

# 2021 ANNUAL DRINKING WATER QUALITY REPORT

## Rock Spring Water Company

PWSID # 4140085

*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 Bonnie Jacobs at the Rock Spring Water Company office located at 1750 Tadpole Road, Pa. Furnace, PA, Telephone # (814) 231-2911. We want you to be informed about your water supply. If you want to learn more, please call the Rock Spring Water Company office.

**SOURCE OF WATER:** Our water source is a well located on Tadpole Road.

**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

Rock Spring Water Company 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, 2021. 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 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.

**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** - 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.

**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 ( $\text{mg/L}$ )

### DETECTED SAMPLE RESULTS

<i>Entry Point Disinfectant Residual</i>							
Contaminant	Minimum Disinfectant Residual	Lowest Level Detected	Range of Detections	Units	Lowest Sample Date	Violation Y/N	Sources of Contamination
Chlorine 2021 (Entry Point 102)	0.40	0.40	0.40-2.90	(ppm)	2/17/21	N	Water additive used to control microbes.

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	1.61 (December 2021)	0.48-1.61	(ppm)	2021 Sampled Weekly	N	Water additive used to control microbes
Trihalomethanes	80	N/A	6.13	N/A	(ppb)	9/20/21	Y	By-product of drinking water chlorination

Contaminant	Action Level (AL)	MCLG	90 <sup>th</sup> Percentile Value	Units	# Of Sites Above AL of Total Sites	Violation Of TT Y/N	Sources of Contamination
Copper (2019)	1.3	1.3	0.07	ppm	0 out of 10	N	Corrosion of household plumbing systems; Erosion of natural deposits; Leaching from wood preservatives
Lead (2019)	15	0	1.42	ppb	0 out of 10	N	Corrosion of household plumbing systems; Erosion of natural deposits

***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. Rock Spring 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 <http://www.epa.gov/safewater/lead>.

<i>Microbial (related to Assessments/Corrective Actions regarding TC positive results)</i>						
Contaminants	TT	MCLG	Assessments/ Corrective Actions	Violation Y/N	Sources of Contamination	
Total Coliform Bacteria	Any system that has failed to complete all the required assessments <b>or</b> correct all identified sanitary defects, is in violation of the treatment technique requirement	N/A	We were required to complete 1 Level 1 Assessment in 2021 due to a positive Total Coliform Sample and a Positive Check Sample. The Assessment was done in April 2022 showing 2 corrective actions required. Those have been completed.	Y  (Assessment was not completed within the required 30-day deadline.)	Naturally present in the environment.	

Coliforms are bacteria that are naturally present in the environment and are used as an indicator that other potentially-harmful, bacteria may be present or that a potential pathway exists through which contamination may enter the drinking water distribution system. We found coliforms indicating the need to look for potential problems in water treatment or distribution. When this occurs, we are required to conduct assessments to identify problems and to correct any problems that were found during these assessments. During the past year we were required to conduct 1 Level 1 assessment and we failed to conduct the required assessment completed within the required 30-day deadline. It was completed on April 6, 2022. In addition, we were required to take 2 corrective actions and we completed these actions.

## **Violations:**

**Reporting Violations:** On June 30, 2021 and October 30, 2021 we monitored for Entry Point Chlorine but failed to report the results to the PA Department of Environmental Protection (PA DEP) by the required due date. We also failed to submit our 2020 CCR to our customers and the CCR and required certification form to the PA DEP by the deadline of on or before July 1<sup>st</sup>. In addition, we submitted a Public Notification for missed Synthetic Organic Chemicals in 2020 passed the required due date.

## **Other Violations:**

We were required in 2021 to monitor for Haloacetic Acids and Trihalomethanes  $\pm$  3 days of September 15, 2021 but took the samples on September 20, 2021 and therefore cannot be sure of the quality of our drinking water during that time. In August of 2021 we had a positive Total Coliform sample result requiring us to do 3 check samples within 24 hours. The check samples were not taken in this time frame and 1 was positive triggering a Level 1 Assessment to be completed within 30 days and we failed to complete this assessment until April of 2022. Public Notification regarding these violations is included at the end of this report.

