

2008
Annual Drinking Water Quality Report
Jackson Twp Water Authority
PWSID #4110021

Este informe contiene información muy importante sobre su agua de beber. Tradúzcalo ó hable con alguien que lo entienda bien. (This report contains very important information about your drinking water. Translate it, or speak to someone who understands it.)

We're very pleased to provide you with 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 safe and dependable supply of drinking water. We want you to understand the efforts we make to continually improve the water system and protect our water resources. We are committed to ensuring the quality of your water. Our water source is purchased bulk from Ebensburg Borough Municipal Authority, which in turn buys bulk from The Greater Johnstown Water Authority, which is treated surface water from Saltlick Reservoir.

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 **Jackson Township Water Authority at (814) 322-1262**. You may also e-mail comments or questions to [**Jwaterauth@aol.com**](mailto:Jwaterauth@aol.com). More information is available on the World Wide Web at [**www.waterdata.com**](http://www.waterdata.com) and at [**www.epa.gov/safewater**](http://www.epa.gov/safewater). We want our valued customers to be informed about their water utility. If you want to learn more, please attend any of our regularly scheduled meetings. They are held on **the fourth Tuesday of every month at 7:00 p.m. at the Water Authority office, located at 2949 William Penn Ave. The exception is November 17, 2009.**

The current water system has 1,449 customers. The Water Authority purchased 78,198,000 gallons and sold 57,600,500 gallons of water for the year 2008. The Authority was established in 1956 and has grown considerably over the years. One new project on the horizon for this year will be the updating and improving of our metering system. Other possible projects would be the water line extension on the Swigle Mountain Road.

Check your water system for leaks.

1. Check all faucets for drips. Replace worn and leaking washer, gaskets, pipes or defective fixtures.
2. Check for leaks on outside faucets, and make sure the valve closes properly. .
3. Check toilets for leaks- they are the most common cause of high bills. Check the overflow of the tank to make sure no water is running over (float level may be set too high). To check the flapper valve leak, put a small amount of food coloring in the toilet tank after it fills. Do not flush the toilet for at least an hour, or overnight if possible. If the food coloring shows up in the bowl without flushing, you probably have a leaking flapper or plunger ball valve. If no food color in tank or bowl you definitely have a leaking flapper or plunger ball valve.

The Jackson Twp Water Authority routinely monitors for constituents in your drinking water according to Federal and State laws. This table shows the results of our monitoring for the period of January 1st to December 31st, **2008**. 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.

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 the Safe Drinking Water Hotline (800-426-4791).

In this table 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:

Not Applicable (N/A) – not applicable

Non-Detects (ND) - laboratory analysis indicates that the contaminant is not present at a detectable level.

Parts per million (ppm) or Milligrams per liter (mg/l) - one part per million or milligrams per liter (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 or micrograms per liter (corresponds to one minute in 2,000 years, or a single penny in \$10,000,000).

Nephelometric Turbidity Unit (NTU) - nephelometric turbidity unit is a measure of the clarity of water. Turbidity in excess of 5 NTU is just noticeable to the average person.

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

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

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 contamination.

Chemical Contaminant	MCL in CCR units	MCLG	Highest Level Detected	Range of Detections	Units	Sample Date	Violation Y/N	Sources of Contamination
Turbidity (a)	TT	n/a	.06	.01 to .1	NTU		N	Soil Runoff
Fluoride (a)	2	2	1.2	.05 to 1.1	ppm		N	Erosion of natural deposits: water additive which promotes strong teeth: discharge from fertilizer and aluminum factories
Chlorine (a)	MRDL=4	MRDL G=4	1.4		ppm		N	Water additive added to control microbes
TTHM (Total trihalomethnes)	80	n/a	79.2	14.38 To 79.2	ppb	10/22/08	N	By-product of drinking water disinfection
Haloacetic Acids (HAA)	60	n/a	92.5	9.2 to 92.5	ppb	10/22/08	Y	By-product of drinking water disinfection
Total Organic Carbon (a)	TT	n/a	1.7	0608 to 1.76	ppm	8/26/08	N	Naturally present in the environment
Combined radium (pCi/l) (a)		0			5			Erosion of natural deposits

Contaminant	Action Level (AL)	MCLG	90 th Percentile Value	Units	# of Sites Above AL of Total Sites	Violation of TT Y/N	Sources of Contamination
Lead (b)	15	0	3	ppb	0	N	Corrosion of household plumbing
Copper (b)	1.3	1.3	.05	ppm	0	N	Corrosion of household plumbing

Footnotes:

(a) As reported by Ebensburg Borough Municipal Authority - we do not test for these at this time.

(b) As reported by Ebensburg Borough Municipal Authority

TERMS SIMPLY STATED:

Parts per million (ppm)

3 drops in 42 gallons
1 second in 12 days
1 penny in \$10,000
1 inch in 16 miles

Parts per billion (ppb)

1 drop in 14,000 gallons
1 second in 32 years
1 penny in \$10,000,000
1 inch in 16,000 miles

Lead (ppb) - Infants and children who drink water containing lead in excess of the action level could experience delays in their physical or mental development. Children could show slight deficits in attention span and learning abilities. Adults who drink this water over many years could develop kidney problems or high blood pressure. Lead problems typically are associated with the home's internal plumbing pipe system.

TTHMs [Total Trihalomethanes]. Some people who drink water containing trihalomethanes in excess of the MCL over many years may experience problems with their liver, kidneys, or central nervous systems, and may have an increased risk of getting cancer.

Chlorine (ppm) - Some people who use water containing chlorine well in excess of the MRDL could experience irritating effects to their eyes and nose. Some people who drink water containing chlorine well in excess of the MRDL could experience stomach discomfort.

Infants and young children are typically more vulnerable to lead in drinking water than the general population. It is possible that lead levels at your home may be higher than at other homes in the community as a result of materials used in your home's plumbing. If you are concerned about elevated lead levels in your home's water, you may wish to have your water tested and flush your tap for 30 seconds to 2 minutes before using tap water. Additional information is available from the Safe Drinking Water Hotline (1-800-426-4791).

What does this mean?

As you can see by the table, there was a HAA Violation. Testing in 2008 has indicated levels below the MCL. Ebersburg will continue to monitor for HAA as required and have increased the amount of testing in other areas of their system. 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 contaminants that are naturally occurring or man made. Those contaminants can be microbes, organic or inorganic chemicals, or radioactive materials. 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.

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 runoff, 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 byproducts of industrial process and petroleum production and mining activities.

In order to ensure that tap water is safe to drink, EPA prescribes regulations which limit the amount of certain contaminants in water provided by public water systems. FDA regulations establish limits for contaminants in bottled water which must provide the same protection for public health.

Lead: Lead in drinking water is rarely the sole cause of lead poisoning, but it can add to a person's total lead exposure. All potential sources of lead in the household should be identified and removed, replaced or reduced.

In our continuing efforts to maintain a dependable water supply, it may be necessary to make improvements in your water system.

Thank you for allowing us to continue providing your family with clean, quality water this year. In order to maintain a dependable water supply, we sometimes need to make improvements that will benefit all of our customers. These improvements are sometimes reflected as rate structure adjustments. Thank you for understanding. Please call our office if you have questions.

We at Jackson Twp Water Authority work around the clock 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.