

ANNUAL DRINKING WATER QUALITY REPORT
HELLERTOWN BOROUGH AUTHORITY

We're pleased to present to you this year's Annual Drinking Water Quality Report. This report is designed to inform you about the quality water and services we deliver to you every day. Our constant goal is to provide you with a dependable supply of drinking water. We want you to understand the efforts we make to continually improve the water treatment process and protect our water resources. We are committed to ensuring the quality of your water. Our water source is 14 springs located throughout Polk Valley and 2 wells located in town, one behind our office building on Durham Street and one on Division Street behind the Bank of Pennsylvania.

I'm pleased to report that our drinking water meets federal and state requirements.

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 David Riegel, Secretary/Manager at 610-838-8051. We want our valued customers to be informed about their water utility. If you want to learn more, please attend any of the regularly scheduled meetings. They are held on the second Wednesday of every month at 7:30 PM in our office building at 501 Durham St.

Hellertown Borough Authority routinely monitors for constituents in your drinking water according to Federal and State laws. These tables show the results of our monitoring for the period of January 1st to December 31st, 1998. All drinking water, including bottled drinking water, may be reasonably expected to contain at least small amounts of some constituents. It's important to remember that the presence of these constituents does not necessarily pose a health risk.

A complete table listing all regulated contaminants is included at the end of this report. We have acquired statewide or system specific waivers for many of the synthetic organic contaminants due to their nonexistence in our area. For a list of all regulated contaminants for which we are required to monitor and test for please call our office.

In these tables you will find many terms and abbreviations you might not be familiar with. To help you better understand these terms we've provided the following definitions:

Parts per million (ppm) or Milligrams per liter (mg/l)-one part per million corresponds to one minute in two years or a single penny in \$10,000.

Parts per billion (ppb) or Micrograms per liter - one part per billion corresponds to one minute in 2,000 years, or a single penny in \$10,000,000.

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

Maximum Contaminant Level - The "Maximum Allowed" (MCL) is 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 - The "Goal" (MCLG) is 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.

Picocuries per liter (pCi/L) - picocuries per liter is a measure of the radioactivity in water.

Test Results - Springs

Radioactive Contaminants

Contaminant (Unit of measurement)	Violation Y/N	Level Detected	Range	MCLG	MCL	Likely Source of Contamination
5. Alpha Emitters (pCi/l)	N	1.8		0	15	Erosion of natural deposits

Inorganic Contaminants

Contaminant (Unit of measurement)	Violation Y/N	Level Detected	Range	MCLG	MCL	Likely Source of Contamination
14. Copper (ppm)	N	.66	(a)	1.3	AL =1.3	Corrosion of household plumbing systems; erosion of natural deposits; leaching from wood preservatives.
17. Lead (ppb.)	N	9	(b)	0	AL =15	Corrosion of household plumbing systems, erosion of natural deposits.
19. Nitrate(as Nitrogen)(ppm)	N	1.45		10	10	Runoff from fertilizer use; leaching from septic tanks, sewage erosion of natural deposits.

Footnotes:

(a) Only 1 of the 20 samples we collected from customer taps exceeded the action level.

(b) None of the 20 samples we collected from customer taps exceeded the action level.

Test Results - Durham St. Well

Inorganic Contaminants

Contaminant (Unit of measurement)	Violation Y/N	Level Detected	Range	MCLG	MCL	Likely Source of Contamination
16. Fluoride (ppb)	N	110		4000	4000	Erosion of natural deposits, water additive which promotes strong teeth, discharge from fertilizer & aluminum factories.
19. Nitrate (as Nitrogen)(ppm)	N	1.99		10	10	Runoff from fertilizer use; leaching from septic tanks, sewage; erosion of natural deposits.

Test Results - Division St. Well

Inorganic Contaminants

Contaminant (Unit of Measurement)	Violation Y/N	Level Detected	Range	MCLG	MCL	Likely Source of Contamination
19. Nitrate (as Nitrogen)(ppm)	N	1.95		10	10	Runoff from fertilizer use; leaching from septic tanks, sewage, erosion of natural deposits.

As you can see by the table, our system had no violations. We're proud that your drinking water meets or exceeds all Federal and State requirements. We have learned through our monitoring and testing that some constituents have been detected.

All sources of drinking water are subject to potential contamination by constants that are naturally occurring or man made. Those constituents can be microbes, organic or inorganic chemicals, or radioactive materials. All 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 the 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 at 1-800-426-4791.

MCL's are set at very stringent levels for health effects. To understand the possible health effects described for many regulated constituents, a person would have to drink 2 liters of water every

day at the MCL level for a lifetime to have a one-in-a-million chance of having the described health effect.

Nitrates: As a precaution we always notify physicians and health care providers in this area if there is ever a higher than normal level of nitrates in the water supply.

We have recently undertaken efforts to find additional sources of water and are actively seeking to develop another well as a backup supply. One attempt near the entrance to our Reservoir Park was not successful. Within the next year we will be looking at other potential sites.

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 microbiological contaminants are available from Safe Drinking Water Hotline (800-426-4791).

Please call our office if you have questions.

We at the Hellertown Borough Authority will continue our efforts to provide top quality water to every tap. We ask that all our customers help us protect our water sources, which are the heart of our community, our way of life and our children's future.