



2019 ANNUAL DRINKING WATER QUALITY REPORT

PWSID #: 4140083 **NAME:** Milesburg Borough Water Authority

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 Nick Witherite at (814) 355-4262. 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 4th Monday of each month at 6:30 PM at the Milesburg Borough Building (416 Front Street).

SOURCE(S) OF WATER:

Our water source(s) is/are: (Name-Type-Location)

Bellefonte Borough Big Spring, a groundwater source from the Gatesburg Aquifer.

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(s) of is/are potentially most susceptible to industrial activities, gas/service stations, fuel oil distributors, railroad yards, residential/light commercial activities, agricultural activities, airports, vehicle repair shops, industrial parks, Pennsylvania State University wastewater spray fields, on-lot waste disposal, pipelines – sewer, transportation corridors, landfills & dumps, RCRA – small quantity generators, and the Drinking Water Treatment Plant. Overall, our source(s) has/have moderate to high risk of significant contamination. A summary report of the Assessment is available on the Source Water Assessment Summary Reports eLibrary web page: www.elibrary.dep.state.pa.us/dsweb/View/Collection-10045. 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) 327-3636.

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, 2019. 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.

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

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
Arsenic	10	0	0.202	-	ppb	12/18/18	N	Erosion of natural deposits; Runoff from orchards; Runoff from glass and electronics production wastes
Barium	2	2	0.0264	-	ppm	12/18/18	N	Discharge of drilling wastes; Discharge from metal refineries; Erosion of natural deposits
Mercury	2	2	0.098	-	ppb	12/18/18	N	Erosion of natural deposits; Discharge from refineries and factories; Runoff from landfills; Runoff from cropland
Nitrate	10	10	1.98	1.91 - 2.04	ppm	2019	N	Runoff from fertilizer use; Leaching from septic tanks, sewage; Erosion of natural deposits
Chlorine	MRDL = 4	-	1.51	0.77-1.51	ppm	1/2019	N	Water additive used to control microbes

*EPA's MCL for fluoride is 4 ppm. However, Pennsylvania has set a lower MCL to better protect human health.

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	0.66	0.66 - 2.2	ppm	10/24/2019	N	Water additive used to control microbes.

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	1.72	ppb	0	N	Corrosion of household plumbing.
Copper	1.3	1.3	0.063	ppm	0	N	Corrosion of household plumbing.

DETECTED CONTAMINANTS HEALTH EFFECTS LANGUAGE AND CORRECTIVE ACTIONS:

None

OTHER VIOLATIONS:

The results of 3 chlorine residual samples from May, 2018 were not received by the DEP within the allotted time frame. The results of these samples have since been reported to the DEP. In 2018, samples for nitrate/nitrite and cyanide were lost at the laboratory that was analyzing the samples. 1 sample for nitrate/nitrite is required each year and 1 sample for cyanide is required every 3 years. Make-up samples for nitrate/nitrite and cyanide were taken in 2019 and did not show any elevated levels of either contaminant that would have made the water unsafe. The result of an entry point chlorine sample from February 21, 2019 was not received by the DEP within the allotted time frame. The result of this sample has since been reported to the DEP. The results of some of the weekly chlorine residual samples from the distribution system from February, July, August, and September 2019 were not received by the DEP within the allotted time frame. The results of these samples have since been reported to the DEP. Samples for total trihalomethanes (TTHMs) and haloacetic acids (HAA5) are required to be taken from a location in the distribution system every year within 3 days of September 4th. In 2019, TTHM and HAA5 samples were taken on September, 27 at the entry point to the distribution system, not within the distribution system. TTHM and HAA5 samples will be taken at the correct location within 3 days of September 4th, 2020. A public notification of the 2018 and early 2019 violations should have been issued within 12 months of when the first violation occurred, so a public notification of the original violations, as well as the missed public notification deadline is being distributed with this report.

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. Milesburg Borough Water Authority _____ 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:

The Authority continues to ask the customers to help conserve water and report any leaks, especially during a drought period. In addition, the Authority would like to remind all customers that any water meters that are located in unheated spaces are required to be protected from freezing by the customer. If you have any questions, please give the Authority a call. Water Authority Members: Fred Kellerman, Chairman; Plummer Davidson, Vice Chairman; Paul Bartley; Paul Packer; and George Fultz.

