2008 ANNUAL DRINKING WATER QUALITY REPORT

PWSID #: 7360143 **NAME: WEST EARL TOWNSHIP**

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 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 Robert Buckwalter, Jr. at 157 W. Metzler Road, Brownstown, PA 17508 or by calling 717-859-3201.

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 first Monday of every month at 7 p.m.

SOURCES OF WATER:

The Nolt Well located north of Turtle Hill Road and surface water from the City of Lancaster – primarily from the Conestoga Water Treatment Plant.

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).

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, 2008. 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 AND ABBREVIATIONS:

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 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.

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 picograms per liter

ppt = parts per trillion, or nanograms per liter

DETECTED SAMPLE RESULTS:

Chemical Contaminant	MCL In CCR Units	MCLG	Highest Level Detected	Range of Detections	Units	Violation	Sources of Contamination
Atrizene (2008)	3	3	0.1	Single Sample	ppb	No	Runoff from herbicide used on row crops
Nitrate (2008)	10	10	3.82	2.40 – 3.82	ppm	No	Runoff from fertilizer use; Leaching from septic tanks, sewage; Erosion of natural deposits
Sodium (2008)	N/A	N/A	169	148 - 169	ppm	No	Byproduct of softening
Tetrachloroethylene (2008)	5	0	1.70	Single Sample	ppb	No	Discharge from factories and dry cleaners
Trihalomethanes (2008)	80	N/A	36.15*	2.30-93.50	ppb	No	By-product of drinking water chlorination
HAA (Haloacetic Acids) (2008)	60	N/A	30.33*	1.10-70.8	ppb	No	By-product of drinking water chlorination
Total Dissolved Solids (2008)	500	500	518	445 - 518	ppm	Yes	Byproduct of softening
Fluoride** (2003)	2	2	0.11	n/a	ppm	No	Water additive to promote strong teeth
Chlorine Residual (2008)	MRDL 4	MRDLG 4	0.64	0.40-0.64	ppm	No	Additive to control microbes Disinfectant residual

** Highest running annual average*

***Fluoride result from the well, not from Lancaster City*

Contaminant	Action Level (AL)	MCLG	90th Percentile Value	Units	# of Sites Above AL of Total Sites	Violation Of TT	Sources of Contamination
Lead (2007)	15	0	4.9	ppb	0	No	Household plumbing corrosion
Copper (2007)	1.3	1.3	0.314	ppm	0	No	Household plumbing corrosion

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 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).

OTHER INFORMATION:

ABOUT FLOURIDE: The ideal fluoride content in drinking water is .7 to 1.2 ppm. The water from the Nolt well contains very little fluoride and none is added to that water. However, the water that the Township receives from the City of Lancaster does contain fluoride. Therefore, residents of West Earl Township receive a mixture of non-fluoridated and fluoridated water. To get an idea of how much fluoride is contained in the water from the City of Lancaster please see the attached CCR.

ABOUT SODIUM AND TOTAL DISSOLVED SOLIDS: These two chemicals occur in the treated water from the well because of the water softening system that was in place. At the beginning of 2009 the use of water softeners were discontinued which will cause the sodium and total dissolved solids level to be significantly lower for 2009.