

THE MUNICIPAL AUTHORITY OF THE TOWNSHIP OF WASHINGTON

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2024 ANNUAL DRINKING WATER QUALITY REPORT HC

PWSID #: 5260009 NAME: Municipal Authority of Washington Township

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 the Customer Service Department at (724) 929-3370.

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 the last Tuesday of the month at 6:00 PM at the Washington Township Community Building, located at 1392 Fayette Avenue, Belle Vernon, Pa.

SOURCE(S) OF WATER:

Our water source for our Harmony Church, Rathway, and Perryopolis Road customers is the Municipal Authority of Westmoreland County's Indian Creek Plant on the Youghiogheny River in Connellsville, PA. (PSWID 5260036)

We are proud that your drinking water meets or exceeds all Federal and State requirements.

A Source Water Assessment of our source(s) was completed by the PA Department of Environmental Protection (Pa. DEP). The Assessment has found that our source is potentially most susceptible to Transportation, Wildcat Sewers, Utility Substations, Marinas, Power Plants, Strip Mines, and Wastewater Treatment as potential Sources of Contamination. Overall, our source has moderate risk of significant contamination. A summary report of the Assessment is available on the 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 suppliers, local planning agencies and PADEP offices. Copies of the complete report may be obtained by calling The Washington Township Municipal Authority at (724) 929-3370.

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, 2024. 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.

Level 1 Assessment – A Level 1 assessment is a study of the water system to identify potential problems and determine (if possible) why total coliform bacteria have been found in our water system.

Level 2 Assessment – A Level 2 assessment is a very detailed study of the water system to identify potential problems and determine (if possible) why an *E. coli* MCL violation has occurred and/or why total coliform bacteria have been found in our water system on multiple occasions.

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

Running Annual Average (RAA) – The average, computed quarterly, of quarterly arithmetic averages of all analytical results for samples taken during the most recent 4 calendar quarter.

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

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

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

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

ppq = parts per quadrillion, or picograms per liter

ppt = parts per trillion, or nanograms per liter

Information about Lead

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 Municipal Authority of Washington Township is responsible for providing high quality drinking water but cannot control the variety of materials used in plumbing components in your home. You share the responsibility for protecting yourself and your family from the lead in your home plumbing. You can take responsibility by identifying and removing lead materials within your home plumbing and taking steps to reduce your family's risk. Before drinking tap water, flush your pipes for several minutes by running your tap, taking a shower, doing laundry or a load of dishes. You can also use a filter certified by an American National Standards Institute accredited certifier to reduce lead in drinking water. If you are concerned about lead in your water and wish to have your water tested, contact The Municipal Authority of Washington Township at (724) 929-3370. Information on lead in drinking water, testing methods, and steps you can take to minimize exposure is available at <http://www.epa.gov/safewater/lead>.