## **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 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.
- 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).

**We at Rock Spring Water Company work around the clock to provide top quality water to every tap. We ask that all our customers help us protect our water sources, which are the heart of our community, our way of life and our children's future.**

## IMPORTANT INFORMATION ABOUT YOUR DRINKING WATER FAILURE TO MONITOR

ESTE INFORME CONTIENE INFORMACIÓN 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 Rock Spring Water Company

Our water system violated several drinking water standards in 2021. 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.

We are required to monitor your drinking water for specific contaminants on a regular basis. Results of regular monitoring are an indicator of whether our drinking water meets health standards. We were required in 2021 to monitor for Haloacetic Acids and Trihalomethanes  $\pm$  3 days of September 15, 2021 but failed to do so therefore cannot be sure of the quality of our drinking water during that time. We took the samples on September 20, 2021.

#### What should I do?

There is nothing you need to do at this time.

The table below lists the contaminants we did not properly test for during the last year, how often we are supposed to sample for Haloacetic Acids and Trihalomethanes, how many samples we are supposed to take, how many samples we took, when samples should have been taken, and the date on which follow-up samples were taken.

Contaminant	Required sampling frequency	Number of samples taken	When all samples should have been taken	When samples were taken
Haloacetic Acids	Annual/1 Sample	1	$\pm$ 3 days of 9/15/21	9/20/21
Trihalomethanes	Annual/1 Sample	1	$\pm$ 3 days of 9/15/21	9/20/21

**What happened? What was done.** We were required in 2021 to monitor for Haloacetic Acids and Trihalomethanes  $\pm$  3 days of September 15, 2021 but failed to do so until September 20, 2022

For more information, please contact The Rock Spring Water Company at 814-231-2911.

*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 the Rock Spring Water Company.

PWS ID#: 4140085

Date distributed: May 2022



## FAILURE TO COMPLETE A LEVEL 1 ASSESSMENT IMPORTANT INFORMATION ABOUT YOUR DRINKING WATER

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Rock Spring Water Company recently violated a drinking water requirement. Although this is not an emergency, as our customers, you have a right to know what happened, what you should do, and what we did (are doing) to correct this situation.

During recent routine monitoring, our water system tested positive for total coliform bacteria and 1 of the required check samples also tested positive. Coliforms are bacteria that are naturally present in the environment and that are used as an indicator that a potential pathway exists through which contamination (including potentially harmful, waterborne pathogens) may enter the distribution system.

As a result, we were required to conduct 3 check samples within 24 hours. A Level 1 assessment of our system within 30 days was triggered due to the 2 positive samples and the check samples not being done in the 24-hour timeframe. 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. *We failed to conduct the required Level 1 assessment* within 30 days, and have therefore, violated drinking water requirements.

### What should I do?

- There is nothing you need to do. You do not need to boil your water or take other corrective actions. However, if you have specific health concerns, consult your doctor.
- If you have a severely compromised immune system, have an infant, are pregnant, or are elderly, you may be at increased risk and should seek advice from your health care providers about drinking this water.

### What does this mean?

This is not an emergency. If it had been, you would have been notified within 24 hours.

Failure to conduct an assessment to identify the sanitary defect that triggered the assessment has the potential to prolong the risk of fecal contamination of our distribution system water. While we have not detected any evidence of fecal contamination in our distribution system, we are committed to correcting the deficiency to eliminate the potential threat of contamination. *Inadequately treated water may contain disease-causing organisms. These organisms include bacteria, viruses, and parasites which can cause symptoms such as nausea, cramps, diarrhea, and associated headaches.*

These symptoms, however, are not caused only by organisms in drinking water, but also by other factors. If you experience any of these symptoms and they persist, you may want to seek medical advice.

### What is being done?

Although we did not meet our Level 1 assessment submission deadline, we submitted the assessment to the Pennsylvania Department of Environmental Protection in April of 2022 and completed the corrective actions generated by the assessment.

For more information, please contact: Bonnie Jacobs at 814-231-2911

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