IMPORTANT INFORMATION ABOUT YOUR DRINKING WATER FAILURE TO MONITOR

**ESTE INFORME CONTIENE INFORMACIÓN IMPORTANTE ACERCA DE SU AGUA POTABLE. HAGA QUE
ALGUIEN LO TRADUZCA PARA USTED, O HABLE CON ALGUIEN QUE LO ENTIENDA.**

Monitoring Requirements Not Met for Milesburg Borough Water Authority

Our water system violated several drinking water standards over the past year. Even though these were not emergencies, as our customers, you have a right to know what happened and what we did to correct these situations.

We are required to monitor your drinking water for specific contaminants on a regular basis. Results of regular monitoring are an indicator of whether or not our drinking water meets health standards. During 2018 and 2019 we did not complete all monitoring or testing for contaminants and therefore cannot be sure of the quality of our drinking water during that time.

What should I do?

There is nothing you need to do at this time.

The table below lists the contaminant(s) we did not properly test for during the last year, how often we are supposed to sample for these contaminants and how many samples we are supposed to take, how many samples we took, when samples should have been taken, and the date on which follow-up samples were (or will be) taken.

Contaminant	Required sampling frequency	Number of samples taken	When all samples should have been taken	When samples were or will be taken
Nitrate	Annual	1	2018	February 6, 2019
Nitrite	Annual	1	2018	February 6, 2019
Cyanide (Free)	Three Years	1	2018	January 17, 2019
Total Trihalomethanes	Annual	1	September 4, 2019 (+/- 3 days)	September 4, 2020 (+/- 3 days)
Haloacetic Acids	Annual	1	September 4, 2019 (+/- 3 days)	September 4, 2020 (+/- 3 days)

What happened? What was done?

In 2018, samples for nitrate/nitrite and cyanide were lost at the laboratory that was analyzing the samples. We have since taken the required samples for nitrate, nitrite, and cyanide, as described in the last column of the table above. These samples showed we are meeting drinking water standards. Samples for total trihalomethanes and haloacetic acids were taken on September 27, at the entry point to the distribution system, instead of at a location within the distribution system, as is required. Follow-up total trihalomethane and haloacetic acid samples will be taken within 3 days of September 4, 2020, at the correct location within the distribution system. Historical trihalomethane and haloacetic acid monitoring shows our water consistently meets drinking water standards for acceptable levels of these contaminants.

For more information, please contact Nick Witherite: 416 Front Street, P.O. Box 282, Milesburg, PA 16853 at (814) 355-4262.

Please share this information with all the other people who drink this water, especially those who may not have received this notice directly (for example, people in apartments, nursing homes, schools, and businesses). You can do this by posting this notice in a public place or distributing copies by hand or mail.

IMPORTANT INFORMATION ABOUT YOUR DRINKING WATER

FAILURE TO MAINTAIN RECORDS

ESTE INFORME CONTIENE INFORMACIÓN MUY IMPORTANTE SOBRE SU AGUA DE BEBER.
TRADUZCALO O HABLE CON ALGUIEN QUE LO ENTIENDA BIEN.

Recordkeeping Requirements Not Met for Milesburg Borough Water Authority

We violated a drinking water requirement.

- ☐ We failed to retain written records about our recycled flows in accordance with the Filter Backwash Recycling Rule.
- ☐ We failed to notify the Department that we are recycling our waste stream.
- ☒ We incurred a record keeping violation under the Safe Drinking Water Act.

What should I do?

There is nothing you need to do at this time. You may continue to drink the water. If a situation arises where the water is no longer safe to drink, you will be notified within 24 hours.

What happened? What was done?

The results of some weekly distribution system chlorine residual samples for May 2018, February 2019, July 2019, August 2019, and September 2019, and an entry point chlorine sample from February 21, 2019 were not received by the DEP within the acceptable time frames. The results of these samples have since been reported to the DEP. Additionally, a public notification of nitrate, nitrite, and cyanide samples that were lost in 2018 and the May 2018 and February 2019 violations described above should have been distributed within 12 months of when the original violation occurred. Public notifications are being issued now to correct the missed notification deadline.

For more information, please contact Nick Witherite: 416 Front Street, P.O. Box 282, Milesburg, PA 16853 at (814) 355-4262

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This notice is being sent to you by the Milesburg Borough Water Authority

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