Anne Arundel County Department of Health Receives Test Results for 13 Wells Near Fort Meade

Summary of Findings
April 12, 2005

The Anne Arundel County Department of Health received the following results from organic and inorganic chemical tests on water samples collected from 13 wells near Fort Meade. The tests were conducted by federal and state labs.

Substance	**Detected in # of Wells**	**Amount Detected (Range)**	**EPA MCL ***
Benzene	1	.051 ppb	5 ppb
Bromoform	12	.10 - .96 ppb	80 ppb
Chloroform	12	.14 - 1.1 ppb	80 ppb
Dichlorodifluoromethane	2	.71 - 1.0 ppb	No MCL
1,1 - Dichloroethane	3	.17 - .20 ppb	No MCL
cis-1,2 - Dichloroethene	6	.14 - .45 ppb	70 ppb
Di-n-butylphthalate	1	.59 ppb	No MCL
Lead	5	28.0 - 104.0 ppb	15 ppb
MTBE**	9	.13 - 1.8 ppb	**
Tetrachloroethene	4	.17 - 1.7 ppb	5 ppb
Trichloroethene	1	4.28 ppb	5 ppb

*** MCL (Maximum Contaminant Level)** - Highest level of the substance allowed in drinking water according to standards set by the U.S. Environmental Protection Agency

****MTBE (Methyl-Tertiary-Butyl Ether) –** In reviewing the research on MTBE's health effects, the U.S. Environmental Protection Agency (EPA) has concluded that there is no measurable health effect from low level MTBE exposure in drinking water. EPA's health advisory states that levels of MTBE at or below 20 ppb provide a large margin of safety from adverse health effects.

The tests also found evidence of aluminum (in 6 wells), iron (5 wells) and manganese (4 wells). While not health threats, these elements can cause bitter taste, discoloration or other aesthetic effects on drinking water.