Water Quality Report

PWSID Number 4140075

The Big Spring in Bellefonte

We're pleased to present to you the **2024 Annual Water Quality Report.** This report is designed to inform you about the water quality and our constant goal to provide you with a safe and dependable supply of drinking water.

We have put together a table that reflects the water test results for the **2024** calendar year and have included terms and abbreviations to help you understand the table.

If you have any questions about this report or concerning your water quality, please contact the Bellefonte Borough Manager at the Bellefonte Borough Administrative Office, 301 North Spring Street Suite 200, Bellefonte, PA or call 814-355-1501. You may also direct inquiries concerning our water system to the Bellefonte Borough Authority, which meets the 1st Tuesday of each month at 6:00 p.m. in the first floor conference room at 301 North Spring Street.

The Bellefonte Borough Authority is responsible for setting rates and policy for the system.
The sources of drinking water (both tap 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. Water can also 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 storm water 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 storm water 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 storm water runoff, and septic systems.

· Radioactive contaminants, which can be naturally occurring or be the result of oil and gas production and mining activities.

Our water source, the Big Spring, pictured at left, located in Bellefonte Borough, produces approximately 15 million gallons of natural spring water per day. By order of the Pennsylvania Department of Environmental Protection, and in compliance with the Federal Safe Drinking Water Act, the Big Spring is covered. This provides protection from external contaminants that could affect water quality.

Is The Water Safe For Everyone To Drink?

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).

However, some people may be more vulnerable than the general population to drinking water contaminants. 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, and some elderly and infants, can be particularly at risk from infections. These people should seek advice about their drinking water from their health care providers.

EPA/CDC (Centers for Disease Control and Prevention) guidelines on appropriate means to reduce the risk of infection by Cryptosporidium and other microbial contaminants are available from the Safe Drinking Water Hotline at 1-800-426-4791 or the EPA web site at www.epa.gov/safewater.

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. The Bellefonte Borough Authority is responsible for providing high quality drinking water, and removing service line lead pipes but cannot control the variety of materials used in plumbing components of 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 Bellefonte Borough Authority at 814- 355-1501 or go to the Authority website: www.goh2o.net/BBWA. Information on lead in drinking water, testing methods, and steps you can take to minimize exposure is available at www.epa.gov/safewater/lead.

Service Line Inventory

The Bellefonte Borough Authority has prepared a service line inventory. For questions on your home's service line material call 814-355-1501. To view the entire service line inventory, request to view it at the Bellefonte Borough Administrative offices 301 North Spring Street Suite 200 Bellefonte, PA 16823 Monday through Friday 8 am to 4:30 pm.

Our Distribution System

The Big Spring, our water source, produces approximately 15 million gallons of water per day. From the Big Spring, water is pumped to the man-made reservoir at the top of the hill on South Allegheny Street.

From this reservoir, water is then gravity-fed to a portion of the town's customers. Like the Big Spring, the reservoir is covered to protect the water quality. Water is also pumped to the standpipe on Hughes Street.

A second holding facility is located on the south side of the borough on Hughes Street behind the high school football field. Water from the large, blue tank is gravity fed to the remaining portion of the borough. Some lines do extend outside the borough. At various points in the system, small pump stations exist to add pressure for the water system.

Big spring water also supplies the Corning line part of the Bellefonte water system. This part of the system has a separate storage tank and pump stations that supply customers in the Benner Pike area, including Bel Aire and Amberleigh up to the Corning water tank.

Water Quality Data Table

The table on the next page lists the drinking water contaminant that we detected during the calendar year of this report, as well as some historical data.
The presence of a contaminant in the water does not necessarily indicate that the water poses a health risk. Unless otherwise noted, the data presented in this table is from testing done in the calendar year of this report. The EPA or the State requires us to monitor for certain contaminants less than once per year because the concentrations of these contaminants do not change frequently.

Important Drinking Water Definitions:

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

MCL: Maximum Contaminant Level: 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.

MCLG: Maximum Contaminant Level Goal: 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.

MRDL: Maximum Residual Disinfectant Level

MRDLG: Maximum Residual Disinfectant Level Goal: 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.

NA: Not Applicable

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

ppm: parts per million, or milligrams per liter (mg/l)

Treatment Technique: A required process intended to reduce the level of a contaminant in drinking water.

ppb: parts per billion

CHEMICAL RESULTS SUMMARY TABLE							
Contaminants (units)	**MCLG**	**MCL**	**Level Detected**	**Range**	**Sample Date**	**Violation**	**Typical Source**
Barium (ppm)	2	2	0.229 at EP 101 0.0248 at EP 102	N/A	12/19/24 12/19/24	No	Discharge of drilling wastes; discharge from metal refineries; erosion of natural deposits
Nitrate (ppm)	10	10	2.02 at EP 101 2.01 at EP 102	N/A	04/25/24 04/25/24	No	Runoff from fertilizer use; leaching from septic tanks, sewage, erosion of natural deposits
ENTRY POINT DISINFECTANT RESIDUALS TABLE							
Chlorine EP 101 (ppm) with required 0.85 Chlorine EP 102 (ppm) with required 1.0	4	4	.02 - 2.66 at EP 101 .21 -1.86 at EP 102	EP101=.02 - 2.66 EP102=.21- 1.86	EP 101 Daily EP 102 Daily	Yes (see violations) No	Water additive used to control microbes
DISTRIBUTION DISINFECTANT RESIDUALS TABLE							
Chlorine (ppm)	4	4	Highest Avgerage result 0.69	0.32 -1.12	Month of highest result: April	No	Water additive used to control microbes
Lead and Copper (Sample Period Start Date of June 01,2022 and Sample Period End Date of September 30, 2022)							
Contaminant	**Action Level**	**MCLG**	**90th Percentile Value**	**Units**	**# of Sites above AL**	**Violation**	
Lead	.015	0.015	.00123	MG/L	0	No	Corrosion of household plumbing
Copper	1.3	1.3	.12	MG/L	0	No	Corrosion of household plumbing

