

# COMMONWEALTH OF PENNSYLVANIA DEPARTMENT OF ENVIRONMENTAL PROTECTION BUREAU OF SAFE DRINKING WATER

2022 ANNUAL DRINKING WATER QUALITY REPORT
PWSID #: 5630045 NAME: Tri-County Joint Municipal 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 Keith Marucci at 724-377-2211 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 on the first Wednesday of each month at 6:00pm at the Authority Offices - 26 Monongahela Ave. Fredericktown, PA 15333
SOURCE(S) OF WATER:
Our water source(s) is/are: (Name-Type-Location)
Our water source is the Monongahela River which is a community water source located in East Bethlehem Twp,
Washington County
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 [insert potential Sources of Contamination listed in your Source Water Assessment Summary]. Overall, our source(s) has/have [little, moderate, high] risk of significant contamination. A summary report of the Assessment is available on the Source

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).

Water Assessment Summary Reports eLibrary web page: <a href="www.elibrary.dep.state.pa.us/dsweb/View/Collection-10045">www.elibrary.dep.state.pa.us/dsweb/View/Collection-10045</a>. 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 Washington

Regional Office, Records Management Unit at (724) 847-5270.

### **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, 2021. 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 ( $\mu g/L$ )

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	
Barium (IOC)	2	2	0.0332	-	mg/L	5/4/22	N	Discharge of drilling waste: Discharge from metal refineries: Erosion of natural deposits.	
Nitrate	10	10	0.31	-	mg/L	4/27/22	N	Runoff from fertilizer use: Leaching from septic tanks, sewage: Erosion of natural deposits.	
Haloacetic Acids	0.060	0.060	0.0427	0.0158- 0.0427	mg/L	12/15/22	N	By-Product of drinking water disinfection.	
Trihalomethan es	0.080	0.080	0.0949	0.055- 0.0949	mg/L	9/14/22	Y	By-Product of drinking water disinfection.	
Trihalomethan es	0.080	0.080	0.097	0.0229- 0.097	mg/L	12/15/22	Y	By-Product of drinking water disinfection.	

<sup>\*</sup>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	0.20	1.89	1.89-2.8	ppm	9/8/22	N	Water additive used to control microbes.		

Lead and Copper								
Contaminant	Action Level (AL)	MCLG	90 <sup>th</sup> Percentile Value	Units	# of Sites Above AL of Total Sites	Violation Y/N	Sources of Contamination	
Lead	15	0	3.059	ppb	NA	N	Corrosion of household plumbing.	
Copper	1.3	1.3	0.053	ppm	NA	N	Corrosion of household plumbing.	

Microbial (related	Microbial (related to Assessments/Corrective Actions regarding TC positive results)								
Contaminants	TT	MCLG	Assessments/ Corrective Actions	Violation Y/N	Sources of Contamination				
Total Coliform Bacteria	Any system that has failed to complete all the required assessments <b>or</b> correct all identified sanitary defects, is in violation of the treatment technique requirement		See detailed description under "Detected Contaminants Health Effects Language and Corrective Actions" section	N	Naturally present in the environment.				

Microbial (related	Microbial (related to E. coli)								
Contaminants	MCL	MCLG	Positive Sample(s)	Violation Y/N	Sources of Contamination				
E. coli	Routine and repeat samples are total coliform-positive and either is <i>E. coli</i> -positive or system fails to take repeat samples following <i>E. coli</i> -positive routine sample or system fails to analyze total coliform-positive repeat sample for <i>E. coli</i> .	0	0	N	Human and animal fecal waste.				
Contaminants	TT	MCLG	Assessments/ Corrective Actions	Violation Y/N	Sources of Contamination				
E. coli	Any system that has failed to complete all the required assessments <b>or</b> correct all identified sanitary defects, is in violation of the treatment technique requirement	N/A	See description under "Detected Contaminants Health Effects Language and Corrective Actions" section	N	Human and animal fecal waste.				

Turbidity							
Contaminant	MCL	MCLG	Level Detected	Sample Date	Violation Y/N	Source of Contamination	
Turbidity	TT=1 NTU for a single measurement	0	0.0	01/01/22	N	Soil runoff	
	TT= at least 95% of monthly samples<0.3		100%	2022	N		

Total Organic Carbon (TOC)								
	Range of %		Number of					
	Removal	Range of percent	quarters out of	Violation	Sources of			
Contaminant	Required	removal achieved	compliance	Y/N	Contamination			
TOC	25-35	29.8-67	1	N	Naturally present in			
					the environment			

DETECTED CONTAMINANTS HEALTH EFFECTS LANGUAGE AND CORRECTIVE ACTIONS:
About our Trihalomethanes (TTHM) exceedance: There was a TTHM exceedance in the 2nd and 3rd Qtr.of 2022.
Some people who drinking water containing trihalomethanes in excess of the MCL over many years could
experience problems with their liver, kidneys or central nervous system and may have an increased risk of getting
cancer. If you have any additional questions, please call us at 724-377-2211 or the PA DEP Regional Drinking
Water Office of Washington County 724-847-5270.
OTHER VIOLATIONS:
Tri-County had no violations for 2022.

#### **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

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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 childre	∍n.
Lead in drinking water is primarily from materials and components associated with service lines and home plumbing.	
Tri County Joint Municipal Authority is	
responsible for providing high quality drinking water, but cannot control the variety of materials used in plumbi	
components. When your water has been sitting for several hours, you can minimize the potential for lead exposure	
flushing your tap for 30 seconds to 2 minutes before using water for drinking or cooking. If you are concerned about lea	
in your water, you may wish to have your water tested. Information on lead in drinking water, testing methods, and ste	
you can take to minimize exposure is available from the Safe Drinking Water Hotline or	at
http://www.epa.gov/safewater/lead.	
OTHER INFORMATION:	
OTHER INFORMATION.	
There were no exceedances for treatment techniques.	