2023 Annual Drinking Water Quality Report For The Borough of East Stroudsburg Water Department (PWSID # 2450023)

Este informe contiene informacion muy importante sobre su agua bebe. Traduzcalo o hable con alguien que lo entienda bien.

We're pleased to present to you this year's Annual Drinking Water Quality Report. This report is designed to inform you about the quality water and services we deliver to you every day. Our constant goal is to provide you with a dependable supply of drinking water. We want you to understand the efforts we make to continually improve the water treatment process and protect our water resources. We are committed to ensuring the quality of your water.

A Source Water Assessment of the surface water reservoir system, which supplies water to the East Stroudsburg Borough Water Department Filtration Plant, was completed in 2003 by the PA Department of Environmental Protection (PADEP). The Assessment has found that the **Borough's surface water reservoir system** is potentially most susceptible to individual point source activities such as the operation of an existing pistol range, and for non-point source activities such as fuel oil storage tanks, household cleaning supplies, highway spills, highway salt applications, lawn care supplies, on-lot sewage disposal, swimming pools, wells (abandoned or active) and boreholes (abandoned or active). The **Borough's groundwater system** is potentially most susceptible to individual point source activities such as auto repair shops, auto repair stores, underground petroleum storage tanks and repair shops and for non-point source activities such as fuel oil storage tanks, household cleaning supplies, highway spills, highway salt applications, lawn care supplies, on-lot sewage disposal, swimming pools, wells (abandoned or active) and boreholes (abandoned or active). Summary reports of the Assessment are available by writing to Andrew Augustine, PA DEP Northeast Regional Office, 2 Public Square Wilkes-Barre, PA 18701 and will be available on the PADEP website at www.dep.state.pa.us (Keyword: "DEP source water"). Complete reports were distributed to municipalities, water suppliers, local planning agencies and PADEP offices. Copies of the complete report are available for review at the PADEP Northeast Regional Office, Records Management Unit at (570) 830-3103.

Our water is drawn from two reservoirs and four groundwater wells. The reservoir water is treated at the water filtration plant, and water drawn from the wells is treated on-site and used to supplement the water supply. The Borough is also permitted to acquire bulk water from Brodhead Creek Regional Authority under certain conditions or in the event of an emergency.

This report presents a summary of our water quality and what it means. 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 Borough Council meetings, these meetings can either be attended in person or via WebEx by following the WebEx link on the Borough Website. These meetings are held on the 1st and 3rd Tuesday of each month at 7:15 PM.

The Borough of East Stroudsburg Water Department routinely monitors for constituents in your drinking water according to Federal and State laws. The attached table shows the results of our monitoring for the period of January 1st to December 31st, 2023. All drinking water, including bottled drinking water, may be reasonably expected to contain at least small amounts of some constituents. It's important to remember that the presence of these constituents does not necessarily pose a health risk. The state allows us to monitor for some contaminants less than once per year because the concentrations of these contaminants do not change frequently. As such, some of our data, though representative, are more than 1 year old.

In the table you will find many terms and abbreviations you might not be familiar with. To help you better understand these terms we've provided the following definitions:

Non-Detects (ND) - laboratory analysis indicates that the contaminant is not present at a detectable level.

Parts per million (ppm) or **Milligrams per liter (mg/l) -** one part per million corresponds to one minute in two years or a single penny in $10,000.

Parts per billion (ppb) or Micrograms per liter - one part per billion corresponds to one minute in 2,000 years, or a single penny in $10,000,000.

Picocuries per liter (pCi/L) - picocuries per liter is a measure of the radioactivity in water.

Nephelometric Turbidity Unit (NTU) - nephelometric turbidity unit is a measure of the clarity of water. Turbidity in excess of 5 NTU is just noticeable to the average person.

Action Level (AL) - the concentration of a contaminant, which, if exceeded, triggers treatment or other requirements, which a water system must follow.

Treatment Technique (TT) - A treatment technique is a required process intended to reduce the level of a contaminant in drinking water.

Maximum Contaminant Level - The "Maximum Allowed" (MCL) is 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 - The "Goal" (MCLG) is 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 contamination.

Turbidity is a measure of the cloudiness of the water. We monitor it because it is a good indicator of the effectiveness of our filtration system.