CCR 2024

MAWC INDIAN CREEK SYSTEM

PWS# 5260036

PARAMETER	UNIT	MCL	MCLG	Year Sampled	Highest Compliance Level Detected	Range of Detection	MAJOR SOURCES	VIOLATION
Total Chlorine Residual								
Entry Point	ppm	0.2	MinRDL	2024		0.63 - 3.11	Added by the Water Treatment Plant for disinfection	NO
Distribution (RAA)	ppm	4.0	MRDL	2024		0.16 -2.89		NO
ORGANIC CHEMICALS								
Total Trihalomethanes	ppb	80	0	2024	44.3*	17.8-61.5	By-product of drinking water chlorination	NO
Halo Acetic Acids 5	ppb	60	0	2024	36.6*	11.9-66.2	By-product of drinking water chlorination	NO
Total Organic Carbon (TOC)					range required	range achieved		
	ppm	TT		2024	35%	2.1-56.3%(b)	Natural decaying matter	NO
TREATMENT TECHNIQUE (TT)								
Turbidity	NTU	0.3	0	2024	0.114	(a)	Soil runoff	NO
Bacteria	>5.0%			2024	A	0.1%		NO
LT2 (Cryptosporidium oocysts/L)	Source water			2018	ND		Animal feces	NO
INORGANIC CHEMICALS								
Nitrate	ppm	10	10	2024	0.92	(c)	Runoff from fertilizer use; Leaching from septic tanks, sewage; Erosion of natural deposits.	NO
Nitrite	ppm	1	0	2024	ND			
Barium	ppm	2	2	2024	0.039		Mine discharge; drilling waste; copper smelting	NO
Cyanide	ppm	0.2	0	2024	ND		Metal extraction, some plant decomposition	NO
Fluoride	ppm	4	4	2024	ND		Naturally occurring; aluminum and fertilizer factory discharge	NO
Mercury	ppm	2		2024	ND		Erosion, runoff from landfill/crop lands.	NO
Other inorganics (see list below)				2024	ND			NO
Other VOCs/SOCs## (see list below)				2024	ND			NO
RADIOACTIVE								
Gross Alpha particles ##	pCi/L	15		2023	0.0		Decay of natural and man-made deposits	NO
Radium -226 ##	pCi/L	5		2023	0.0			NO
Radium -228 ##	pCi/L	5		2023	0.0			NO
Total Uranium ##	ug/l	30		2020	0.0			NO
DBP / Organics								
NDMA	ppm	NA	NA	2024	ND		Chloramine by-product	NO
UCMR5								
Metals								
Lithium	ppb	NA	NA	✓	2024	ND		
PFAS								NO
11CI-PF3OUdS	ppb	NA	NA	✓	2024	ND		NO
9CI-PF3ONS	ppb	NA	NA	✓	2024	ND		
ADONA	ppb	NA	NA	✓	2024	ND		NO
HFPO-DA	ppb	NA	NA	✓	2024	ND		NO
NFDHA	ppb	NA	NA	✓	2024	ND		NO
PFBA	ppb	NA	NA	✓	2024	ND		NO
PFBS	ppb	NA	NA	✓	2024	ND		NO
8:2FTS	ppb	NA	NA	✓	2024	ND		NO
PFDA	ppb	NA	NA	✓	2024	ND		NO
PFDoA	ppb	NA	NA	✓	2024	ND		NO
PFEESA	ppb	NA	NA	✓	2024	ND		NO
PFHpS	ppb	NA	NA	✓	2024	ND		
PFHpA	ppb	NA	NA	✓	2024	ND		NO
4:2FTS	ppb	NA	NA	✓	2024	ND		NO

PFHxS	ppb	NA	NA	✓	2024	ND		NO
PFHxA	ppb	NA	NA	✓	2024	ND		
PFMPA	ppb	NA	NA	✓	2024	ND		NO
PFMBA	ppb	NA	NA	✓	2024	ND		NO
PFNA	ppb	NA	NA	✓	2024	ND		NO
6:2FTS	ppb	NA	NA	✓	2024	ND		
PFOS	ppb	NA	NA	✓	2024	ND		NO
PFOA	ppb	NA	NA	✓	2024	ND		NO
PFPeA	ppb	NA	NA	✓	2024	ND		NO
PFPeS	ppb	NA	NA	✓	2024	ND		NO
PFUnA	ppb	NA	NA	✓	2024	ND		NO
AM3 (Cyanotoxins)								
Total Microcystins	ppb	NE	NE	2018	ND		found in algal cyano bacterial blooms. May	NO
cylindrospermopsin	ppb	NE	NE	2018	ND		be composed of single or a variety of species.	NO
anatoxin-a	ppb	NE	NE	2018	ND			NO

LEAD AND COPPER							
	EPA Action level	Ideal Goal (EPA's MCLG)	No. of samples over the Action Level	Year Sampled	Highest Level Detected	MAJOR SOURCES	VIOLATION
Lead**	90% of homes must be less than 15 ppb	0 ppb	0	2022	31.0	Corrosion of household plumbing ;Erosion of natural deposits	NO
Copper**	90% of homes must be less than 1.3 ppm	1.3 ppm	0	2022	0.18	Corrosion of household plumbing ;Erosion of natural deposits; Leaching fromwood preservatives.	NO

Water-Quality Table Footnotes

- (a) 100% of samples in compliance.
(b) In months that the percent achieved was below required, there was no exceedance of the TT because MAWC met alternative compliance criteria as required by the Safe Drinking Water Act
(c) Only one sample was required per monitoring period.

ND = None Detected A = Bacteria absence. IDSE = Initial Distribution System. UCMR4 = Unregulated Contaminants Monitoring Regulations pt.4. MRDL = Maximum Residual Disinfectant Level ,
NE = No MCL or MCLG established, pCi/L = picoCurie per liter, ug/l = micrograms per liter, ppm = parts per million, ppb = parts per billion, MFL = microfibers per liter,
NTU = Nephelometric Turbidity Units, E.P. = Entry Point, Max D = Maximum Distribution, RAA = Running Annual Average, MinRDL = Minimum Residual Disinfectant Level

LT2 = (Long Term Enhanced Surface Water Treatment Rule) addresses the health effects associated with Cryptosporidium in surface water

* as RAA. Compliance based on a Locational Running Annual Average (LRAA) for each sample site.

