

# TOWN OF RICHMOND RI1000040

## Consumer Confidence Report – 2020

### Covering Calendar Year – 2019

This brochure is a snapshot of the quality of the water that we provided last year. Included are the details about where your water comes from, what it contains, and how it compares to Environmental Protection Agency (EPA) and state standards. We are committed to providing you with information because informed customers are our best allies. If you would like to learn more about our decision-making processes that affect drinking water quality, please call KAREN D. PINCH at 401-539-9000 Ext: 1.

Your water comes from :

Source Name	Source Water Type
GRAVEL PACKED WELL #1	Ground Water

*The RI Department of Health, in cooperation with other state and federal agencies, has assessed the threats to The Town of Richmond's water supply sources. The assessment considered the intensity of development, the presence of businesses and facilities that use, store and generate potential contaminants, how easily contaminants may move through the soils in the source water protection area, and the sampling history of the water. The assessment found that the water source is at LOW risk of contamination. The complete Source Water Assessment Report is available from the Town of Richmond or the Department of Health at (401) 222-6867.*

Some people may be more vulnerable to contaminants in drinking water than the general population. Immuno-compromised persons such as those 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 microbial contaminants are available from the Safe Drinking Water Hotline (800-426-4791).

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's Safe Drinking Water Hotline (800-426-4791).

The sources of drinking water (both tap water and bottled water) included 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 sources water before we treat it include:  
Microbial contaminants, such as viruses and bacteria, which may come from sewage treatment plants, septic systems, 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 storm water run-off, agriculture, and residential users.  
Radioactive contaminants, which can be naturally occurring or the result of mining activity.  
Organic contaminants, including synthetic and volatile organic chemicals, which are by-products of industrial processes and petroleum production, and also come from gas stations, urban storm water run-off, and septic systems.

In order to ensure that tap water is safe to drink, EPA prescribes regulation which limits 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.

Our water system is required to test a minimum of 3 samples per month in accordance with the Total Coliform Rule for microbiological contaminants. Coliform bacteria are usually harmless, but their presence in water can be an indication of disease-causing bacteria. When coliform bacteria are found, special follow-up tests are done to determine if harmful bacteria are present in the water supply. If this limit is exceeded, the water supplier must notify the public.

#### Water Quality Data

The following tables list all of the drinking water contaminants which were detected during the 2019 calendar year. The presence of these contaminants does not necessarily indicate the water poses a health risk. Unless noted, the data presented in this table is from the testing done January 1- December 31, 2019. 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, though representative of the water quality, is more than one year old. **Our water system makes every effort to provide you with safe drinking water .**

#### Terms & Abbreviations

**Maximum Contaminant Level Goal (MCLG):** the "Goal" is the level of a contaminant in drinking water below which there is no known or expected risk to human health. MCLGs allow for a margin of safety.

**Maximum Contaminant Level (MCL):** 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.

**Secondary Maximum Contaminant Level (SMCL):** recommended level for a contaminant that is not regulated and has no MCL.

**Action Level (AL):** the concentration of a contaminant that, if exceeded, triggers treatment or other requirements.

**Treatment Technique (TT):** a required process intended to reduce levels of a contaminant in drinking water.

**Maximum Residual Disinfectant Level (MRDL):** 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):** 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.

**Non-Detects (ND):** lab analysis indicates that the contaminant is not present.

**Parts per Million (ppm)** or milligrams per liter (mg/l)

**Parts per Billion (ppb)** or micrograms per liter (µg/l)

**Picocuries per Liter (pCi/L):** a measure of the radioactivity in water.

**Millirems per Year (mrem/yr):** measure of radiation absorbed by the body.

**Monitoring Period Average (MPA):** An average of sample results obtained during a defined time frame, common examples of monitoring periods are monthly, quarterly and yearly.

**Nephelometric Turbidity Unit (NTU):** a measure of the clarity of water. Turbidity in excess of 5 NTU is just noticeable to the average person. Turbidity is not regulated for groundwater systems.

**Running Annual Average (RAA):** an average of sample results obtained over the most current 12 months and used to determine compliance with MCLs.

**Locational Running Annual Average (LRAA):** Average of sample analytical results for samples taken at a particular monitoring location during the previous four calendar quarters.

**Testing Results for: TOWN OF RICHMOND**

Microbiological	Result	MCL	MCLG	Typical Source
COLIFORM (TCR)	In the month of October, 5 sample(s) returned as positive	Treatment Technique Trigger	0	Naturally present in the environment

Regulated Contaminants	Collection Date	Highest Value	Range (low/high)	Unit	MCL	Violation	MCLG	Typical Source
BARIUM	3/15/2017	0.014	0.014	ppm	2	No	2	Discharge of drilling wastes; Discharge from metal refineries; Erosion of natural deposits
FLUORIDE	3/15/2017	0.38	0.25 - 0.38	ppm	4	No	4	Natural deposits; Water additive which promotes strong teeth
NITRATE	3/25/2019	0.36	0.31 - 0.36	ppm	10	No	0	Runoff from fertilizer use; Leaching from septic tanks, sew age; Erosion of natural deposits

Lead and Copper	Monitoring Period	90 <sup>th</sup> Percentile	Range (low/high)	Unit	AL	Violation	Sites Over AL	Typical Source
COPPER, FREE	2017	0.375	0.005 - 0.409	ppm	1.3	No	0	Corrosion of household plumbing systems
LEAD	2017	6.8	0 - 10.6	ppb	15	No	0	Corrosion of household plumbing systems

If present, elevated levels of lead can cause serious health problems, especially for pregnant women and young children. Lead in drinking water is primarily from materials and components associated with service lines and home plumbing. Your water system 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 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, 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://www.epa.gov/safewater/lead>.

