



COMMONWEALTH OF PENNSYLVANIA
DEPARTMENT OF ENVIRONMENTAL PROTECTION
BUREAU OF SAFE DRINKING WATER

2025 ANNUAL DRINKING WATER QUALITY REPORT
PWSID #: 7220046 NAME: Pillow Borough Authority

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:

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 Josh Owens, Owens Professional Solutions LLC at 570-966-3445. 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 second Tuesday of every month beginning at 6:00 P.M. at the Pillow Borough Building.

SOURCE(S) OF WATER:

Our water source(s) is/are: (Name-Type-Location)

- Cold Spring - Ground Water - Located on the Mahantongo Mountain
- Well 5 - Ground Water - Located near Klingerstown Road in the Borough
- Well 1 - Ground Water - Located at the water treatment facility
- Well 6 - Ground Water - Located off Route 225 South of town – Not used in 2025

A Source Water Assessment of our source(s) was completed by the PA Department of Environmental Protection (PA DEP). The Assessment has found that our source(s) of is/are potentially most susceptible to road deicing materials, accident spills along roads, leaks in underground storage tanks, and agricultural use, future land development and water pollution control facilities. Overall, our source(s) have little risk of significant contamination. Complete reports were distributed to municipalities and water suppliers. Complete reports are available for review at the Pa DEP Regional Office, Records Management Unit at 717-705-4708.

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, 2025. 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.

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.

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 ($\mu\text{g/L}$)

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 (ng/L)

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	1.5	N/A	ppb	8/6/24	N	Erosion of natural deposits; Runoff from orchards; Runoff from glass and electronics production wastes
Barium	2	2	0.299	N/A	ppm	8/6/24	N	Discharge of drilling wastes; Discharge from metal refineries; Erosion of natural deposits
Nitrate	10	10	11.2	8.16 - 11.2	ppm	10/10/25	N	Runoff from fertilizer use; Leaching from septic tanks, sewage; Erosion of natural deposits
Dichloroacetic Acid (HAA)	N/A	N/A	5.0	N/A	ppb	9/13/24	N	By-product of drinking water disinfection
Trichloroacetic Acid (HAA)	N/A	N/A	1.0	N/A	ppb	9/13/24	N	By-product of drinking water disinfection
Dibromoacetic Acid (HAA)	N/A	N/A	1.0	N/A	ppb	9/13/24	N	By-product of drinking water disinfection
Haloacetic Acid (HAA5)	60	60	7.0	N/A	ppb	9/13/24	N	By-product of drinking water disinfection
Perfluorobutanesulfonic Acid	N/A	N/A	9.6	5.72 – 9.6	ppb	12/3/25	N	Found in non-stick and stain resistant consumer products, food packaging, fire-fighting foam, and industrial processes.
Perfluorohexanesulfonic Acid	N/A	N/A	4.22	3.03 – 4.22	ppb	12/3/25	N	Found in non-stick and stain resistant consumer products, food packaging, fire-fighting foam, and industrial processes.

Perfluorononanoic Acid	N/A	N/A	4.29	2.62 – 4.29	ppb	12/3/25	N	Found in non-stick and stain resistant consumer products, food packaging, fire-fighting foam, and industrial processes.
Perfluorooctanesulfonic Acid (PFOS)	18	14	22.2	13.1 – 22.2	ppb	12/3/25	N	Discharge from manufacturing facilities and runoff from land use activities
Perfluorooctanoic Acid	8	14	12.5	8.58 – 12.5	ppb	12/3/25	N	Discharge from manufacturing facilities and runoff from land use activities
Chloroform (THM)	N/A	N/A	12	N/A	ppb	9/13/24	N	Used as an industrial solvent and in the production of refrigerants and Teflon.
Bromoform (THM)	N/A	N/A	0.75	N/A	ppb	9/13/24	N	Used as a reagent in laboratories and electronics manufacturing.
Bromodichloromethane (THM)	N/A	N/A	7.65	N/A	ppb	9/13/24	N	By-product of drinking water chlorination
Chlorodibromomethane (THM)	N/A	N/A	3.45	N/A	ppb	9/13/24	N	By-product of drinking water chlorination
Trihalomethanes (TTHM)	80	N/A	23.8	N/A	ppb	9/13/24	N	By-product of drinking water chlorination
Combined Uranium	30	20	1.53	N/A	Ug/l	1/7/25	N	Erosion of natural deposits
Chlorine	4	4	1.35	0.39 – 1.35	ppm	April 2025	N	Water additive used to control microbes

