2024 What Are You Drinking?
Annual Drinking Water Quality Report
Buhl Community Water Company
PWSID #6430049

Este informe contiene información muy importante sobre su agua de beber. Tradúzcalo ó hable con alguien que lo entienda bien. (This report contains very important information about your drinking water. Translate it 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 Doug Snow at 724-748-5764. 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.

SOURCE OF WATER:

Our water source is two wells drilled into the Connoquenessing Aquifer.

> **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

Buhl Community Water Company routinely monitors 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 State allows us to monitor 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 AND ABBREVIATIONS

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.
Minimum Residual Disinfectant Level (MinRDL) - The minimum level of residual disinfectant required at the entry point to the distribution system.
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.
Treatment Technique (TT) – A required process intended to reduce the level of a contaminant in drinking water.
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.
Mrem/year = millirems per year (a measure of radiation absorbed by the body)
pCi/L = picocuries per liter (a measure of radioactivity)   *ppt (ng/l)* = parts per trillion, or nanograms per liter
ppb = parts per billion, or micrograms per liter (μg/L)   *ppm* = parts per million, or milligrams per liter (mg/L

DETECTED SAMPLE RESULTS

Chemical Contaminant	MCL	MCLG	Highest Level Detected	Range of Detections	Units	Sample Date	Violation Y/N	Sources of Contamination
Chlorine (Distribution)	MRDL =4	MRDLG =4	1.02 (September 2024)	0.74 – 1.02	(ppm)	2024	N	Water additive used to control microbes
Barium	2	2	0.0253	N/A	(ppm)	5/22/24	N	Discharge of drilling wastes; Discharge from metal refineries; Erosion of natural deposits
Fluoride	2*	2*	0.20	N/A	(ppm)	5/22/24	N	Erosion of natural deposits; Water additive which promotes strong teeth; Discharge from fertilizer and aluminum factories
Nickel	N/A	N/A	0.00379	N/A	(ppm)	5/22/24	N	Leaching from metals in contact with drinking water, erosion in the production of steel alloys.
TTHMs (Total Trihalomethanes)	80	N/A	6.13	N/A	(ppb)	8/14/24	N	By-product of water chlorination

*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	Lowest Sample Date	Violation Y/N	Sources of Contamination
Chlorine (2024)	0.40	0.50	0.50 – 1.62	ppm	7/12/24	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 (2022)	15	0	1.47	0.00-5.26	ppb	0 out of 10	N	Corrosion of household plumbing systems; Erosion of natural deposits
Copper (2022)	1.3	1.3	0.078	0.00-0.102	ppm	0 out of 10	N	Corrosion of household plumbing systems; Erosion of natural deposits; Leaching from wood preservatives

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. Buhl Community Water Company is responsible for providing high quality drinking water and 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 Buhl Community Water Company at 724-748-5764. Information on lead in drinking water, testing methods, and steps you can take to minimize exposure is available at. www.epa.gov/safewater/lead.

Buhl Community Water Company prepared a service line inventory that includes the type of material contained in each service line in our distribution system. This inventory can be accessed by contacting our office at 724-748-5764.

Violations: In 2024 we monitored for Entry Point and Distribution Chlorine in the months of March and May but failed to report the results to the PA Department of Environmental Protection by the required due dates resulting in monitoring/reporting violations. In October we monitored for Total Coliform but had reporting errors which resulted in a reporting violation.

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, may come from sewage treatment plants, septic systems, agricultural livestock operations, and wildlife.

- Inorganic contaminants, such as salts and metals, 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, 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.

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).