



2012 ANNUAL DRINKING WATER QUALITY REPORT for Shinglehouse Borough PWSID #: 6530013

Este informe contiene información importante acerca de su agua potable. Haga que alguien lo traduzca para usted, ó hable con alguien que lo entienda. (This report contains important information about your drinking water. Have someone translate it for you, or speak with someone who understands it.)

WATER SYSTEM INFORMATION:

This report shows our water quality and what it means. If you have any questions about this report or concerning your water utility, please contact Shawn Metcalf, or Mark Meacham @ (814)697-6912 or Deb Resig @ (814)697-6711. We want you to be informed about your water supply. If you want to learn more, please attend any of our regularly scheduled meetings. They are held in the basement of the Oswayo Valley Memorial Library. Meetings are held every second Tuesday of the month at 7:00pm.

SOURCE(S) OF WATER:

Our water sources consist of two wells. The primary well is located on East Honeoye Street. Our secondary or spare well is located on West Honeoye Street. The water is treated with Caustic Soda to elevate the pH level of the water to reduce corrosion of your household copper water lines and your fixtures. Liquid Chlorine is also added to eliminate any possible bacteria or viruses that may be present in the water.

A *Source Water Assessment* of our sources was completed by the PA Department of Environmental Protection (Pa. DEP) in 2004. The Assessment has found that our sources of are potentially most susceptible to road deicing materials and accidental spills along the roads and leaks in underground storage tanks. Overall, our sources have little risk of significant contamination. A summary report of the Assessment is available on the *Source Water Assessment & Protection Web page* at (<http://www.dep.state.pa.us/dep/deputate/watermgt/wc/Subjects/SrceProt/SourceAssessment/default.htm>). Complete reports were distributed to municipalities, water supplier, local planning agencies and PADEP offices. Copies of the complete report are available for review at the Pa. DEP North Central Regional Office, Records Management Unit at (570) 327-3675.

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

MONITORING YOUR WATER:

We routinely monitor for contaminants in your drinking water according to federal and state laws. The following tables show the results of our monitoring for the period of January 1 to December 31, 2011. The State allows us to monitor for some contaminants less than once per year because the concentrations of these contaminants do not change frequently. Some of our data is from prior years in accordance with the Safe Drinking Water Act. The date has been noted on the sampling results table.

DEFINITIONS:

Action Level (AL) - The concentration of a contaminant which, if exceeded, triggers treatment or other requirements which a water system must follow.

Maximum Contaminant Level (MCL) - 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.

Maximum Contaminant Level Goal (MCLG) - 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) - 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.

Minimum Residual Disinfectant Level (MinRDL) - The minimum level of residual disinfectant required at the entry point to the distribution system.

Treatment Technique (TT) - A required process intended to reduce the level of a contaminant in drinking water.

Mrem/year = millirems per year (a measure of radiation absorbed by the body)

ppm = parts per million, or milligrams per liter (mg/L)

pCi/L = picocuries per liter (a measure of radioactivity)

ppq = parts per quadrillion, or picograms per liter

ppb = parts per billion, or micrograms per liter (µg/L)

ppt = parts per trillion, or nanograms per liter

DETECTED SAMPLE RESULTS:

Chemical Contaminants								
Contaminant	MCL in CCR Units	MCLG	Level Detected	Range of Detections	Units	Sample Date	Violation Y/N	Sources of Contamination
Nitrate	10	10	2.4	N/A	ppm	2012	No	Runoff from fertilizer use; Leaching from septic tanks, sewage; Erosion of natural deposits
Barium	2	2	.026	N/A	ppm	2012	No	Discharge of drilling wastes; Discharge from metal refineries; Erosion of natural deposits

Contaminant	Source	MCL	Effects	# Sources Sampled	Detected (Y or N)	Range of Detects	Units
Methane/Ethane (Combined)	Naturally occurring, fossil fuel production, animal manure, biomass burning, landfills.	No Standard, but the saturation level in water is 28,000 ppb or 28 mg/l	Gurgling or bubbling noise in well, spurting faucets, white gas bubbles in water	2	Y #2 Well	16	ppb
Sodium	6 th most abundant element on earth, Naturally occurring alkali metal	No Standard, but EPA study showed 75% of water samples had < 50 mg/l	Sodium levels are a concern for people on low sodium diets.	2	Y #2 Well #3 Well	15.8 6.56	ppm
Total Dissolved Solids	Dissolved minerals like iron and manganese	500 mg/l	Hardness; scaly deposits; sediment; discolored water; objectionable tastes; odors; color	2	Y #2 Well #3 Well	87 97	ppm
Chloride	Naturally occurring mineral	250 mg/l	Salty taste		Y #2 Well #3 Well	19.5 14.0	ppm
Sulfate	Natural deposits of salts; byproducts of coal mining; industrial wastes, and sewage	250 mg/l	Bitter; medicinal taste; scaly deposits; laxative effects; may result in hydrogen sulfide formation		Y #2 Well #3 Well	4.16 10.5	ppm
Iron	Natural deposits in rocks and soils	0.3 mg/l	Gives water a bitter, metallic taste and leaves brown-orange stains on plumbing fixtures		Y #2 Well #3 Well	.40 0.017	ppm
Manganese	Natural deposits in rocks and soils	0.05 mg/l	Gives water a bitter taste and leaves black specks and stains on laundry and plumbing fixtures		#2 Well	.289	ppm
Strontium	Naturally occurring earth metal	No Standard, but EPA recommends < 4 mg/l	No Information.		#2 Well #3 Well	.044 .048	ppm