** If any sample exceeds the AL for Lead or Copper, the customer is immediately notified and investigative samples are taken in an attempt to determine the cause.

***In 2024 Notice of Violations were issued for reporting late data for (R3) Distribution chlorine for July 2024.

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 storm water 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 storm water 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 storm water 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 prescribe 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 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).

The Municipal Authority of Washington Township prepared a service line inventory of our system in 2024 that includes the type of materials contained in each service line in our distribution system. This inventory can be accessed by contacting our office at (724) 929-3370.

HELPFUL HINTS

LEAD

- The Municipal Authority of Washington Township cares about your health and has been acting for many years to help limit exposure to lead in drinking water. As a customer, there are some steps you can take to further help limit your exposure.
- Lead does not come from the treatment plant or water main; it comes from lead service lines running between the water main in the street and the home, and from plumbing inside the home.
- If you have lead in the water pipe leading to your home or in your home plumbing, you should take precautions to protect your family and consider removing the sources of lead.
- You can reduce your risk of consuming lead in water by:
 - Flushing out the lines after a period of stagnation to get fresh water that is coming from the main.
 - Avoiding consuming water from the hot water tap, where lead is more likely to be present.
 - Purchasing a point-of-use treatment device certified to remove lead.
 - Using an alternative supply or bottled water until sources of exposure are removed.
 - If you test for lead in your tap water, have the sample analyzed by a certified laboratory.

DISCOLORED WATER

Water quality is affected whenever there is a disturbance to the water distribution system.

CLOUDY WATER

Cloudy water is caused by tiny air bubbles in the water similar to the gas bubbles in carbonated soft drinks. This can occur after pipe repairs or other service disruptions. After a short while, the bubbles rise to the top and are gone.

CAUSES OF DISCOLORED WATER

- Disturbances can be caused by various reasons such as water main breaks, authorized emergency use of a public fire hydrant, and electrical outages, to name a few. Iron build up is dislodged from inside the water lines creating the discoloration in the water. Time generally allows the system to settle and run clear. If you have any questions, please contact our customer service department.

- Flushing hydrants is a necessary step to assuring clear sparkling water to your home. It can cause a rust-look to the water for a short-time. The condition will clear-up—just let the cold water run for a short time. You will be notified by our telephone notification system when hydrants will be flushed in your area. Please make sure we have your correct phone number on file.

UNDETECTED WATER LEAKS

A continuous leak from a hole just 1/16th" in size at 60 psi water pressure would result in approximately 74,000 gallons wasted in a 3-month period! 1/8th" size hole would waste 296,000 gallons, 3/16th" hole would waste 666,000 gallons, and a 1/4" hole would waste 1,181,500 gallons of water in a 3-month period! It adds up fast and is very costly, especially if you are paying both water and sewer charges. So please check for leaks periodically

CHECKING FOR LEAKS

The best method for determining whether a leak exists is to take actual meter readings.

LOCATE YOUR WATER METER

The meter may be in your basement or mechanical room where the water service enters the building. Meter pits are out near the street or curb. If you have any questions as to the location of your meter, please contact our customer service department and a representative will answer any questions you may have.

LEAK DETECTION INDICATOR

First look on the face of the meter and observe the small red or black triangle. This triangle is considered a low flow or leak detection indicator. Check and see if the triangle is turning. Make sure all faucets are off. If the triangle is turning and no water is being used including appliances such as an ice-maker, a humidifier, a water softener, etc., water is being used somewhere within your plumbing system. Check outside hoses, washing machine hoses, toilets (especially downstairs ones), pools.

READ THE METER TWICE

Read the meter first at night, after the day's usage has ended and again in the morning before any water is used. Find the difference by subtracting the first reading from the second reading to calculate the consumption used overnight.

LOOK FOR LEAKS

The most common invisible leak is your toilet. Check for leaks by adding a small amount of food coloring in the tank. Wait for 15 minutes and see if the color appears in the bowl of your commode.

VERIFY REPAIRS

After making repairs, repeat the above mentioned procedures to verify that the leak has been repaired.