

# 2023 Annual Drinking Water Quality Report

## PWSID#:3480066 Bath Municipal Water Works

Este informe contiene informacion importante acerca de su agua potable. Haga que alguien lo traduzca para usted, o hable con alguien que lo entienda. (This report contains important information about your drinking water. Have someone translate it for you or speak to 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 concerning your water utility, please contact Bath Borough Authority staff at 610-837-0652 or email us at [bathboroughauthority@rcn.com](mailto:bathboroughauthority@rcn.com). 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 the third Wednesday of each month at 7:00pm. Meetings are held at the Bath Borough Authority plant office located at 160 Mill Street, Bath, PA 18014.

### Sources Of Water:

Bath Borough Authority draws ground water from three wells. The Smith Street and Allen Street wells located near George Wolf Elementary School, and the Holiday Hill well is located just outside the Borough in Upper Nazareth Township.

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Some people are more vulnerable to contaminants in drinking water than the general population. Immunocompromised 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)

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### 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, 2020. The state allows us to monitor for some contaminants less than once a year because the concentrations of these contaminants do not change frequently. Some of our data is from prior years in accordance with the Safe Water Act.

Bath Borough Authority is an equal opportunity employer and provider

**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 that is 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.

**Level 1 Assessment** – A Level 1 assessment is a study of the water system to identify potential problems and determine (if possible) why total coliform bacteria have been found in our water system.

**Level 2 Assessment** – A Level 2 assessment is a very detailed study of the water system to identify potential problems and determine (if possible) why an *E. coli* MCL violation has occurred and/or why total coliform bacteria have been found in our water system on multiple occasions.

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

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

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

## **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 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 run-off 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 run-off 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 assure 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 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* (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. Samletown Water Company 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 [www.epa.gov/safewater/lead](http://www.epa.gov/safewater/lead).

### **OTHER INFORMATION:**

About Nitrate: Nitrate in drinking water at levels above 10 ppm is a health risk for infants of less than six months of age. High nitrate levels in drinking water can cause blue baby syndrome. Nitrate levels may rise quickly for short periods of time because of rainfall or agricultural activity. If you are caring for an infant, you should ask for advice from your health care provider.

### **Water Conservation Tips**

Did you know that the average U.S. household uses approximately 400 gallons of water per day or 100 gallons per person per day? Luckily, there are many low-cost and no-cost ways to conserve water. Small changes can make a big difference. Try one today and soon it will become second nature.

-Take short showers - a 5 minute shower uses 4 to 5 gallons of water compared to up to 50 gallons for a bath.

-Shut off water while brushing your teeth, washing your hair and shaving and save up to 500 gallons a month

-Use a water-efficient showerhead. They're inexpensive, easy to install, and can save you up to 750 gallons a month.

-Run your clothes washer and dishwasher only when they are full. You can save up to 1,000 gallons a month.

-Water plants only when necessary, during cooler parts of the day to reduce evaporation.

-Fix leaky toilets and faucets. Faucet washers are inexpensive and take only a few minutes to replace. To check your toilet for a leak, place a few drops of food coloring in the tank and wait. If it seeps into the toilet bowl without flushing, you have a leak. Fixing it or replacing it with a new, more efficient model can save up to 1,000 gallons a month.

-Teach your kids about water conservation to ensure a future generation that uses water wisely. Make it a family effort to reduce next months water bill! Visit [www.epa.gov/watersense](http://www.epa.gov/watersense) for more information.

Bath Borough Authority  
160 Mill Street, Bath, PA 18014

610-837-0652/ fax 610-837-2644

PAY ONLINE and find additional  
information: [www.go20.net/bba](http://www.go20.net/bba)

### Disinfectant Residuals (Entry Points)

| Analyte<br>(Unit of Measurement) | Location<br>ID | Minimum<br>residual<br>required | Lowest value<br>reported | Highest value<br>reported | Violation<br>Y/N | MCLG<br>(Health<br>Goal) | MCL<br>(EPA's<br>Limits) | Year<br>Sampled | Potential Sources of Contamination       |
|----------------------------------|----------------|---------------------------------|--------------------------|---------------------------|------------------|--------------------------|--------------------------|-----------------|--|
| Chlorine (ppm)                   | 102            | 0.40                            | 0.58                     | 1.80                      | N                | MRDLG = 4                | MRDL = 4                 | 2023            | Water additive used to control microbes. |
| Chlorine (ppm)                   | 103            | 0.40                            | 0.58                     | 1.45                      | N                | "                        | "                        | "               | "  |
| Chlorine (ppm)                   | 104            | 0.40                            | 0.66                     | 1.49                      | N                | "                        | "                        | "               | "  |

