

2009 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, 2009. 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
Nitrate (2009)	10	10	3.8	3.3 – 3.8	ppm	No	Runoff from fertilizer use; Leaching from septic tanks, sewage; Erosion of natural deposits
Sodium (2009)	N/A	N/A	32.9	29.4 – 32.9	ppm	No	Byproduct of softening
Tetrachloroethylene (2009)	5	0	2.20	Single Sample	ppb	No	Discharge from factories and dry cleaners
Trihalomethanes (2009)	80	N/A	35.78*	6.00 – 122.00	ppb	No	By-product of drinking water chlorination
HAA (Haloacetic Acids) (2009)	60	N/A	29.93*	1.00 – 77.40	ppb	No	By-product of drinking water chlorination
Total Dissolved Solids (2009)	500	500	509	453 - 509	ppm	Yes	Byproduct of softening
Fluoride** (2003)	2	2	0.11	N/A	ppm	No	Water additive to promote strong teeth
Chlorine Residual (2009)	MRDL 4	MRDLG 4	1.0	0.46-0.64	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	90 th 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 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. West Earl Township 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 drinking water, testing methods, and steps you can take to minimize exposure these are available from the Safe Drinking Water Hotline or at <http://www.epa.gov/safewater/lead>.

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.

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PWS ID# 7360058 -- CITY OF LANCASTER, PA

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SOURCES OF WATER:

Our sources of water are the Conestoga River and the Susqueanna River.

A Source Water Assessment was completed in 2002 by the PA Department of Environmental Protection (PA DEP). The Assessment found our sources are potentially most susceptible to agricultural activity, accidental spills along roads and urban development. Overall, our sources have a low risk of significant contamination. The Assessment is available in the PA DEP's e-library accessed through their web site at www.dep.state.pa.us (Keyword: "source water"). Complete reports were distributed to municipalities, water suppliers, local planning agencies and PA DEP offices. Copies of the complete report are available for review at the PA DEP Lancaster County District Office at 717.299.7601.

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:

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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. MRDLG's 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.

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DETECTED SAMPLE RESULTS: CONESTOGA WATER TREATMENT PLANT

Chemical Contaminant	MCL in CCR units	MCLG	Highest Level Detected	Range of Detections	Units	Sample Date	Violation	Sources of Contamination
Atrazine	3	3	0.6	0.0 – 0.6	PPM	7/15/2009	No	Herbicide runoff
Barium (tested in 2004)	2	2	0.054	Single sample	PPM	4/13/2004	No	Erosion of natural deposits
Chlorine	MRDL=4	MRDLG=4	0.9 (lowest test level)	0.9 – 1.1	PPM	Daily	No	Water additive used to control microbes
Fluoride	2	2	0.9	Single sample	PPM	4/13/2008	No	Water additive which promotes strong teeth
Nitrate	10	10	8.6	3.6 – 8.6	PPM	Quarterly	No	Runoff from fertilizer use
Total Organic Carbon	TT	N/A	3.9	0.96 – 3.9	PPM	Monthly	No	Naturally present in the environment
Beta/Photon emitters (tested in 2003)	50	50	5.5	Single Sample	pCi/L.	6/24/2003	No	Decay of natural and manmade products
Combined Radium (tested in 2003)	5	5	0.1	Single Sample	pCi/L.	6/24/2003	No	Erosion of natural deposits

Contaminant	MCL	MCL G	Highest Level Detected	Sample Date	Violation of TT	Source of Contamination
Turbidity	TT=1 NTU for a single measurement	0	0.12 NTU	12/9/2009	No	Soil runoff
Turbidity	TT= at least 95% of monthly samples ≤0.3 NTU		100 %	All tests under 0.3 NTU	No	