What do these results mean?

All sources of drinking water are subject to potential contamination by constituents that are naturally occurring, or manmade. Those constituents can be microbes, organic or inorganic chemicals, or radioactive materials. All 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 the 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 1-800-426-4791 or at www.epa.gov/safewater.

MCL's are set at very stringent levels for health effects. To understand the possible health effects described for many regulated constituents, a person would have to drink 2 liters of water every day at the MCL level for a lifetime to have a one-in-a-million chance of having the described health effect.

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 microbiological contaminants are available from the Safe Drinking Water Hotline (800-426-4791).

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. East Stroudsburg Borough 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.

Infants and children who drink water containing lead in excess of the action level could experience delays in their physical or mental development.

Children could show slight deficits in attention span and learning abilities. Adults who drink this water over many years could develop kidney problems or high blood pressure.

Total Organic Carbon (TOC): TOC has no health effects. However, TOC provides a medium for the formation of disinfection byproducts. These byproducts include TTHMs (Total Trihalomethanes) and HAAs (Haloacetic Acids). Drinking water containing these byproducts in excess of the MCL may lead to adverse health effects, liver or kidney problems, or nervous system effects, and may lead to an increased risk of getting cancer.

Gross Alpha: Certain minerals are radioactive and may emit a form of radiation known as alpha radiation. Some people who drink water containing alpha emitters in excess of the MCL over many years may have an increased risk of getting cancer.

Violation: There was one reporting violation of the Chlorine residual in the distribution system on 3/22/2023. This was due to this chlorine sample result being reported late. At no time was the water unsafe to drink. The Borough is working hard to make sure that this type of reporting violation does not happen in the future.

Water Conservation Tips: Water is an essential part of all our lives, so it is important not to waste it. Listed below are a few ways to conserve water and save money. Always turn taps off tightly so they do not drip. Promptly repair any leaks in your tap. When hand washing dishes, never run water continuously. If you have an electric dishwasher, use it to wash full loads only and use the shortest cycle. When brushing teeth, turn the tap off while you are actually brushing your teeth. When washing or shaving, partially fill the sink and use that water rather than running the tap continuously. These are just a few of the many ways that you can conserve water and save money.

We're proud that **your drinking water meets or exceeds all Federal and State requirements.** We have learned through our monitoring and testing that some constituents have been detected. The EPA has determined that your water **IS SAFE** at these levels.

At the East Stroudsburg Water Department, we work around the clock to provide top quality water to every tap. We ask that all our customers help us protect our water sources, which are the heart of our community, our way of life and our children's future. You can assist us in our efforts by informing the Borough office of any suspected leaks in the water system or potential sources of contamination.

If you have any questions about this report or concerning your water utility, please contact the Borough Manager at 570-421-8300 between the hours of 8:00 AM and 5:00 PM, Monday through Friday**.**

