**TRIADELPHIA RIDGE ELEMENTARY DRINKING WATER QUALITY REPORT**
**JANUARY 2026 (For 2025)**

Your school's water is supplied by one or more wells located on school property. The following report is provided by the HCPSS Office of the Environment as a courtesy and is designed to resemble the required annual consumer confidence report provided to consumers by their public water utility/provider informing them about their drinking water. The language used in the report is based on EPA's Guidance document entitled "Preparing Your Drinking Water Consumer Confidence Report." Should you have questions or comments, please contact the Office of the Environment at 410-313-8874.

**PLEASE NOTE: All sampling results are below Federal and State Maximum Containment Levels**. It should be noted that the action level for copper was exceeded. Follow-up samples have been collected and are being reviewed to determine appropriate corrective actions to improve corrosion control.

## MONITORING OF SCHOOL'S WATER SUPPLY

Below are the following contaminant categories that are regularly monitored to ensure safe drinking water quality.

| Contaminant Category | Current Testing Frequency | Currently Tested By | Last Tested (available) |
|---|---|---|---|
| Bacteria | Quarterly | Third Party Water Collector | November 5, 2025 |
| Nitrate | Annually | Third Party Water Collector | February 4, 2025 |
| Metals | Every 3 years | Third Party Water Collector | February 22, 2023 |
| Arsenic | Every 3 years | Third Party Water Collector | February 22, 2023 |
| Volatile Organic Compounds (VOCs)<br>Eg. gasoline and disinfectant by-products | Every 3 years | Maryland Department of the Environment | August 12, 2025 |
| Synthetic Organic Compounds (SOCs)<br>Eg. pesticides | Every 6 years | Maryland Department of the Environment | October 27, 2020 |
| Lead and Copper (L&C) | Every 3 years | HCPSS Certified Water Sampler | September 11, 2025 |

## DEFINITIONS

Parts Per Million (ppm) or Milligrams per Liter (mg/l) = a unit used to denote concentration of chemicals or other substances. The unit implies a part of something in one million parts of water or other substances. The following comparisons help in putting this concentration in perspective; 1 inch in 16 miles, 1 cent in $10,000 or 1 drop in 60 quarts of liquid.

Parts Per Billion (ppb) or Micrograms per Liter (µg/l) = a unit used to denote concentration of chemicals or other substances. The unit implies a part of something in one billion parts of water or other substances. The following comparisons help in putting this concentration in perspective; 1 inch in 16,000 miles, 1 cent in $10,000,000 or 1 drop in 60,000 quarts of liquid.

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

Maximum Contaminant Level (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.

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Maximum Contaminant Level Goal (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.

## EDUCATIONAL INFORMATION

Please note that a public notification is required when an MCL is violated and is issued by the Office of the Environment.

All sources of drinking water are subject to potential contamination by constituents that are naturally occurring or man-made. The presence of contaminants does not necessarily indicate that the water poses a health risk. Standards are set at very stringent levels for health effects and incorporate a margin of safety. Current standards are designed to protect children and adults. The standards take into account the potential effects of contaminants on segments of the population that are most at risk. **The MCL is based on drinking 2- liters every day at the MCL level for a lifetime (70 years) 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 particularly at risk from infections. These people should seek advice about drinking water from their health care providers.

**DETECTED CONTAMINANTS w/ MCL/AL (per most recent test) –** if a category and/or contaminant is not listed below it means it was not detected during the last test available.

| Contaminant | Category | Level Detected | MCL | MCLG | AL | Potential Sources | Potential Health Effects (consuming in excess of MCL) |
|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|
| Lead | Inorganic Chemicals (Lead & Copper) | 1.8 µg/l 90th Percentile | N/A | Zero | 15 µg/l 90th percentile | Corrosion of plumbing systems; erosion of natural deposits | Infants and children who drink water containing lead in excess of the action level could experience delays in their physical and mental development. Children could show slight deficits in attention span and learning abilities. Adults who drink this water over many years could develop kidney problems or high blood pressure. |
| Copper | Inorganic Chemicals (Lead & Copper) | 1.35 mg/l 90th Percentile | N/A | 1.3 mg/l | 1.3 mg/l 90th percentile | Corrosion of household plumbing; erosion of natural deposits; leaching from wood preservatives | Copper is an essential nutrient, but some people who drink water in excess of AL over a relatively short amount of time could experience gastrointestinal distress. Some people who drink water containing copper in excess of the action level over many years could suffer liver or kidney damage. People with Wilson's Disease should consult their personal doctor. |
| Nitrate | Inorganic Chemicals | 1.1 mg/l | 10 mg/l | 10 mg/l | N/A | Runoff from fertilizer use; leaching from septic; sewage; erosion of natural deposits | Infants below age 6 months who drink water containing nitrate in excess of MCL could become seriously ill and, if untreated may die. Symptoms include shortness of breath and blue baby syndrome. |
| Barium | Inorganic Chemicals (Metals) | 0.0140 mg/L | 2 mg/l | 2 mg/l | N/A | Discharge of drilling wastes; Discharge from metal refineries; Erosion of natural deposits | Some people who drink water containing barium in excess of the MCL over many years could experience an increase in their blood pressure. |

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## Per- and Polyfluoroalkyl Substances (PFAS)

In preparation for a new federal regulation beginning in 2027, the Maryland Department of the Environment (MDE) and HCPSS proactively began water testing for PFAS (per- and Polyfluoroalkyl Substances) during the Summer of 2024 in our well water schools. PFAS are a series of man-made chemical compounds that persist in the environment for long periods of time. They have long been used in industry and consumer products such as nonstick cookware, waterproof clothing, and stain resistant furniture.

Current scientific research suggests that exposure to certain PFAS may lead to adverse health outcomes. However, research is still ongoing to determine how differing levels of exposure to different PFAS can lead to a variety of health effects. Because of their widespread application for decades, it is likely most people have been exposed to them during their lifetime.

In preparation for the future regulation, the Maryland Department of the Environment collected preliminary water samples in June 2024. A voluntary sample was collected by HCPSS in October of 2025. The results of the sampling events can be found below.

The final EPA rule sets "limits for five individual PFAS: PFOA, PFOS, PFNA, PFHxS, and HFPO-DA. The EPA is also setting a hazard index for two or more of four PFAS as a mixture." These four include: PFNA, PFHxS, HFPO-DA, and PFBS.

**PFAS Sample Results**

| Facility | PFOA | PFOS | PFBS | PFHxS | PFNA | HEPO-DA | HI |
|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|
| Future MCL (2027) | 4.0 ppt | 4.0 ppt | N/A | 10.0 ppt | 10.0 ppt | 10.0 ppt | 1 |
| May 30, 2024 | ND | ND | ND | ND | ND | ND | 0 |
| October 22, 2025 | ND | ND | ND | ND | ND | ND | 0 |

ND: None Detected
ppt: parts per trillion
MCL: Maximum Contaminant Level
Hazard index (HI): The hazard index is made up of a sum of fractions. Each fraction compares the level of PFAS measured to a health-based water concentration. *More information on calculating the HI*.

For additional information: https://ieq.hcpss.org/pfas