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

Entry Point Disinfectant Residual							
Contaminant	Minimum Disinfectant Residual	Lowest Level Detected	Range of Detections	Units	Sample Date	Violation Y/N	Sources of Contamination
Chlorine	0.40	0.87	0.87 – 2.66	ppm	11/27/25	N	Water additive used to control microbes.

Lead and Copper								
Contaminant	Action Level (AL)	MCLG	90th Percentile Value	Range of tap sampling results	Units	# of Sites Above AL of Total Sites	Violation Y/N	Sources of Contamination
Lead	15	0	1.0	1.0 – 2.0	ppb	0	N	Corrosion of household plumbing.
Copper	1.3	1.3	0.25	0.027 – 0.415	ppm	0	N	Corrosion of household plumbing.

DETECTED CONTAMINANTS HEALTH EFFECTS LANGUAGE AND CORRECTIVE ACTIONS:

Arsenic Some people who drink water containing arsenic in excess of the MCL over many years could experience skin damage or problems with their circulatory system, and may have an increased risk of getting cancer.

Barium Some people who drink water containing barium in excess of the MCL over many years could experience an increase in their blood pressure.

Nitrate Infants below the age of six months who drink water containing nitrate in excess of the MCL could become seriously ill and, if untreated, may die. Symptoms include shortness of breath and blue baby syndrome.

Dichloroacetic Acid can burn skin, eyes and mucus membranes. It can cause nerve, kidney, and liver damage.

Trichloroacetic Acid burns the skin and damage to the eyes.

Dibromoacetic Acid can cause cancer. Associated with reproductive toxicity and developmental defects.

Haloacetic Acids (HAA5) Some people who drink water containing haloacetic acids in excess of the MCL over many years may have an increased risk of getting cancer.

Perfluorobutanesulfonic Acid causes skin/eye burns and damage. Linked to thyroid changes, liver damage, and potential reproductive issues.

Perfluorohexanesulfonic Acid is linked to liver damage, immunotoxicity, and thyroid hormone disruption.

Perfluorononanoic Acid can damage liver, effect the immune system and develop toxicity.

Perfluorooctanesulfonic Acid (PFOS) Drinking water containing PFOS in excess of the MCL of 18 ng/L may cause adverse health effects, including decreased immune response.

Perfluorooctanoic Acid (PFOA) Drinking water containing PFOA in excess of the MCL of 14 ng/L may cause adverse health effects, including developmental effects (neurobehavioral and skeletal effects)

Chloroform can cause liver/kidney damage and dizziness, fatigue, or unconsciousness.

Bromoform can cause central nervous system depression, kidney/liver damage, and eye /skin irritation.

Bromodichloromethane can cause liver/kidney damage and potential cancer risk.

Chlorodibromomethane can cause central nervous system (CNS) effects and kidney/liver damage and skin/eye irritation.

Trihalomethanes (TTHM) Some people who drink water containing trihalomethanes in excess of the MCL over many years may experience problems with their liver, kidneys, or central nervous systems, and may have an increased risk of getting cancer.

Combined Uranium Some people who drink water containing uranium in excess of the MCL over many years may have an increased risk of getting cancer and kidney toxicity.

Chlorine Some people who use water containing chlorine well in excess of the MRDL could experience irritating effects to their eyes and nose. Some people who drink water containing chlorine well in excess of the MRDL could experience stomach discomfort.

OTHER VIOLATIONS:

October 2025 routine quarterly nitrate testing detected 11.3 mg/l, exceeding the Maximum limit of 10.0. Public notification was issued and check samples were collected. The test lab submitted the check samples as an entry point sample instead of a check sample.

