

# **Annual Drinking Water Quality Report**

## **Merrill-Jonesfield Water Department**

Merrill-Jonesfield Water Customer: This is the only report you will receive; additional copies are available at the Merrill Village Office.

We are pleased to present to you this year's Annual Water Quality Report. The 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 and protect our water resources. We are committed to ensuring the quality of your water. We obtain our water from two water wells approximately 300 feet below the surface of the ground.

We are pleased to report that our drinking water is acceptable and meets federal and state requirements.

If you have any questions about this report or concerning your water utility, please contact Greg DeShone at 1-989-643-7722. We want our valued customers to be informed about their water utility. If you want to learn more, please attend any of our regularly scheduled meetings. They are held on the second Monday of the month at 6:00 p.m., 148 W. Saginaw St., Merrill.

Merrill-Jonesfield Water Department routinely monitors for constituents in your drinking water according to federal and state laws. The table included shows the results of our monitoring for the period of January 1 to December 31, 2023, unless otherwise noted.

In this table, you will find many terms and abbreviations you might not be familiar with. To help you better understand these terms, we have 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 (mcg/L) – one part per billion corresponds to one minute in 2,000 years, or a single penny in \$10,000,000.

Action Level (AL) – 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. MCLs are set as close to the Maximum Contaminant Level Goals (MCLG) 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 Residual Disinfectant Level (MRDL) – is 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.

Maximum Residual Disinfectant Level Goal (MRDLG) – is 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 disinfectant to control.

<b>TEST RESULTS</b>						
<b>Contaminant</b>	<b>Violation Y/N</b>	<b>Level Detected</b>	<b>Unit Measurement</b>	<b>MCLG</b>	<b>MCL</b>	<b>Likely Source of Contamination</b>
Copper	NO	100 PPB *(1)	PPB in the 90 <sup>th</sup> percentile	1300	AL = 1300	Corrosion of household plumbing systems
Fluoride	NO	0.36	PPM	4	4	Erosion of natural deposits
Lead	NO	0.000	PPB in the 90 <sup>th</sup> percentile	0	AL = 15	Corrosion of household plumbing systems
Arsenic	NO	0	PPB	0	10	Erosion of natural deposits
Barium	NO	0.06	PPM	2	2	Erosion of natural deposits
Combined Radium	NO	3.18	PCI/L	0	5	Erosion of natural deposits
Gross Alpha	NO	3.54	PCI/L	0	15	Erosion of natural deposits
Haloacetic Acids	NO	0.004	PPM	0	0.6	Byproduct of chlorine used for disinfection
Total Trihalomethanes	NO	0.0379	PPM	0	0.8	Byproduct of chlorine used for disinfection
Chlorine	NO	min max 0.07 0.87	PPM	4	4	Water

\*(1) We tested for Lead and Copper in 2023. The range of results for 10 Copper samples was 0 - 11. None of our copper samples exceeded the action level. The range of results for 10 Lead samples was 0 - .001. None of our lead samples exceeded the action level. We tested for Sodium 2-17-2023. Results for sodium were 130 mg/L, which is average for ground water.

We tested for polyfluoroalkyl substances (PFAS) 2-9-2023. No PFAS was detected.

Merrill's Monthly Operation Report (MOR) for October 2023 was submitted late on December 7, 2023, which changed Merrill to being in compliance.

As you can see by the table, our system had no violations. We are proud that your drinking water meets or exceeds all federal and state requirements. We have learned through our monitoring and testing that some constituents have been detected. Also, the State of Michigan has completed an assessment of our raw water supply (called a "Source Water Assessment"). According to the assessment report, our water source has been assigned a moderate susceptibility to contamination. A copy of the State's source water assessment and report is available for your review at the Merrill Village Office.

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.

The sources of drinking water (both tap 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 of water:

- **Arsenic:** While your drinking water meets EPA's standard for arsenic, it does contain low levels of arsenic. EPA's standard balances the current understanding of arsenic's possible health effects against the costs of removing arsenic from drinking water. The EPA continues to research the health effects of low levels of arsenic, which is a mineral known to cause cancer in humans at high concentrations and is linked to other health effects such as skin damage and circulatory problems.
- **Lead:** If present, elevated levels of lead can cause serious health problems, especially for pregnant women and children. Lead in drinking water is primarily from materials and components associated with service lines and home plumbing. Merrill-Jonesfield is responsible for providing high quality drinking water but cannot control the variety of material 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 water, testing methods and steps you can take to minimize exposure is available for you at the Safe Drinking Water Hotline (1-800-426-4791) or at [www.epa.gov/safewater/lead](http://www.epa.gov/safewater/lead).
- **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 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 make sure that tap water is safe to drink, the EPA prescribes regulations which limit the amount of certain contaminants in water provided by public water systems. FDA regulations establish limits for contaminants in bottled water which must provide the same protection for public health.

Some people may be more vulnerable to contaminants in drinking water than the general population. Immunocompromised 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 (1-800-426-4791).

Merrill-Jonesfield water district has no lead service lines.

Please call our office if you have any questions.

Greg D. DeShone  
Superintendent – Department of Public Works  
Village of Merrill  
PH: 989-643-7722