pennsylvania
DEPARTMENT OF ENVIRONMENTAL PROTECTION

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

2024 ANNUAL DRINKING WATER QUALITY REPORT

PWSID #: 4340002 NAME: McAlisterville Area Joint 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 provides information about our water quality and what it means. If you have any questions about this report or concerning your water utility, please contact the McAlisterville Area Joint Authority at (717) 463-3434**.** We want you to be informed about your water supply. If you want to learn more, please attend any of our regularly scheduled meetings. Meetings are held at 558 Main Street, McAlisterville, PA. The entrance to the meeting room is located on the west side of the building. The door to access the meeting has a drop-slot in it labeled “MAJA Dropbox” and faces Mifflintown. Payments may also be made through this drop-slot.

SOURCE(S) OF WATER:

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

Well #2 -- Groundwater Under the Direct Influence of Surface Water -- Shade Road

Well #3 – Groundwater – Route 35 North

Spring #1 and #2 – Groundwater – Shade Mountain

Some people may be 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).

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, 2024. The PA DEP allows us to monitor for some contaminants less than once per year because the concentrations of these contaminants do not change rapidly or 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.

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 (µg/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

DETECTED SAMPLE RESULTS:

Chemical Contaminants								
Contaminant	**MCL in CCR Units**	**MCLG**	**Level Detected**	**Range of Detections**	**Units**	**Sample Date**	**iolatio Y/N**	**Sources of Contamination**
Barium (ppm)	2	2	0.131	0.097-0.131	ppm	7/18/24	N	Discharge of drilling wastes; discharge from metal refineries; erosion of natural deposits
Antimony	6		0.25	0.24 – 0.25	ppb	7/18/24	N	Discharge from petroleum refineries; fire retardants; ceramics; electronics; solder
Magnesium	Na	Na	24	24	ppm	9/21/2024	N	Erosion of Natural Deposits
Calcium	Na	Na	80.3	80.3	ppm	9/21/2020	N	Erosion of Natural Deposits
Haloacetic Acids	60	N/a	44	31 - 64	ppb	2024	N	By product of drinking water disinfection
Total Trihalomethanes	80	N/a	27	15-42	ppb	2024	N	By-product of drinking water chlorination
Nitrate	10	10	5.07	1.44-5.07	ppm	6/6/24	N	Run-off from fertilizer use

*EPA's MCL for fluoride is 4 ppm. However, Pennsylvania has set a lower MCL to better protect human health. (MAJA does not add fluoride to the drinking water)

Entry Point Disinfectant Residual							
Contaminant	**Minimum Disinfectant Residual**	**Lowest Level Detected**	**Range of Detections**	**Units**	**Sample Date**	**Violation Y/N**	**Sources of Contamination**
Chlorine E.P. 100	0.50	0.68	0.68 - 2.33	ppm	8/10/2024	N	Water additive used to control microbes.
Chlorine E.P. 101	0.40	0.43	0.43 - 1.86	ppm	8/5/2024	N	Water additive used to control microbes

Distribution System Disinfectant Residual							
Contaminant	**MCL in CCR Units**	**Highest Level Detected**	**Range of Detections**	**Month of Highest Detection**	**Units**	**Violation**	**Sources of Contamination**
Chlorine	4.0	1.32	0.71 – 1.32	Nov., 2024	ppm	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**	**8.55**	**0 – 27.7**	**ppb**	**1**	**N**	**Corrosion of household plumbing.**
Copper	**1.3**	**1.3**	**0.275**	**0.116 – 0.372**	**ppm**	**0**	**N**	**Corrosion of household plumbing.**

Microbial					
Contaminant	**MCL**	**MCLG**	**Highest # or % of Positive Samples**	**Violation Y/N**	**Sources of Contamination**
Total Coliform Bacteria	For systems that collect <40 samples/month: • More than 1 positive monthly sample For systems that collect ≥ 40 samples/month: • 5% of monthly samples are positive	0	0	N	Naturally present in the environment.
Fecal Coliform Bacteria or *E. coli*	0	0	0	N	Human and animal fecal waste

Turbidity						
Contaminant	**MCL**	**MCLG**	**Level Detected**	**Sample Date**	**Violation Y/N**	**Source of Contamination**
Turbidity	TT=1 NTU for a single measurement	0	0.07	6/25/24	N	Soil runoff.
	TT= at least 95% of monthly samples≤0.3 NTU		100.0%	2024	N	

OTHER VIOLATIONS:

The McAlisterville Area Joint Authority had several late or invalid reporting violations during 2024. EP 101 chlorine values for 3/19/24 and 5/1/24 were both reported late. Additionally, in both the 2'nd and 3'rd quarters of 2024, our PFAS and PFOA results were erroneously reported by the analyzing laboratory. All reporting has been corrected and submitted regarding these violations.

We had no detection of Volatile Organic Compounds, Inorganic Compounds or Synthetic Organic Compounds.

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 lines and home plumbing. The McAlisterville Area Joint 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 the 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*.

Note: The McAlisterville Area Joint Authority prepared a service line inventory of our system 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 (717) 463-3434.

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.

Other Information

The McAlisterville Area Joint Authority is committed to supplying safe, potable water to our customers. During the 2024 year, other contaminants not included in the above table were monitored, and the results were "non-detectable", meaning the levels were so low as to consider them unable to be detected by current analytical techniques. In 2024, no water main extensions were added to our system. Our water is typically a combination of spring water and well water. The majority of the water is filtered by the MAJA's membrane filtration plant with the exception of Well #3, which is not influenced by surface water and is pumped directly into the system after disinfection. Due to the improvements to our spring sources in 2021, we are still collecting, treating and providing significantly more spring water. This should reduce the amount of calcium buildup seen on your appliances and faucets. McAlisterville AJA is planning on commencing construction of a new potable water storage tank and an additional well source north of Dunn Valley Road in 2025. This will assist in maintaining flow and pressure during repairs, large leaks and fire protection events. If at any time you are not satisfied with the water quality or Authority personnel service, please call us at 717-463-3434, and we will make every reasonable effort to address the problem. We invite you to voice your concerns and want to provide the highest quality drinking water and utility service possible.

There may be both improvements and repairs done to the McAlisterville public water system in 2025. We will notify our customers in advance of the periods when the service interruptions will take place.

Important Note: ESPECIALLY CUSTOMERS WHO RENT …..IF YOU DO NOT RECEIVE PHONE CALLS WHEN WE HAVE INFORMATION TO SHARE WITH YOU ABOUT EMERGENCIES OR REPAIRS, PLEASE CALL (717)-463-3434 AND LEAVE US YOUR NAME AND THE BEST PHONE NUMBER AT WHICH TO CONTACT YOU. WE WILL ADD YOU TO OUR LIST OF EMERGENCY CONTACTS!

Thank you for your understanding during interruptions in service either for repairs or emergencies. Your cooperation with the McAlisterville Area Joint Authority in making 2024 another safe, successful year of providing reliable water and sewer services to the McAlisterville community is greatly appreciated.