

2016 ANNUAL DRINKING WATER QUALITY REPORT
MONTGOMERY WATER & SEWER AUTHORITY
PWSID # 4410161

www.montgomeryborough.org

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:

We are pleased to present to you this year's Annual Drinking Water Quality Report. This report is designed to inform you about the quality of your water. Our constant goal is to provide you with a dependable supply of safe drinking water. We are committed to ensuring the quality of your water.

This report shows the quality of the water we provide you. If you have questions concerning your water utility or this report, please contact **John D. Lynch Sr. at Montgomery Borough Office, 570-547-1671.**

We want our valued customers to be informed about their water utility. If you want to learn more, please attend any of our regularly scheduled meetings. They are held at 6:30 PM the third Thursday of the month at Montgomery Borough Office, 35 South Main Street.

SOURCES OF WATER:

Our water sources, Well # 1 and Well # 3 located in Clinton Township are two deep wells drawing from the Ridgley Sandstone Aquifer. The Ridgley Aquifer is a fairly thin band of sandstone, approximately 60 feet deep in the vicinity of Montgomery, "sandwiched" between larger rock strata of limestone and shale. This sandstone has yielded an ample and dependable supply of good drinking water for all our needs. Even through periods of drought there has been little effect on the yield of our wells.

A *Source Water Assessment* of our sources was completed by the PA Department of Environmental Protection (Pa. DEP). The Assessment has found that one our source could present a high risk of contamination from transportation on the highway or railroad. Our other source could present a high risk of contamination from agricultural land use. Overall, our sources have a moderate to high risk of significant contamination. A summary report of the Assessment is available on the *Source Water Assessment & Protection*.

<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 PADEP offices.

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, 2016. 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:

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.

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 picograms per liter

ppt = parts per trillion, or nanograms per liter

DETECTED SAMPLE RESULTS:

Chemical Contaminants								
Contaminant	MCL in CCR Units	MCLG	Level Detected	Range of Detections	Units	Sample Date	Violation Y/N	Sources of Contamination
Arsenic	10	0	0	0	ppb	9/23/2015	N	Natural deposit in the earth or from agriculture
Barium	2	2	0.0744	0.0248 – 0.0744	ppm	09/23/15	N	Erosion of natural deposits
Nickel	.1	.1	0.0102	0 – 0.0102	ppm	9/23/2015	N	Erosion of natural deposits
Nitrate	10	10	3.03	1.34-3.03	ppm	8/24/2016	N	Septic and fertilizer run off
Haloacetic Acid Distribution	60	N/A	1.39	0 – 1.39	ppb	8/12/16	N	By-product of drinking water disinfection
Trihalomethanes Distribution	80	N/A	2.93	0-2.93	ppb	08/12/16	N	By-product of drinking water disinfection
Chlorine Distribution	N/A	4	1.21	0.96- 1.21 (Oct)	ppm	Weekly	N	Additive to control microbes

a* No range of detection because only one sample was taken throughout the year

*EPA’s MCL for fluoride is 4 ppm. However, Pennsylvania has set a lower MCL to better protect human

health. Montgomery Water & Sewer Authority does not add fluoride to our water.

Entry Point Disinfectant Residual – EP 100 – Well # 1							
Contaminant	Minimum Disinfectant Residual	Lowest Level Detected	Range of Detections	Units	Sample Date	Violation Y/N	Sources of Contamination
Chlorine	0.49	0.71* 06/16/2016	0.71*-1.25*	ppm	Analyzed Daily	N	Water additive used to control microbes.
Entry Point Disinfectant Residual - EP 103 – Well # 3							
Contaminant	Minimum Disinfectant Residual	Lowest Level Detected	Range of Detections	Units	Sample Date	Violation Y/N	Sources of Contamination
Chlorine	0.40	1.05* 09/01/2016	1.05*-1.47*	ppm	Analyzed Daily	N	Water additive used to control microbes.

*Entry point disinfection residuals values are from when the source is being used.

Lead and 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	3.08	ppb	0 out of 10	N	Corrosion of household plumbing.
Copper	1.3	1.3	0.410	ppm	1 out of 10	N	Corrosion of household plumbing.

Microbial					
Contaminants	MCL	MCLG	Highest # or % of Positive Samples	Violation Y/N	Sources of Contamination
Total Coliform Bacteria	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> More than 1 positive monthly sample 	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.

HEALTH EFFECTS:

The Montgomery Water & Sewer Authority routinely monitors for contaminants in your drinking water *according to Federal and State laws*. The above tables show the results of detected contaminants from our sampling results. It's important to remember that the presence of these contaminants doesn't necessarily pose a health risk.

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).

OTHER VIOLATIONS:

As you can see by the tables, our system had no violations.

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 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.

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).

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. Montgomery Water & Sewer Authority 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>.

OTHER INFORMATION:

We at Montgomery Water & Sewer Authority work around the clock to provide quality water at every tap. We ask that all our customers help us protect our valuable water resources which are the heart of our community, our way of life and children's future.

The above tables show only results of detected contaminants, we sample and monitor for more contaminants than shown but they were below or at non detectable levels.

If you have any questions or need more information regarding your drinking water, please call the Montgomery Borough office 570-547-1671.