



pennsylvania
DEPARTMENT OF ENVIRONMENTAL
PROTECTION

2020 ANNUAL DRINKING WATER QUALITY REPORT

Howard Borough Water Company
PWSID#: 4140080

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:

Howard Borough Hall
146 Black Street
Howard, Pennsylvania 16841
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 on the 2nd Monday of each month at 7:30 PM at the Howard Borough Hall.

SOURCES OF WATER:

- Well #2 East Main Street Near the Little League Fields
- Well #3 Black Street in Howard Borough Park
- Well #4 Spearing Street Near the West End Pavilion

A *Source Water Assessment* of our sources was completed by the PA Department of Environmental Protection (PA DEP). Overall, our sources have little risk of significant contamination. A summary report of the Assessment is available on the *Source Water Assessment & Protection* web page at:

<http://www.dep.state.pa.us/dep/deputate/watermgmt/wc/Subjects/SrceProt/SourceAssessment/default.htm>

Complete reports were distributed to municipalities, water supplier, local planning agencies and PA DEP 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. Immunocompromised 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* at 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 1st to December 31st 2020. 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.

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 storm water 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 storm water run-off, and residential uses.
- Organic chemical contaminants, including synthetic and volatile organic chemicals, which are byproducts of industrial processes and petroleum production, and can also come from gas stations, urban storm water run-off, 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 prescribe 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 much 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* at 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>.

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 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.

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 pictograms per liter (pg/L)

CHEMICAL CONTAMINANTS

Chemical Contaminant	MCL in CCL Units	MCLG	Level Detected	Range of Detections	Units	Sample Date	Violation Y/N	Sources of Contamination
Barium	2	0	0.094	.035-.094	ppm	06/03/20	N	Erosion of Natural Deposits
Fluoride	2	0	.75	.14-.75	ppm	06/03/20	N	Erosion of Natural Deposits
Nitrate	10	0	4.0	.89-4.0	ppm	06/06/18	N	Erosion of Natural Deposits
Nickel	0.1	0	.00224	.00085-.00224	ppm	06/06/18	N	Erosion of Natural Deposits
Selenium	0.5	0	.00295	0-.00295	ppm	06/06/18	N	Erosion of Natural Deposits
Uranium	30	0	2.09	0 – 2.09	pCi/L	02/09/12	N	Erosion of Natural Deposits
Chromium	0.1	0	.0046	.0034-.0046	ppm	06/06/18	N	Erosion of Natural Deposits
TTHM	80	0	8.0	0-8.0	ppb	09/02/20	N	By-Product of Drinking Water Chlorination
HAA5	60	0	1.24	0-1.24	ppb	08/10/20	N	By-Product of Drinking Water Chlorination
Radium 226	5	0	.573	0-.573	pCi/L	06/06/18	N	Erosion of Natural Deposits
Radium 228	5	0	.645	0-.645	pCi/L	06/06/18	N	Erosion of Natural Deposits

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

DETECTED SAMPLE RESULTS:

ENTRY POINT DISINFECTION RESIDUAL

Contaminant	Minimum Disinfectant Residual	Lowest Level Detected	Range of Detections	Units	Sample Date	Violation Y/N	Sources of Contamination
Chlorine	0.4	0.5	.5-1.55	ppm	2020	N	Water Additive Used to Control Microbes

LEAD & 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	0.899	ppb	0	N	Corrosion of Household Plumbing
Copper	1.3	0	0.227	ppm	0	N	Corrosion of Household Plumbing

MICROBIAL

Contaminant	MCL	MCLG	Highest # or % of Positive Samples	Violation Y/N	Sources of Contamination
Total Coliform Bacteria	<p>For systems that collect <40 samples/month:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> More than 1 positive monthly sample <p>For systems that collect ≥40 samples/month:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> 5% of monthly samples are positive 	0	0	N	Naturally Present in the Environment
Fecal Coliform Bacteria or <i>E. coli</i>	0	0	0	N	Human and Animal Fecal Waste



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 4th quarter 2020

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 2020 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
PCB's	Quartley	3	4 th qtr. 2020	taken Jan.2021

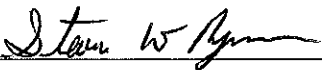
What happened? What was done? When will it be resolved?

Samples had to be resubmitted due to lab calibration issue. Samples were taken in January of 2021 and submitted to PA DEP

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 Howard Borough Water Co. at 814-625-2853

Certified by:

Signature: 

Date: 04/15/2021

Print Name and Title: Steve Nyman - 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: Distributed with annual CCR

PWS ID#: 4140080

Date distributed: 5/01/2021