

# 2014 Consumer Confidence Report Data



## MERRILLAN WATERWORKS, PWS ID: 62702948

### Water System Information

If you would like to know more about the information contained in this report, please contact Tom Green at (715) 333-7702.

We're pleased to present to you this year's Annual Quality Water Report. This report is designed to inform you about the quality water and services we deliver to you every day. Our constant goal is to provide you with a safe and dependable supply of drinking water. We want you to understand the efforts we make to continually improve the water treatment process and protect our water resources. Merrilan's primary source of water is from ground water supplied by Wells # 3 and # 4. These wells are located east of the Village along the east fork of Halls Creek. We are committed to ensuring the quality of your water. In the report we attempt to balance your right to know against the sheer volume of information that we could provide. If some of this information appears complex, it's because drinking water is a complex business. We want our valued customers to be informed about their water utility.

### Opportunity for input on decisions affecting your water quality

If you want to learn more, please attend one of our regularly scheduled Committee of the Whole meetings held on the 1st Tuesday of each month at the Village Hall at 101 S Main Street at 7:00 PM.

### Health Information

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 safe drinking water hotline (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 systems 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 EPA's safe drinking water hotline (800-426-4791).

### Source(s) of Water

| Source ID | Source      | Depth (in feet) | Status |
|-----------|-------------|-----------------|--------|
| 3         | Groundwater | 68              | Active |
| 4         | Groundwater | 79              | Active |

To obtain a summary of the source water assessment please contact, Tom Green at (715) 333-7702.

## Educational Information

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 the 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 stormwater 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 stormwater 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 stormwater 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, EPA prescribes regulations that limit the amount of certain contaminants in water provided by public water systems. FDA regulations establish limits for contaminants in bottled water, which shall provide the same protection for public health.

## Definitions

| <b>Term</b> | <b>Definition</b>  |
|-------------|--|
| AL          | Action Level: The concentration of a contaminant which, if exceeded, triggers treatment or other requirements which a water system must follow.  |
| MCL         | Maximum Contaminant Level: 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.   |
| MCLG        | Maximum Contaminant Level Goal: 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.   |
| MFL         | million fibers per liter   |
| MRDL        | Maximum residual disinfectant level: The highest level of a disinfectant allowed in drinking water. There is convincing evidence that addition of a disinfectant is necessary for control of microbial contaminants.                             |
| MRDLG       | Maximum residual disinfectant level goal: The level of a drinking water disinfectant below which there is no known or expected risk to health. MRDLGs do not reflect the benefits of the use of disinfectants to control microbial contaminants. |
| mrem/year   | millirems per year (a measure of radiation absorbed by the body)   |
| NTU         | Nephelometric Turbidity Units  |
| pCi/l       | picocuries per liter (a measure of radioactivity)  |
| ppm         | parts per million, or milligrams per liter (mg/l)  |
| ppb         | parts per billion, or micrograms per liter (ug/l)  |
| ppt         | parts per trillion, or nanograms per liter   |

| <b>Term</b> | <b>Definition</b>  |
|-------------|--|
| ppq         | parts per quadrillion, or picograms per liter  |
| TCR         | Total Coliform Rule  |
| TT          | Treatment Technique: A required process intended to reduce the level of a contaminant in drinking water. |

## Detected Contaminants

Your water was tested for many contaminants last year. We are allowed to monitor for some contaminants less frequently than once a year. The following tables list only those contaminants which were detected in your water. If a contaminant was detected last year, it will appear in the following tables without a sample date. If the contaminant was not monitored last year, but was detected within the last 5 years, it will appear in the tables below along with the sample date.

### Disinfection Byproducts

| <b>Contaminant (units)</b> | <b>Site</b> | <b>MCL</b> | <b>MCLG</b> | <b>Level Found</b> | <b>Range</b> | <b>Sample Date (if prior to 2014)</b> | <b>Violation</b> | <b>Typical Source of Contaminant</b>      |
|----------------------------|-------------|------------|-------------|--------------------|--------------|---------------------------------------|------------------|---|
| HAA5 (ppb)                 | SITE15      | 60         | 60          | 1                  | 1            |                                       | No               | By-product of drinking water chlorination |
| TTHM (ppb)                 | SITE15      | 80         | 0           | 1.7                | 1.7          |                                       | No               | By-product of drinking water chlorination |

### Inorganic Contaminants

| <b>Contaminant (units)</b> | <b>Site</b> | <b>MCL</b> | <b>MCLG</b> | <b>Level Found</b> | <b>Range</b> | <b>Sample Date (if prior to 2014)</b> | <b>Violation</b> | <b>Typical Source of Contaminant</b>  |
|----------------------------|-------------|------------|-------------|--------------------|--------------|---------------------------------------|------------------|---|
| BARIUM (ppm)               |             | 2          | 2           | 0.005              | 0.005        |                                       | No               | Discharge of drilling wastes; Discharge from metal refineries; Erosion of natural deposits                                |
| FLUORIDE (ppm)             |             | 4          | 4           | 0.1                | 0.1 - 0.1    |                                       | No               | Erosion of natural deposits; Water additive which promotes strong teeth; Discharge from fertilizer and aluminum factories |
| SODIUM (ppm)               |             | n/a        | n/a         | 7.47               | 6.12 - 7.47  |                                       | No               | n/a   |

| Contaminant (units) | Action Level | MCLG | 90th Percentile Level Found | # of Results                                 | Sample Date (if prior to 2014) | Violation | Typical Source of Contaminant  |
|---------------------|--------------|------|-----------------------------|--|--------------------------------|-----------|--|
| COPPER (ppm)        | AL=1.3       | 1.3  | 2.3300                      | 5 of 10 results were above the action level. |                                | No        | Corrosion of household plumbing systems; Erosion of natural deposits; Leaching from wood preservatives |
| LEAD (ppb)          | AL=15        | 0    | 11.00                       | 0 of 10 results were above the action level. |                                | No        | Corrosion of household plumbing systems; Erosion of natural deposits                                   |

## Radioactive Contaminants

| Contaminant (units)              | Site | MCL | MCLG | Level Found | Range     | Sample Date (if prior to 2014) | Violation | Typical Source of Contaminant |
|----------------------------------|------|-----|------|-------------|-----------|--------------------------------|-----------|-------------------------------|
| GROSS ALPHA, EXCL. R & U (pCi/l) |      | 15  | 0    | 4.6         | 2.5 - 4.6 |                                | No        | Erosion of natural deposits   |
| RADIUM, (226 + 228) (pCi/l)      |      | 5   | 0    | 3.1         | 0.7 - 3.1 |                                | No        | Erosion of natural deposits   |
| GROSS ALPHA, INCL. R & U (n/a)   |      | n/a | n/a  | 4.6         | 2.5 - 4.6 |                                | No        | Erosion of natural deposits   |

## Health effects for any contaminants with MCL violations/Action Level Exceedances

### Contaminant Health Effects

**COPPER** Copper is an essential nutrient, but some people who drink water containing copper in excess of the action level 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 Wilsons Disease should consult their personal doctor.

### Additional Health Information

Copper in drinking water is primarily from materials and components associated with service lines and home plumbing. Merrilan Waterworks 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 copper 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 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://dnr.wi.gov/topic/DrinkingWater/documents/forms/copperdg027.pdf>

# Information on Monitoring for Cryptosporidium and Radon

Our water system did not monitor our water for cryptosporidium or radon during 2014. We are not required by State or Federal drinking water regulations to do so.