The samples above were collected from raw source water. These levels are not necessarily indicative of the treated water

Lead and Copper

Contaminant	Action Level (AL)	MCLG	90 th Percentile Value	Units	# of Sites Above AL of Total Sites	Violation Y/N	Sources of Contamination
Lead	15	0	1	ppb	0	No	Corrosion of household plumbing.
Copper	1.3	1.3	0.135	ppm	0	No	Corrosion of household plumbing.

Entry Point Disinfectant Residual

Contaminant	Minimum Disinfectant Residual	Lowest Level Detected	Range of Detections	Units	Sample Date	Violation Y/N	Sources of Contamination
Chlorine	0.40	0.72	0.72-2.18	ppm	1/2012-12/2012	No	Water additive used to control microbes.

Microbial

Contaminants	MCL	MCLG	Highest # or % of Positive Samples	Violation Y/N	Sources of Contamination
Total Coliform Bacteria	For systems that collect <40 samples/month: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> More than 1 positive monthly sample For systems that collect ≥ 40 samples/month: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> 5% of monthly samples are positive 	0	1 (5/21/09)	No	Naturally present in the environment.

EDUCATIONAL INFORMATION:

The sources of drinking water (both tap water 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 water include:

- 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 can be naturally-occurring or result from urban stormwater run-off, 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 stormwater runoff, and residential uses.
- Organic chemical contaminants, including synthetic and volatile organic chemicals, which are by-products of industrial processes and petroleum production, and can also come from gas stations, urban stormwater 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 ensure that tap water is safe to drink, EPA and DEP prescribes regulations which limit the amount of certain contaminants in water provided by public water systems. FDA and DEP regulations establish limits for contaminants in bottled water which must provide the same protection for public health.

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 Environmental Protection Agency's *Safe Drinking Water Hotline* (800-426-4791).

Information about Lead

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. The Shinglehouse Borough 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>.

OTHER INFORMATION:

Please insure that your water meter is protected from freezing, by insulating it. If your basement or crawl space is drafty or unheated you may be susceptible to your water meter freezing. Repair of a frozen meter will result in charges to you from the Shinglehouse Borough for the repairs made. The charges range from \$20.00 to \$150.00 depending on the damage done to the unit. The possibility exists that severe water damage may occur to your property if the meter should burst from freezing. Our water meters are designed to blow out the bottom plate of the meter should freezing occur to limit damage to the meter. If this occurs water will leak from the meter into your home.

If you have to change your outside water faucet, please install a faucet that has a vacuum relief on it. By doing so you will eliminate any danger of unsafe water back flowing into our system should low pressure occur.

Beginning this year, 2012, sometime in April or May, we begin exchanging your old water meters in your homes. EPA has passed new regulations that require us to exchange your old meters for a new reduced lead meter. Water meters now have to meet stricter lead regulations.

Please insure that the main water shut off valve, prior to your water meter will shut off your water. If the valve will not shut off please contact us, and we will shut off your water at the curb valve in your yard. You as the property owner are required to make the repair if the valve is not functioning. It is recommended that you install a ball type valve, rather than a gate style valve. Ball Valves will function 10 times longer than a gate Valve. Gate valves have a tendency to fill with sediment or corrode quickly, resulting in the inability to shut off the water. If you have any questions feel free to contact us.

Also please insure that the Borough Office has your **UPDATED PHONE NUMBER** and **ADDRESS** or you have updated your phone number and address on the Swiftreach link on our website, in case we have to notify you in the event of a drinking water emergency.

If an emergency occurs we will utilize our Swiftreach System (Automated Call System) to notify you and keep you updated on our progress throughout the emergency. It is **VITAL** that **YOU** keep this information current as we do not have access to everyone's phone numbers with the many new upgrades to the telecommunications world.

Injury could occur to you and your family if you do not keep us informed of your changes in the event of an emergency.

Please visit our new website at www.shinglehouseborough.org. You can change your phone number or add yourself to our Swift911 system from our website. A copy of this report is available on the website, as well as other information regarding the Shinglehouse Borough.