Radiological Contaminants	Collection Date	Highest Value	Range (low/high)	Unit	MCL	Violation	MCLG	Typical Source
GROSS ALPHA, EXCL. RADON & U	3/15/2017	4.56	0 - 4.56	PCI/L		No		Erosion of natural deposits

Unresolved Deficiencies Date Identified	Facility	Comments
08/27/2019	DISTRIBUTION SYSTEM	L2A(3/RI/2019) Item #1 - Since October 2018 the Town of Richmond has triggered three (3) Level 2 Assessments, two (2) conducted by RIDOH and one (1) conducted by The Water Experts. The most recent assessment has uncovered no sanitary defects that required correction, therefore, the PWS must submit . The PWS must now submit an application, plans, calculations and specifications, all of which must be stamped by a R.I Registered Professional Engineer, for the installation of chlorination treatment that provides 4-log inactivation of viruses. The calculations must include a demonstration of the required minimum chlorine residual that is required to obtain 4-log inactivation of viruses. The specifications must include manufacturer cut sheets and NSF 60/61 certifications for all chemicals and equipment. The completed application must be received by the RIDOH Engineering team by the designated due date. The PWS will comply with all deadlines and actions required by RIDOH engineering after the submittal.

Town of Richmond is currently in an agreement with the State to install chlorination and is on schedule for installation.

**Please Note: Because of sampling schedules, results may be older than 1 year.**

During the 2019 calendar year, we had the below noted violation(s) of drinking water regulations.

Federal Compliance Period	Analyte	Comments
10/23/2019	E. COLI	Failed to conduct groundwater monitoring for coliform

11/30/2019 - 12/3/2019

REVISED TOTAL COLIFORM RULE (RTCR)

Failed to submit a completed Level 1 or Level 2 assessment form on time

Additional Required Health Effects Language:

Coliforms are bacteria that are naturally present in the environment and are used as an indicator that other, potentially-harmful, bacteria may be present. Coliforms were found in more samples than allowed and this was a warning of potential problems.

There are no additional required health effects violation notices.

Coliforms are bacteria that are naturally present in the environment and are used as an indicator that other, potentially harmful, waterborne pathogens may be present or that a potential pathway exists through which contamination may enter the drinking water distribution system. We found coliforms indicating the need to look for potential problems in water treatment or distribution. When this occurs, we are required to conduct assessment(s) to identify problems and to correct any problems that were found during these assessments.

During the past year three Level 2 assessments were required to be completed for our water system and three Level 2 assessments were completed. In addition, we were required to take four corrective actions and we completed three of these actions.

1. *Failed to collect triggered well sample within 24 hours of being notified of a routine TC+ due to lab error.*
2. *Failed to submit a level 2 notice on time. This was submitted a day late of the deadline.*

**PUBLIC NOTICE**  
**IMPORTANT INFORMATION ABOUT YOUR DRINKING WATER**

**Monitoring & Reporting Requirements Not Met for Town of Richmond**  
PWS# RI1000040

Our water system violated a drinking water standard over the past year. Although this was not an emergency, as our customers, you have the right to know what happened and what we did to correct the situation. We are required to monitor your drinking water for specific contaminants on a regular basis. Results of regular monitoring are an indicator of whether or not our drinking water meets health standards.

We collected two (2) total coliform-present samples on 10/21/2019, but our triggered well samples were not collected within 24 hours of learning of the original total coliform-present results. Therefore, we cannot be sure of the quality of our drinking water during that time.

Coliforms are bacteria that are naturally present in the environment and are used as an indicator that other, potentially harmful, waterborne pathogens may be present or that a potential pathway exists through which contamination may enter the drinking water distribution system. When we find coliforms, this indicates the need to look for potential problems in water treatment or distribution. We were required to conduct an assessment to identify and correct any problems. Our system failed to notify the state drinking water program, as required by 11/29/2019, of the results of our assessment. Although public health was not impacted, as our customers, you have a right to know what happened and what we did to correct the situation.

**What should I do?** There is nothing you need to do at this time. You do not need to boil your water or take other actions.

The table below lists the contaminant(s) we did not properly test for during the last year, how often we are supposed to sample for the contaminant(s) and how many samples we are supposed to take, how many samples we took, when samples should have been taken, and the date on which follow-up samples were (or will be) taken.

Contaminant	Required Sampling Frequency	Number of Samples Taken	When All Samples Should Have Been Taken	When Samples Were Taken
Total Coliform	2 well samples following total coliform-present results	2	10/23/2019	Samples collected 10/28/2019

**What is being done?**

*While we did not notify the state as quickly as we should have, we submitted the assessment on 12/03/2019. We also collected the triggered well samples on 10/28/2019. We are no longer in violation with these violations.*

For more information, please contact LaFramboise Water at 800-624-2327.

*Please share this information with all the other people who drink this water, especially those who may not have received this notice directly (for example, people in apartments, nursing homes, schools, and businesses). You can do this by posting this notice in a public place or distributing copies by hand or mail.*

DATED: 6/26/20