2023 TEST RESULTS									
Water Treatment Plant Performance	MCL		MCLG	Level Detected		Sample Date	Violation Y/N		Likely Source of Contamination
Turbidity	TT=1 NTU for a single measurement		0	0.09 NTU		3/3/2023	N		Soil runoff
	TT= at least 95% of monthly samples ≤ 0.3 NTU			100% Below 0.3		2023	N		
Total Organic Carbon	1st Quarter		2nd Quarter		3rd Quarter		4th Quarter		Naturally present in the environment.
	% Removal Required	% Removal Achieved	% Removal Required	% Removal Achieved	% Removal Required	% Removal Achieved	% Removal Required	% Removal Achieved	
Water Treatment Plant	35%	79%	35%	58%	35%	55%	35%	60%	
Inorganic Contaminants	MCL		MCLG	Level Detected	Range	Sample Date	Violation Y/N		Likely Source of Contamination
Barium (ppm)	2		2	0.0628	0.0418-0.0628(b)	5/10/2021	N		Discharge of drilling wastes; discharge from metal refineries; erosion of natural deposits
				0.0108	0.0108 (b)	4/24/2023	N		
Nickel (ppm)	0.1		0.1	0.00506	0-0.00506 (b)	5/10/2021	N		Erosion of natural deposits
Organic Chemical Contaminants	MCL		MCLG	Level Detected	Range	Sample Date	Violation Y/N		Likely Source of Contamination
Total Trihalomethanes (TTHMs) (ppb)	80		N/A	64	36.7 - 84.2 (c)	Quarterly	N		By-product of drinking water chlorination
Haloacetic Acids (HAA) (ppb)	60		N/A	45	9.2 - 46.1 (c)	Quarterly	N		By-product in drinking water disinfection
Radionuclides	MCL		MCLG	Level Detected	Range	Sample Date	Violation Y/N		Likely Source of Contamination
Gross Alpha (pCi/l)	15		0	4.02	0.0 - 4.02 (d-104)	5/5/2020	N		Erosion of natural deposits
Disinfectants	MRDL		MRDLG	Level Detected	Range	Sample Date	Violation Y/N		Likely Source of Contamination
Chlorine (ppm) - Entry Point Residuals	0.3		0.3	0.40	0.40 -1.57	Daily	N		Water additive used to control microbes.
Chlorine (ppm) - Distribution System Residuals	4		4	0.92	0.79 - 0.92	Monthly*	N		Water additive used to control microbes.
Lead / Copper	AL		MCLG	Level Detected	Number of sites found above the AL				Likely Source of Contamination
Lead (ppb)	15		0	0 (e)	Zero sites above the AL out of 34 sites sampled				Corrosion of household plumbing systems; erosion of natural deposits
Copper (ppm)	1.3		1.3	0.273 (e)	Zero sites above the AL out of 34 sites sampled				Corrosion of household plumbing systems, erosion of natural deposits; leaching from wood preservatives

(a) Turbidity readings taken daily at the water treatment plant. The highest reading observed for 2023 was 0.09 NTU. This level is well below the MCL. 100% of the samples taken in 2023 were below 0.3 NTU.

(b) Sampling required every 1 to 3 years depending on the requirements for the Entry Point being sampled.Entry Point 100 is sampled anually. Entry Point 101, 102, 103 and 104 are sampled every 3 years. Last samples from Entry Points 101-104 in 2021

(c) The level detected represents the highest local running annual average (LRAA) at any one sample location over the four quarters of 2023. The range represents the lowest and highest values at any one individual sample location in 2023. Samples are required throughout the distribution system quarterly.

(d) Required every 9 years. Last sample for the entry point 104 taken in 2020. Last samples for Entry points 100,101,102, and 103 were taken in 2023, none of the samples were above the detection limit.

(e) The level detected represents the 90th percentile of the samples taken. None of the copper samples taken exceeded the action level (AL). None of the lead samples taken exceeded the action level. Sampling is required every three years. Last samples taken in 2022

* Distribution System Chlorine Residual is reported as the highest monthly average value in mg/L.

2023 BCRA Consumer Confidence Report (PWSID 2450034)

Contaminant	MCL	MCLG	Highest Level Detected	Range if applicable	Units	Sample Date	Violation Y/N	Sources of Contamination
Barium (IOC) DEP 1010	2	2	0.0152	N/A	PPM	3/13/2023	No	Discharge of drilling wastes; discharges from metal refineries; erosion of natural deposits.
Chlorine (Distribution Residual monthly average) DEP 0999	4	4	0.95 (Avg.)	0.66 – 0.95 (Avg.)	PPM	1/1/23 to 12/31/23	No	Water additive used to control microbes.
Trihalomethanes DEP 2950	80	n/a	42.4	12.5 - 42.4	PPB	2/13/23 5/15/23 8/14/23 11/13/23	No	By-product of drinking water chlorination.
Haloacetic Acids DEP 2456	60	n/a	15.3	6.82 - 15.3	PPB	2/13/23 5/15/23 8/14/23 11/13/23	No	By-product of drinking water disinfection.
Xylenes	10	n/a	0.0049	n/a	PPM	12/4/2023	No	Discharge from petroleum factories. Discharge from chemical factories
Manganese	0.05	n/a	0.0384	n/a	PPM	6/12/2019	No	Discharge from metal processing facilities. Releases may also occur from other industrial facilities producing or using compounds of Manganese.
Ethylbenzene	700	n/a	1.01	n/a	PPB	12/4/2023	No	Discharge from petroleum refineries

