



ADDRESSING THE HEALTH OF  
DRINKING WATER

**SB940 / HB 1196**

**Environment- Water Quality Testing**

*Mobile Home Communities*

**Enforcing Secondary Maximum Contaminant Levels**



U.S. Environmental Protection Agency- Safe Drinking Water ACT

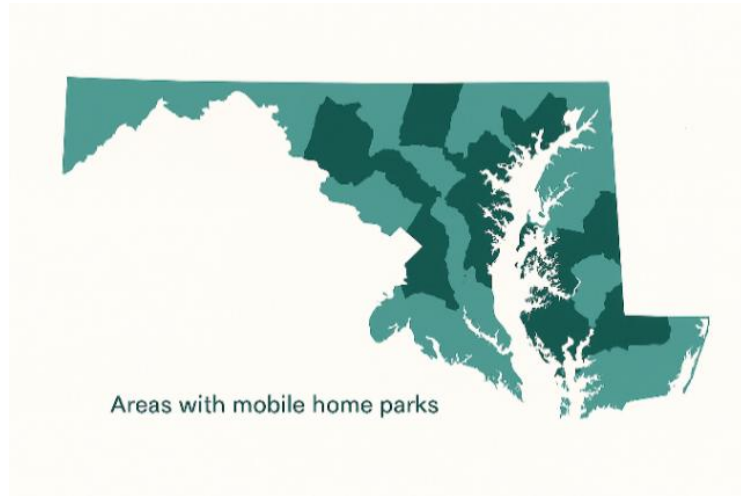




# NATIONAL SECONDARY DRINKING WATER REGULATIONS

Under the **Safe Drinking Water Act (SDWA)**, National Secondary Drinking Water Regulations (NSDWRs) are non-enforceable federal guidelines intended to manage aesthetic qualities like taste, color, and odor.

- While the **EPA** does not require compliance, individual states have the authority to adopt these secondary standards as **enforceable state regulations**



Drinking water delivered to residents in mobile home communities throughout MD is produced primarily from wells and groundwater

Water supplied by small community treatment systems that are operated and managed by the park owner.

Residents paying separate fees for water supplied to their homes – experience disruptions as well as receiving discolored and foul-smelling water from their faucets



# DRINKING WATER QUALITY ISSUES

## Sources of Discoloration

Discolored water often indicates the presence of sediment, or organic material remaining in the water and entering homes through aging pipes or system disturbances.

## Potential Health Risks

Using or consuming discolored water can expose people to harmful substances, emphasizing the importance of avoiding it until clear.



Existing MD laws governing the operations of private community water systems do not protect residents drinking water from the issues associated with elevated levels of iron, bacteria, decolorization and sediment.



## **Actions enabling MDE to enforce the “secondary drinking water regulations.”**

- **An analysis of states already enforcing the secondary drinking water regulations**
- **Identifying communities experiencing extreme concentration of contaminants and chemicals affecting odor, taste, discoloration and sediment**
- **Providing a decision-making matrix of the benefits and challenges to implementing the SDWR – taking us to the next step towards approval.**

We need to acknowledge the long-suffering situations of residents who are enduring the water coming into their homes that you and I would not use and be irate.

Many of the residents experiencing these unsafe conditions are fearful of speaking out.

I urge you to listen with compassion and place yourselves and your families within a similar situation – what would you want to have done. This is why we need you to give an immediate favorable vote to SB0940