PUBLIC NOTICE – VIOLATIONS

IMPORTANT INFORMATION ABOUT YOUR DRINKING WATER

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

Monitoring Requirements Not Met for Bellefonte Borough Water Authority.

Our water system violated several drinking water standards over the past year. Even though these were not emergencies, as our customers, you have a right to know what happened and what we did to correct these situations.

Contaminant	Violation Type	Number of Samples Taken	Action	Period Begin Date
Groundwater Rule – Disinfectant Residual	Failure to maintain disinfection at entry point	additional distribution samples taken	Compliance Achieved	06/01/2024
SOC Endrin	Samples not collected	one yearly sample	Compliance Achieved	2024

What should I do?

There is nothing you need to do at this time these violations have been resolved and compliance has been achieved.

What happened? What was done?

Due to an equipment failure, disinfection residual was not maintained at entry point 101, this happened on June 26, 2024. A Boil Water Advisory was issued on that date. For your information, inadequately treated water **may contain** disease causing organisms such as Giardia lamblia, Viruses, Heterotrophic Plate count Bacteria Legionella, Cryptosporidium. These organisms include bacteria, viruses and parasites that cause symptoms such as nausea, cramps, diarrhea and associated headaches at the time of exposure. On the date of this entry point disinfection failure, a Boil Water Advisory was issued to all affected customers, and water samples were collected from the distribution system. The Boil Water Advisory was lifted after testing results returned with no detections and chlorine residuals in the system were fully restored. Compliance will be achieved for the SOC sample Endrin with this public notification of a missed sample. The sample will be collected in 2025 and reported on this report if there is a detection. This sample is collected yearly and recent results have been non-detectable.

Date distributed: March, 2025

BIOSOLIDS - QUICK FACTS

Biosolids are not raw sewage.

Biosolids must meet quality standards prior to land application.

Land application of biosolids is regulated by DEP.

Treatment facilities and application sites are inspected by DEP staff to ensure compliance.

Biosolids: Biosolids are the nutrient-rich organic materials resulting from the treatment of sewage sludge. Biosolids can be applied to agricultural fields as fertilizer to improve soils and stimulate plant growth. The application of biosolids is regulated by the Commonwealth of Pennsylvania to ensure the material is treated properly and is then safely applied to agricultural areas. Biosolids must meet specific quality criteria before land application. Biosolids, other than landscape-grade, may not be applied to farmland, forests, or mine reclamation sites that are within 100 feet of a stream; within 300 feet of an occupied dwelling or water source; within 11 inches of a seasonal high water table; or within 3.3 feet of the regional groundwater table.

Bellefonte's Big Spring is not under the influence of surface water.

Bellefonte Borough Authority did not violate its source water plan. The Plan states: "… land uses, activities, or individual industries identified in the PSOC inventory are not necessarily a source of pollution; however, they have the *potential* for contaminating groundwater." The Plan states that the potential area of contribution to the Big Spring is approximately 55 square miles, covering 17 municipalities in two counties. Almost 900 potential sources of contamination were identified in the Plan.

For over 25 years Bellefonte Borough Authority has met or exceeded all PA DEP and US EPA-sanctioned biosolids program regulations. Even though the biosolids program is highly-regulated with ongoing testing and inspections, Bellefonte Borough Authority has never had a violation.

The farmer just wanted an affordable organic fertilizer instead of chemicals. The PA Supreme Court has already ruled that using biosolids is a normal agricultural operation.

Bellefonte Borough Authority has always enjoyed an outstanding relationship with its neighboring municipal and authority representatives and very much wants to maintain that relationship.

For official PA DEP Fact Sheets on biosolids, please visit:

WWW.DEP.PA.GOV

BELLEFONTE WATER SYSTEM

Mission Statement

The mission of the Bellefonte Borough Waterworks is to "contribute to the well-being of our community through the provision of an adequate supply of high-quality drinking water."

Please call our office at 814-355-1501 if you have questions. We ask that all our customers help us protect our Big Spring water source, which is the reason Bellefonte, meaning ñbeautiful fountain,ò was founded here in the first place. If we work together, we can accomplish great things.

Water Quality Report

Bellefonte Borough Offices
Suite 200
301 North Spring Street
Bellefonte, PA 16823

RETURN SERVICE REQUESTED

inside...

Your Consumer Report on the Bellefonte Borough Water System for calendar year 2024.

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