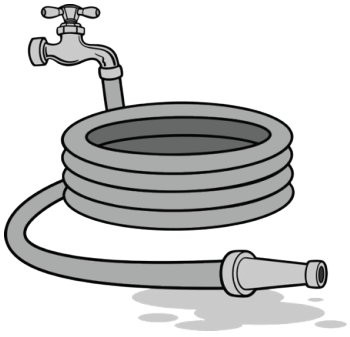
Disinfection Residual	Minimum Disinfectant Residual Required	Lowest Level Detected	Range of Detection	Units	Sample Date	Violation	Sources of Contamination
Chlorine (Entry Point)	0.20 (Water Plant) 0.40 (Wells 1 & 2) 0.20 (Well 3)	0.85 0.42 0.36	0.85 – 1.54 0.42 – 1.05 0.36 – 2.02	PPM	1/1/23 to 12/31/23	No	Water additive used to control microbes.

Lead & Copper	Action Level	MCLG	90th percentile value	Units	No. of sites above action level	Sample Date	Violation Y/N	Possible Source(s) of Contamination
Lead DEP 1030	15	0	1.3	PPB	0	6/1/22 - 9/30/22	No	Corrosion of household plumbing.
Copper DEP 1022	1.3	1.3	0.102	PPM	0	6/1/22 - 9/30/22	No	Corrosion of household plumbing.

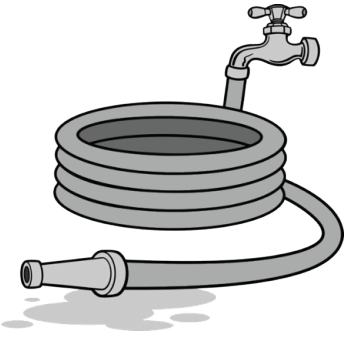
Contaminant	MCL	MCLG	Lowest Level Detected and Date	Violation? Y/N	Possible source(s) of contamination
Turbidity DEP0100	TT= 1 NTU for single measurement. TT= at least 95% of monthly samples ≤ 0.3 NTU	0	99.45% For April 2023 (Filter Plant) 95.83% For November 2023 (Well 3)	No	Soil Runoff

Contaminant	Required removal %	Range of Removal Achieved %	No. of Quarters out of compliance	Violation? Y/N	Possible source(s) of contamination
TOC- DEP 2920 (Total Organic Carbon)	≥35%	49.8 – 100%	None	No	Naturally present in the environment.

Glossary: PPM-Parts Per Million, PPB- Parts Per Billion, MCL- Maximum Contaminant Level,
MCLG-Maximum Contaminant Level Goal, NTU- Nephelometric Turbidity Units, TT- Treatment Technique



The Borough of East Stroudsburg
Public Water System
Cross Contamination Prevention
Awareness Program



When water flows backwards into a water system it can potentially have serious health effects on water system users.

Cross Contamination is a condition where an outside source contaminates the water system.

Backflow/back-siphonage is a condition within a water system where the water is drawn backward within the pipes. This can happen when there is a drop in pressure within the water system.

If this happens, anything connected to the system could potentially be drawn back into the pipes. In the event of a **backflow/back-siphonage** condition, a hose placed in a bucket of harmful chemicals, such as yard fertilizer, weed killer, etc. could accidentally cause water or other unsafe liquids or substances to be drawn back into the water system contaminating the water for many users.

Cross contamination of this kind could result in serious sickness and even death to the affected users.

The Borough of East Stroudsburg wants to make the water you use and drink as safe as possible by making the public aware of these potentially dangerous conditions.

Some of the things the public needs to be aware of to prevent cross contamination and **backflow/back-siphonage** of the public water supply system are:

Never place the end of a hose directly within buckets, pools, sinks or any other container which may contain any substance or liquid which could be harmful if ingested.

Install backflow prevention devices on all hose connections.

The Borough has adopted a cross connection ordinance for the public's safety.

All new connections to the public water system are required to be inspected by Borough Personnel to make sure proper backflow prevention devices are in place.

For additional information, please contact Mr. Brian Bond, East Stroudsburg Borough Manager at (570) 421-8300 or the Water Department at (570) 421-4900.