DETECTED SAMPLE RESULTS: SUSQUEHANNA WATER TREATMENT PLANT

Chemical Contaminant	MCL in CCR units	MCLG	Highest Level Detected	Range of Detections	Units	Sample Date	Violation	Sources of Contamination
Atrazine	3	3	0.1	0.0 – 0.1	PPM	7/15/2009	No	Herbicide runoff
Barium (tested in 2004)	2	2	0.026	Single sample	PPM	4/13/2004	No	Erosion of natural deposits
Chlorine	MRDL=4	---	0.6 (lowest test level)	0.6 – 1.1	PPM	Daily	No	Water additive used to control microbes
Fluoride	2	2	0.8	Single sample	PPM	4/13/2004	No	Water additive which promotes strong teeth
Nitrate	10	10	1.0	Single sample	PPM	5/16/2009	No	Runoff from fertilizer use
Total Organic Carbon	TT	N/A	3.9	1.2 – 3.9	PPM	Monthly	No	Naturally present in the environment

Contaminant	MCL	MCLG	Highest Level Detected	Sample Date	Violation	Source of Contamination
Turbidity	TT=1 NTU for a single measurement	0	0.43 NTU	1/27/2009	No	Soil runoff
Turbidity	TT= at least 95% of monthly samples ≤0.3 NTU		97 %	01/2009	No	

DETECTED SAMPLE RESULTS: DISTRIBUTION SYSTEM

Chemical Contaminant	MCL in CCR units	MCLG	Highest Level Detected	Range of Detections	Units	Sample Date	Violation	Sources of Contamination
Haloacetic Acids (HAA)	60	n/a	45	21 – 87	PPB	Quarterly	No	By-product of drinking water disinfection
Trihalomethanes (THM)	80	n/a	68	23 – 150	PPB	Quarterly	No	By-product of drinking water disinfection

Contaminant	Action Level (AL)	MCLG	90 th Percentile Value	Units	# of Sites above action level (of total sites)	Violation	Sources of Contamination
Lead [tested in 2007]	15	0	3.5	PPB	0 of 52	No	Corrosion of household plumbing.
Copper [tested in 2007]	1.3	1.3	0.13	PPM	0 of 52	No	Corrosion of household plumbing.

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:

Nitrate in drinking water at levels above 10 PPM is a health risk for infants less than six months of age. High nitrate can cause blue baby syndrome. Nitrate levels may rise for short periods of time because of rainfall or agricultural activity. If you are caring for an infant ask advice from your health care provider

Microbial contaminants, such as viruses and bacteria, which may come from sewage treatment plants, septic systems, agricultural livestock operations and wildlife.

Lead is not present in City drinking water when it leaves our treatment plants and underground pipes. Water can leach lead from brass or chromed-plated brass faucets and fixtures in the home. For information about lead, go to the city web site: <http://www.cityoflancafterpa.com/lancaftercity/lib/lancaftercity/lead.pdf>. If you have questions about City drinking water, contact Al Nagy at 717.291.4833 or anagy@cityoflancafterpa.com. If lead is 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 connected to service lines and home plumbing. The City of Lancaster is responsible for providing high quality drinking water, but cannot control the materials used in home plumbing. When water has been sitting for several hours, you can minimize the potential for lead exposure by flushing your tap for 30 sec. to 2 min. before using for drinking or cooking. If you are concerned about lead in your water, you may want to have your water tested. Information on lead in drinking water, testing methods and steps you can take to minimize exposure are available from the Safe Drinking Water Hotline or at www.epa.gov/safewater/lead.

Inorganic contaminants, such as salts and metals, that 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 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 storm water runoff, and septic systems.

Radioactive contaminants, which can be naturally occurring or be the result of oil and gas production and mining activities.

Unregulated Contaminant monitoring test results are available upon request. Call Al Nagy at 717.291.4833.

In order to ensure that tap water is safe to drink, EPA and DEP enforces regulations that limit the amount of certain contaminants in water provided by public water systems. FDA and DEP regulations establish limits for contaminants in bottled water that 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 at 800.426.4791.