminant	Violation Y/N	Units of Measure	Test Date	MCL	MCLG	Level Detected	Likely source of Contaminants
<b>Secondary Contaminants</b>							
Iron	N	mg/L	6/7/16	0.3	<	0.15	Erosion of natural deposits
Manganese	N	mg/L	6/7/16	0.05	-	0.011	Erosion of natural deposits
<b>Sulfate</b>							
System 1	N	mg/L	12/19/16	250	-	12.30	
System 2	N	mg/L	12/19/16	250	-	11.50	Erosion of natural deposits
System 3	N	mg/L	12/19/16	250	-	17.00	
<b>Zinc</b>							
System 1	N	mg/L	12/19/16	5	-	0.0741	
System 2	N	mg/L	12/19/16	5	-	0.0128	Erosion of natural deposits
System 3	N	mg/L	12/19/16	5	-	0.0210	
<b>Chloride</b>							
System 1	N	mg/L	12/19/16	250	-	9.70	
System 2	N	mg/L	12/19/16	250	-	7.50	Erosion of natural deposits
System 3	N	mg/L	12/19/16	250	-	7.10	
<b>Sodium</b>							
System 1	N	mg/L	6/23/16	50	-	24.3	
System 2	N	mg/L	6/23/16	50	-	19.9	Erosion of natural deposits
System 3	N	mg/L	6/23/16	50	-	18.1	
<b>Calcium</b>							
System 1	N	mg/L	12/19/16	NA	-	9.49	
System 2	N	mg/L	12/19/16	NA	-	10.60	Erosion of natural deposits
System 3	N	mg/L	12/19/16	NA	-	10.60	
<b>Alkalinity</b>							
System 1	N	mg/L	6/23/16	NA	-	59.0	
System 2	N	mg/L	6/23/16	NA	-	58.0	Erosion of natural deposits
System 3	N	mg/L	6/23/16	NA	-	59.0	
<b>Hardness</b>							
System 1	N	mg/L	6/23/16	250	-	31.3	
System 2	N	mg/L	6/23/16	250	-	35.1	Erosion of natural deposits
System 3	N	mg/L	6/23/16	250	-	35.3	

### Special Considerations Regarding Children, Pregnant Women, Nursing Mothers, and others

Children may receive a slightly higher amount of a contaminant present in the water than do adults, on a body weight basis, because they may drink a greater amount of water per pound of body weight than do adults. For this reason, reproductive or development effects are used for calculating a drinking water standard if these effects occur at lower levels than other health effects of concern. If there is insufficient toxicity information for a chemical (for example, lack of data on reproductive or developmental effects), an extra uncertainty factor may be incorporated into the calculation of the drinking water standard, thus making the standard more stringent, to account for additional uncertainties regarding these effects. In the cases of lead and nitrite, effects on infants and children are the health end points upon which these standards are based.