

## 2016 ANNUAL DRINKING WATER QUALITY REPORT

PWSID #: 3540035 NAME: Minersville Municipal Water Authority

*Este informe contiene información importante acerca de su agua potable. Haga que alguien lo traduzca para usted, o hable con alguien que 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:

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 Melanie Spittler at the Minersville Water Filtration Plant at (570)544-4462, between the hours of 8:00 a.m. and 2:00 p.m.

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 on the third Monday of every month at 7:00 p.m. in the Council Chambers, North Delaware Avenue and Carbon Street.

### SOURCE OF WATER:

Our water source comes from two reservoirs in Dyer's Run on the Broad Mountain. The water is treated at our Water Filtration Plant in Heckschersville.

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A Source Water Assessment of our source was completed in 2003 by the PA Department of Environmental Protection (PADEP). The Assessment has found that our source is potentially most susceptible to stormwater runoff, acid mine drainage, and spills and accidents. Overall, our source has moderate risk of significant contamination. A summary report of the Assessment is available on the Source Water Assessment & Protection web page at (<http://www.dep.state.pa.us/dep/depupdate/watermgmt/wc/Subjects/SrceProt/SourceAssessment/default.htm>). Complete reports were distributed to municipalities, water supplier, local planning agencies and PADEP offices. Copies of the complete report are available for review at the PADEP Wilkes-Barre Office, Records Management Unit at (570)826-2511.

A Source Water Protection Plan of our source was completed in 2007 by the Minersville Municipal Water Authority. This plan was developed to protect our watershed from potential sources of contamination. A copy of this plan is available in our office for review.

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, 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 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.

**ppb** = parts per billion, or micrograms per liter ( $\mu\text{g/L}$ )

**ppm** = parts per million, or milligrams per liter ( $\text{mg/L}$ )

**pCi/l**=picocuries per liter (a measure of radioactivity)

### 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
Haloacetic Acids (HAA)	0.060	N/A	0.044	-	ppm	03/10/2016	N	By-product of drinking water disinfection
TTHMs [Total trihalomethanes]	0.080	N/A	0.05924	-	ppm	12/09/2016	N	By-product of drinking water chlorination
Alpha emitters (pCi/l)	15 pCi/l	-	4.54		pCi/l	09/07/2014	N	Erosion of natural deposits

CONTAMINANTS	LEVEL DETECTED	VIOLATION? Y / N	SAMPLE DATE	MCL IN CCR UNITS	MCLG	MAJOR SOURCES IN DRINKING WATER
Combined radium (Ci/l)	0.725	N	09/17/2014	5	0	Erosion of natural deposits
Barium (ppm)	0.0593	N	08/20/2014	2	2	Discharge of drilling wastes; Discharge from metal refineries; Erosion of natural deposits
Cadmium (ppb)	0.07	N	07/26/2012	5	5	Corrosion of galvanized pipes; Erosion of natural deposits; Discharge from metal refineries; Runoff from waste batteries and paints
Selenium (ppb)	0.43	N	07/26/2012	50	50	Discharge from petroleum and metal refineries; Erosion of natural deposits; Discharge from mines
Beryllium (ppb)	0.10	N	07/26/2012	4	4	Discharge from metal refineries and coal-burning factories; Discharge from electrical, aerospace, and defense industries

Contaminant	MCL	MCLG	Level Detected	Sample Date	Violation Of TT Y/N	Source of Contamination
Turbidity	TT=1 NTU for a single measurement	0	0.272 NTU	01/12/2016	N	Soil runoff
	TT= at least 95% of monthly samples <0.3NTU					

*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.*

LEAD AND COPPER							
CONTAMINANT	ACTION LEVEL (AL)	MCLG	90% Value	Units	#Sites Above AL of total sites	Violation Y/N	Sources of Contamination
Lead	15	0	3.9	ppb	0	N	Corrosion of household plumbing
Copper	1.3	1.3	.128	ppm	0	N	Corrosion of household plumbing

ENTRY POINT DISINFECTANT RESIDUAL							
Contaminant	Highest Level Detected	Lowest Level Detected	Range of Detections	Units	Sample Date of Lowest Value	Violation Y/N	Sources of Contamination
Chlorine	1.98	0.45	0.45-1.98	ppm	09/23/2016	N	Water additive used to control microbes.

TOTAL ORGANIC CARBON (TOC)					
Contaminant	Range of % Removal Required	Range of percent removal achieved	Number of quarters out of compliance	Violation Y/N	Sources of Contamination
TOC	35-50	17.0-72.9	0	N	Naturally present in the environment

## **OTHER VIOLATIONS:**

The Minersville Municipal Water Authority is proud to report that we had no violations for the 2016 calendar year.

For more information, please contact Authority Manager Melanie Spittler at 570-544-4462.

Please share this information with all the other people who drink this water, especially those who may not have received this notice directly (for ex., people in apartments, nursing homes, schools, and businesses). You can do this by posting this notice in a public place or distributing copies by hand or mail.

## **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).

### **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 line and home plumbing. The Minersville Municipal 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:**

Please call our office if you have any other questions. We at the Minersville Municipal Water Authority work around the clock to provide top quality drinking water to every tap. We ask that all of our customers help us to protect our water sources, which are the heart of our community, our way of life and our children's future.