



2023 ANNUAL DRINKING WATER QUALITY REPORT

PWSID #: 4140080 NAME: Howard Borough Water Company

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 Cody Strouse at 814-625-2853. 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 second Monday of each Month at 7:30 PM at the Howard Borough Hall located at 146 Black Street Howard PA 16841

SOURCE(S) OF WATER:

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

Well #2 located on East Main Street neat the Little League Fields

Well #3 located on Black Street in Howard Borough Park

Well #4 located on Spearing Street near West End Pavilion

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 underground storage tanks and above ground storage tanks. Overall, our sources have moderate 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 Northcentral Regional Office 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).

put this on Howard Boro web site
CER plan

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 2023. 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:

Alert 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 tap 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)

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

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

ppq = parts per quadrillion, or picograms per liter

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

ppt = parts per trillion, or nanograms per liter (ng/L)

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- EP #102	2	2	0.0389	0.0389	ppm	06/08/2021	N	Discharge of drilling wastes, discharge from metal refineries, Erosion of natural deposits
Barium- EP #103	2	2	0.113	0.113	ppm	06/08/2021	N	Discharge of drilling wastes, discharge from metal refineries, Erosion of natural deposits
Barium- EP #104	2	2	0.0543	0.0543	ppm	06/08/2021	N	Discharge of drilling wastes, discharge from metal refineries, Erosion of natural deposits
Mercury EP #102	2	2	0.267	0.0267	ppb	06/08/2021	N	Erosion of natural deposits, discharge from refineries and factories, runoff from landfills, runoff from croplands
Nitrates EP #102	10	10	4.05	4.05	ppm	12/20/2023	N	Runoff from fertilizer use, leaching from septic tanks, erosion from natural deposits
Nitrates EP #103	10	10	1.03	1.03	ppm	12/20/2023	N	Runoff from fertilizer use, leaching from septic tanks, erosion from natural deposits
Nitrates EP #104	10	10	1.12	1.12	ppm	12/20/2023	N	Runoff from fertilizer use, leaching from septic tanks, erosion from natural deposits
Total Trihalomethanes	80	N/A	16	16	ppb	08/09/2022	N	By product of drinking water chlorination
Combined Uranium	30	30	0.917	0.917	ppb	06/08/2021	N	Erosion of natural deposits
Distribution Chlorine	4.0	4.0	0.85	0.62-0.85	ppm	04/2023	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
EP #102 Chlorine	0.40	0.40	0.40-1.24	ppm	02/19/2023	N	Water additive used to control microbes.
EP #103 Chlorine	0.40	0.40	0.40-1.47	ppm	02/22/2023	N	Water additive used to control microbes.
EP #104 Chlorine	0.40	0.43	0.43-1.15	ppm	02/16/2023	N	Water additive used to control microbes.

Lead and Copper							
Contaminant	Action Level (AL)	MCLG	90th Percentile Value	Units	# of Sites Above AL of Total Sites	Violation Y/N	Sources of Contamination
Lead	15	0	0.79	ppb	0	N	Corrosion of household plumbing.
Copper	1.3	1.3	0.86	ppm	0	N	Corrosion of household plumbing.

OTHER VIOLATIONS:

See attached Tier 3 Public Notice

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. Howard Borough Water Company 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>.



PUBLIC NOTICE

**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 Howard Borough Water Compay

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 2023 we failed to monitor for the following 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, the required sampling frequency, how many samples we took, when samples should have been taken, and the date on which corrective action 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
TTHM	Annual	0	August 10 th 2023	August 10 th 2024
HAA5	Annual	0	August 10 th 2023	August 10 th 2024

What happened? What was done? When will it be resolved?

TTHM and HAA5 samples were missed for 2023. Howard Borough will sample for these contaminants in the 2024 year as specified on our monitoring calendar

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.

For more information regarding this notice, please contact Cody Strouse at 814-625-2853.

Certified by:

Signature: Cody Strouse

Date: 3/7/24

Print Name and Title: Cody Strouse water operator

As a representative of the Public Water system indicated above, I certify that public notification addressing the above violation was distributed to all customers in accordance with the delivery requirements outlined in Chapter 25 PA Code 109 Subchapter D of the Department of Environmental Protection (DEP's) regulations. The following methods of distribution were used: _____

PWS ID#: 4140080

Date distributed: 4/2/24