



Town of Emmitsburg

Mayor Donald N. Briggs

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OFFICIAL STATEMENT FROM DESK OF MAYOR BRIGGS

December 5, 2019

In response to recent concerns, related to water quality in the Town of Emmitsburg. Town staff undertook testing of water samples at random locations throughout the Town. First off, I would like to thank those residents who allowed us to take samples from your residence. As part of the annual water quality report that is submitted to MDE each year, staff collected ten samples to be sent to Catoctin Labs for testing related to Lead and Copper. The results for Lead remained the same at all ten testing locations. The results were less than .002 mg/l. The action level for lead per MDE is .015 mg/l. Essentially, the Lab found no lead in the samples. This is consistent with Lead testing in 2013 and 2016. MDE only requires testing of Lead every three years in the Town of Emmitsburg due continued compliance. The results for Copper varied between the ten testing locations from .032-.082 mg/l. The action level for copper per MDE is 1.6 mg/l. Again, this is consistent with Copper testing in 2013 and 2016. The Town continues to be in compliance with MDE requirements. The consumer confidence reports for 2013 and 2016 can be found on the Town's website. The report for 2019 must be submitted to MDE and posted on the website no later than June 30, 2020.

Town staff also collected water samples from five different locations throughout Town and tested for chlorine levels, PH and bacteria. On all five tests the levels were in compliance with MDE regulations. The range for chlorine levels was .44-.90 mg/l. MDE sets the action level at 4.0 mg/l. The level for PH was consistent between all locations at 8.0 SSUs. EPA sets the acceptable range at 6.5-8.5. The bacteria test for all samples showed no presence of coliform or E. coli.

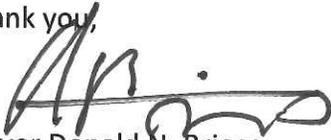
In response to one ongoing complaint, town staff took a sample before and after the homeowner's filter located in the basement. The test showed no presence of bacteria and the

chlorine was 1.1 mg/l before the filter and .30 mg/l after the filter. The PH was 7.8 SSUs for both samples.

Turbidity has also been monitored throughout Town and the levels consistently .41 NTUs with guidelines recommending a maximum of 5.0 NTUs but the Town has always strived for less than 1.0 NTUs.

Thank you for your patience while we worked through the problems that arose due to hydrant flushings, a water leak repair, drought conditions and an unauthorized hydrant connection. All these situations occurred within a week of each other causing this unprecedented condition.

Thank you,

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read 'D. Briggs', with a stylized flourish at the end.

Mayor Donald N. Briggs