INFORMATION ABOUT LEAD

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. The Pillow Borough Authority is responsible for providing high quality drinking water and is removing lead pipes but cannot control the variety of materials used in plumbing components in your home. You share the responsibility for protecting yourself and your family from the lead in your home plumbing. You can take responsibility by identifying and removing lead materials within your home plumbing and taking steps to reduce your family's risk. Before drinking tap water, flush your pipes for several minutes by running your tap, taking a shower, doing laundry or a load of dishes. You can also use a filter certified by an American National Standards Institute accredited certifier to reduce lead in drinking water. If you are concerned about lead in your water and wish to have your water tested, contact the Pillow Borough Authority. Information on lead in drinking water, testing methods, and steps you can take to minimize exposure is available at www.epa.gov/safewater/lead.

OTHER INFORMATION:

Well No. 6 was commissioned in March 2026 and water is now being blended with Well No. 5 and the Cold Spring.

The Pillow Borough Authority prepared a service line inventory that includes the type of materials contained in each service line in our distribution system. This inventory can be accessed by contacting our office at 570-758-2420.

DRINKING WATER WARNING

Nitrate, Nitrite or Total Nitrate & Nitrite Maximum Contaminant Level (MCL) Exceedance

**DO NOT GIVE THE WATER TO INFANTS UNDER 6 MONTHS OLD OR
USE IT TO MAKE INFANT FORMULA**

**PADRES DE FAMILIA CON BEBES DE SEIS MESES DE EDAD Y MENORES, NO USEN
EL AGUA PARA PREPARAR ALIMENTOS PARA BEBES.**

**ESTE INFORME CONTIENE INFORMACIÓN IMPORTANTE ACERCA DE SU AGUA POTABLE. HAGA QUE
ALGUIEN LO TRADUZCA PARA USTED, O HABLE CON ALGUIEN QUE LO ENTIENDA.**

Pillow Borough Authority has high levels of nitrate.

Sample results received 10-11-2025 showed nitrate levels of 11.3. This is above the nitrate standard, or maximum contaminant level (MCL) of 10 mg/L. Nitrate in drinking water is a serious health concern for infants less than six months old.

What should I do?

DO NOT GIVE THE WATER TO INFANTS. *Infants below the age of six months who drink water containing nitrate in excess of the MCL could become seriously ill and, if untreated, may die. Symptoms include shortness of breath and blue-baby syndrome.* Blue- baby syndrome is indicated by blueness of the skin. Symptoms in infants can develop rapidly, with health deteriorating over a period of days. If symptoms occur, seek medical attention immediately.

Water, juice, and formula for children under six months of age should not be prepared with tap water. Bottled water or other water low in nitrates should be used for infants until further notice.

DO NOT BOIL THE WATER. Boiling, freezing, filtering, or letting water stand does not reduce the nitrate level. Excessive boiling can make the nitrates more concentrated, because nitrates remain behind when the water evaporates.

Adults and children older than six months can drink tap water. Nitrate is a concern for infants because they can't process nitrates in the same way adults can. However, if you are pregnant or have specific health concerns, you may wish to consult your doctor.

What happened? What is being done?

Nitrate in drinking water can come from natural, industrial, or agricultural sources (including septic systems and run-off). Levels of nitrate in drinking water can vary throughout the year. We'll let you know when the amount of nitrate is again below the limit.

Typically we blend 2 of our sources to lower the nitrate levels with our system. Recently our spring source is not producing water as it should. Hopefully, over the next few weeks the spring will resume flowing and/or our new Well #6 will be placed on line so that we can start blending water again and lower the nitrate levels.

We anticipate resolving the problem by blending the sources asap.

For more information, please contact: Pillow Borough Authority
174 S. Union Street
Pillow, PA 17801
at 570-758-2420

Please share this information with all the other people who drink this water, especially those who may not have received this notice directly (for example, 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.

This notice is being sent to you by Pillow Borough Authority.

PWS ID#: 7220046

Date distributed: 10-11-2025