



COMMONWEALTH OF PENNSYLVANIA  
DEPARTMENT OF ENVIRONMENTAL PROTECTION  
BUREAU OF WATER STANDARDS AND FACILITY REGULATION

**2007 ANNUAL DRINKING WATER QUALITY REPORT**

**PWSID #: 7280026 NAME: Washington Township Municipal Authority (WTMA)**

*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 Mr. Scott Melego, Water Company Superintendent at 717-762-5090. **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 three Tuesdays of each month.**

**SOURCE(S) OF WATER:**

1. Bubbling Spring, Buena Vista Spring, Sulpher Spring (ground water) is near Blue Ridge Summit, South of Rt. 16.
2. Hoover spring (ground water) is on the West side of Rouzerville, South of Rt. 16.
3. Well #5 and Well #6 (ground water) is near Blue Ridge Summit, North of Rt. 16.
4. Well # 10 (ground water) is near Blue Ridge Summit, South of Rt. 16.
5. Brookdale Well (ground water) is off of Mentzer Gap Road, near the Brookdale development.
6. Hess Well ( ground water) is East of Fish and Game Rd.

A Source Water Assessment of our sources was completed in 2003 by the PA Department of Environmental Protection (PADEP). This Assessment was expanded upon by a consultant for the Authority and further refined in 2005. Summary reports of the Assessment for potential contamination to WTMA's sources are identified in these reports. They include: gas stations and land use. For more information on the water assessment report or to view a copy of the report please call (717) 762-5090

**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, 2007. 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 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.

**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

**ND** = Non Detect

## DETECTED SAMPLE RESULTS:

Chemical Contaminant	MCL in CCR units	MCLG	Highest Level Detected	Range of Detections	Units	Sample Date	Violation Y/N	Sources of Contamination
Chlorine	4	4	0.87	0.32 – 0.87	ppm	12/12/07	N	Water additive to control Microbes
Nitrate	10	10	2.14	ND – 2.14	ppm	5/02/07	N	Runoff from fertilizer use
Haloacetic Acids	60	60	1.30	ND – 1.30	ppb	8/08/07	N	Chlorination-by-product
Trihalomethanes	80	80	2.10	ND – 2.10	ppb	8/08/07	N	Chlorination-by-product
Barium	2	2	0.08	ND – 0.08	ppm	8/18/03	N	Metal refineries Erosion of Natural deposits
Combined Radium 226 Radium 228	5	0	0.777	ND – 0.777	pCi/l	2/07/06	N	Erosion of natural deposits

Contaminant	Action Level (AL)	MCLG	90 <sup>th</sup> Percentile Value	Units	# of Sites Above AL of Total Sites	Violation of TTY/N	Sources of Contamination
Lead	15	0	7.1	ppb	2 out of 40	N	Corrosion of household plumbing.
Copper	1.3	1.3	0.844	ppm	4 out of 40	N	Corrosion of household Plumbing.

## Health Information:

Lead (ppb): 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 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 (800-426-4791).

Copper (ppm): Copper is an essential nutrient, but some people who drink water containing copper in excess of the action level over a relatively short amount of time could experience gastrointestinal distress. Some people who drink water containing copper in excess of the action level over many years could suffer liver or kidney damage. People with Wilson's disease should consult their personal doctor.

## 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).

### **Other Information:**

WTMA had no detections of Volatile Organic Compounds or Synthetic Organic Compounds.

The WTMA serves approximately 5,600 Washington Township residents. Additionally, the WTMA treats and distributes over 572,000 gallons of water every day, through 5 water treatment facilities and approximately 36 miles of water pipe lines.

### **Reminder Billing Dates**

**Water Service: Nov 1, Feb 1, May 1, Aug 1**

**Sewer Service: Dec 1, Mar 1, June 1, Sept 1**

**Please don't let water go to waste!**

**For more information on water conservation tips visit [www.waterwiser.org](http://www.waterwiser.org).**