

2012 Annual Drinking Water Quality Report

Towanda Municipal Authority – PWSID# 2080029

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.)

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 safe and 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. The Towanda Water System uses three groundwater sources, two wells and a spring, to provide raw water to its system. The wells are located within the N. Towanda well field. Eilenberger Spring is located south of Towanda.

We're pleased to report that our drinking water meets federal and state requirements. If you have any questions about this report or concerning your water utility, please contact Fred Johnson at (570) 265-5151 or Thomas Fairchild at (570) 265-2696. 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 the 3rd Monday of every month at 5p.m. at the Towanda Municipal Building at 724 Main St., Towanda Pa.

Towanda Municipal Authority routinely monitors for constituents in your drinking water according to Federal and State laws. This table shows the results of our monitoring for the period of January 1st to December 31st, 2012. 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.

A Source Water Assessment of our sources was completed by the PA Department of Environmental Protection (PADEP). A summary report of the Assessment is available on the Source Water Assessment & Protection Web page at (<http://www.dep.state.pa.us/dep/deputate/watermgt/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 Pa. DEP Williamsport Regional Office, Records Management Unit at (570) 327-3636.

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).

In this 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:

ppm – Parts per million or Milligrams per liter (mg/l) **ppb** – Parts per billion or micrograms per liter (ug/l)

pCi/L – Picocuries per liter is a measure of the radioactivity in water.

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. MCL's 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 contamination.

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.

Chemical Contaminants								
Chemical Contaminant	MCL in CCR Units	MCLG	Highest Level Detected	Range in Detections	Units	Sample Date	Violation Y/N	Sources of Contamination
Barium	2	2	0.102	.0475 - .102	ppm	4/12	N	Discharge of drilling wastes; Discharge from metal refineries; Erosion of natural deposits
Fluoride	2	2	0.12	0.10-0.12	ppm	4/12	N	Erosion of natural deposits; Water additive which promotes strong teeth; Discharge from fertilizer and aluminum factories
Nitrate	10	10	1.52	0.53 – 1.52	ppm	09/12	N	Runoff from fertilizer use; Leaching from septic tanks, sewage; Erosion of natural deposits
Lead	15	0	3.0	0.8 – 3.0	ppb	09/10	N	Corrosion of household plumbing
Copper	1.3	1.3	3.46	0.07 – 3.46	ppm	09/10	N	Corrosion of household plumbing
TTHMs [Total Trihalomethanes]	80	N/A	12.3	2.32 – 12.3	ppb	08/12	N	By-product of drinking water chlorination
HAA5 [Haloacetic Acids]	60	N/A	0.58	-	ppb	8/12	N	By-product of drinking water chlorination
Combined Uranium	30	0	0.49	-	pCi/L	03/11	N	Erosion of natural deposits
Chlorine	MRDL = 4	MRDLG = 4	0.68	0.52 – 0.68	ppm	01/12	N	Water Additive Used to Control Microbes

Entry Point Disinfectant Residual							
Contaminant	Minimum Disinfectant Residual	Lowest Level Detected	Range of Detections	Units	Date of Lowest Value	Violation Y/N	Sources of Contamination
Chlorine	0.70	0.70	0.70- 0.98	ppm	01/18/12	N	Water additive used
Chlorine	0.60	0.60	0.60- 1.24	ppm	01/09/12	N	Water additive used

As you can see by the table, our system had no detects that resulted in violations.

Monitoring and/reporting violations: This past year our certified laboratory failed to submit on time our second and third quarter SOC sample results to DEP. All samples were taken on time but reported after the 10th of the month deadline.

All sources of drinking water are subject to potential contaminants that are naturally occurring or man made. Those contaminants can be microbes, organic or inorganic chemicals, or radioactive materials. 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.

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 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 byproducts of industrial process and petroleum production and mining activities.
- Radioactive Contaminants, which can be naturally occurring or be the result of oil and gas production and mining activities.

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. Towanda 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>.

Please call our office if you have questions.

Towanda Municipal Authority

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