

# 2007 Consumer Confidence Report



## **Spanish (Español)**

Este informe contiene información muy importante sobre la calidad de su agua beber. Tradúscalo o hable con alguien que lo entienda bien.

## **Is my water safe?**

Last year, as in years past, your tap water met all U.S. Environmental Protection Agency (EPA) and state drinking water health standards. Local Water vigilantly safeguards its water supplies and once again we are proud to report that our system has never violated a maximum contaminant level or any other water quality standard.

## **Do I need to take special precautions?**

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/Centers for Disease Control (CDC) guidelines on appropriate means to lessen the risk of infection by *Cryptosporidium* and other microbial contaminants are available from the Safe Water Drinking Hotline (800-426-4791).

## **Where does my water come from?**

The water you drink comes from two (2) sources. The Borough has a well on North Walnut Street in East Marlborough Township and an Inter-connect with Chester Water Authority. This report represents the water quality of both water sources.

## **Why are there contaminants in my drinking water?**

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 (EPA) Safe Drinking Water Hotline (800-426-4791).

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. Microbial contaminants, such as viruses and bacteria that 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 runoff, 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 prescribes regulations that limit the amount of certain contaminants in water provided by public water systems. Food and Drug Administration (FDA) regulations establish limits for contaminants in bottled water which must provide the same protection for public health.

## **Monitoring and reporting violations**

During the 4th quarter of 2007 (October, November, December) the Borough missed one of our required TTHM, HAA5 sampling sites. Since that date all of the required samples have been taken as required.

## **Educational Statement for Lead**

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 than 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 Safe Drinking Water Hotline (800-426-4791).

## Water Quality Data Table

The table below lists all of the drinking water contaminants that we detected during the calendar year of this report. The presence of contaminants in the water does not necessarily indicate that the water poses a health risk. Unless otherwise noted, the data presented in this table is from testing done in the calendar year of the report. The EPA or the State requires us to monitor for certain contaminants less than once per year because the concentrations of these contaminants do not change frequently.

Contaminants (units)	MCLG	MCL	Your Water	Range Low	High	Sample Date	Violation	Typical Source
<b>Disinfectants &amp; Disinfection By-Products</b>								
Haloacetic Acids (HAA5) (ppb)	NA	60	56	4.2	56	3/1/2005	No	By-product of drinking water chlorination
<b>Inorganic Contaminants</b>								
Nitrate [measured as Nitrogen] (ppm)	10	10	4.37	2.46	4.37	3/1/2005	No	Runoff from fertilizer use; Leaching from septic tanks, sewage; Erosion of natural deposits
<b>Synthetic organic contaminants including pesticides and herbicides</b>								
Atrazine (ppb)	3	3	ND	ND	ND	3/1/2005	No	Runoff from herbicide used on row crops
<b>Volatile Organic Contaminants</b>								
TTHMs [Total Trihalomethanes] (ppb)	NA	80	46.3	18.5	46.3	2/26/2007	No	By-product of drinking water chlorination
Contaminant(s) (units)	MCLG	AL	Your Water	# of Samples > AL	Sample Date	Exceeds AL	Typical Source	
<b>Inorganic Contaminants</b>								
Copper (ppm)	1.3	1.3	0.32	0	----	No	Erosion of natural deposits; Leaching from wood preservatives; Corrosion of household plumbing systems	
Lead (ppb)	0	15	5	0	----	No	Corrosion of household plumbing systems; Erosion of natural deposits	
Contaminant(s) (units)	MRD	MRDLG	Your Water	Range Lo	High	Sample Date	Violation?	Typical Source
<b>Disinfectants &amp; Disinfection By-Products</b>								
Chlorine (as Cl <sub>2</sub> ) (ppm)	4	4	2.2	NA		3/4/2005	No	Water additive used to control microbes

### Units Description:

NA: Not applicable

ND: Not detected

NR: Not reported

MNR: Monitoring not required, but recommended.

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

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

**Important Drinking Water Definitions:**

MCLG: Maximum Contaminant Level Goal: 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.

MCL: Maximum Contaminant Level: 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.

AL: Action Level: The concentration of a contaminant which, if exceeded, triggers treatment or other requirements which a water system must follow.

MRDLG: Maximum residual disinfection level goal. 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.

MRDL: Maximum residual disinfectant level. There is convincing evidence that addition of a disinfectant is necessary for control of microbial contaminants.

**For more information contact:**

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