### Disinfectant Residuals (Distribution System)

| Analyte<br>(Unit of Measurement) | Month of highest<br>average result | Range     | MCLG<br>(Health Goal) | (EPA's<br>Limits) | Year<br>Sampled | Potential Sources of Contamination       |
|----------------------------------|------------------------------------|-----------|-----------------------|-------------------|-----------------|--|
| Chlorine (ppm)                   | Feb.                               | 0.60-1.12 | MRDLG = 4             | MRDL = 4          | 2023            | Water additive used to control microbes. |

### Disinfection By-Products (Distribution System)

| Contaminant<br>(Unit of Measurement)     | Violation<br>Y/N | Level<br>Detected | Range | MCLG<br>(Health Goal) | (EPA's<br>Limits) | Year<br>Sampled | Potential Source of Contamination         |
|--|------------------|-------------------|-------|-----------------------|-------------------|-----------------|---|
| Total Trihalomethanes<br>(TTHM) (ppb)    | N                | 4.93              | N/A   | 0                     | 80                | 2023            | Byproduct of drinking water chlorination. |
| Halooacetic acids (five)<br>(HAA5) (ppb) | N                | 1.1               | N/A   | 0                     | 60                | 2022            | Byproduct of drinking water chlorination. |

### Inorganic Contaminants (Entry Points)

| Analyte<br>(Unit of Measurement) | Location<br>ID | Violation<br>Y/N | Level<br>Detected | Range     | (Health<br>Goal) | (EPA's<br>Limits) | Year<br>Sampled | Potential Sources of Contamination  |
|----------------------------------|----------------|------------------|-------------------|-----------|------------------|-------------------|-----------------|---|
| Nitrate (ppm)                    | 103            | N                | 3.61              | 3.61-3.61 | 10               | 10                | 2023            | Runoff from fertilizer. Leaching from septic tanks or sewage. Erosion of natural deposits |
| Nitrate (ppm)                    | 104            | N                | 3.80              | 3.8-3.8   | "                | "                 | 2023            | "   |
| Nickel (ppm)                     | 102            | N                | 0.005             | N/A       | N/A              | N/A               | 2018            | Erosion of natural deposits. Industry.  |

### Lead and Copper

| Contaminant<br>(Unit of Measurement) | Violation<br>Y/N | Level<br>Detected | Above AL of<br>total sites             | MCLG<br>(Health Goal) | (EPA's<br>Limits) | Year<br>Sampled | Potential Sources of Contamination  |
|--------------------------------------|------------------|-------------------|--|-----------------------|-------------------|-----------------|---|
| Copper (ppm)                         | N                | 0.149             | 0 of 10 sites<br>above action<br>level | 1.3                   | AL = 1.3          | 2022            | Erosion of natural deposits. Leaching from wood preservatives. Corrosion of household plumbing systems. |
| Lead (ppb)                           | N                | 0.002             | 0 of 10 sites<br>above action<br>level | 0                     | AL = .015         | 2022            | Erosion of natural deposits. Corrosion of household plumbing systems.                                   |

### Radiological Contaminant (Entry Points)

| Contaminant<br>(Unit of Measurement) | Location<br>ID | Violation<br>Y/N | Level<br>Detected | MCLG<br>(Health Goal) | MCL<br>(EPA's<br>Limits) | Year<br>Sampled | Potential Sources of Contamination |
|--------------------------------------|----------------|------------------|-------------------|-----------------------|--------------------------|-----------------|------------------------------------|
| Gross Alpha (pCi/L)                  | 104            | N                | 2.6               | 0                     | 50                       | 2019            | Erosion of Natural Deposits.       |
| Combined Radium                      | 104            | N                | Not Detected      | 1                     | 5                        | 2022            | Erosion of Natural Deposits.       |