



# 2020 Annual Drinking Water Quality Report



Conyngham/Sugarloaf Joint Municipal Authority (PWSID 2400048)

We're pleased to present to you this year's Annual Drinking Water Quality Report. This report is designed to inform you about the quality water and services we deliver to you every day. Our constant goal is to provide you with a dependable supply of drinking water. We want you to understand the efforts we make to continually improve the water treatment process and protect our water resources. We are committed to ensuring the quality of your water. Our water supply comes from 4 wells and each is treated with chlorine to control microbiological contaminants and caustic soda to control the PH.

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

If you have any questions about this report or concerning your water utility, please contact:  
Conyngham/Sugarloaf Joint Municipal Authority (CSJMA)  
Eddie Gregory | Operations Manger  
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570-788-0608

CSJMA meetings are open to the public and are held every 4<sup>th</sup> Tuesday at the Conyngham Borough Building (215 Main Street) at 7:00 P.M. unless otherwise noted in the Standard Speaker.

Conyngham/Sugarloaf Joint Municipal Authority routinely monitors for constituents in your drinking water according to Federal and State laws. This table shows the results of our monitoring for the period of January 1<sup>st</sup>, 2020 to December 31<sup>st</sup>, 2020. All drinking water, including bottled drinking water, is reasonably expected to contain at least small amounts of some constituents. It's important to remember that the presence of these constituents does not necessarily pose a health risk.

**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 persons, 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 microbiological contaminants are available from the Safe Drinking Water Hotline (800-426-4791).**

| Chemical Contaminants                                    |               |                        |                    |     |      |  |
|--|---------------|------------------------|--------------------|-----|------|--|
| Contaminant (Units) (Date)                               | Violation Y/N | Highest Level Detected | Range              | MCL | MCLG | Major Sources in Drinking Water  |
| Arsenic (ppb)<br>4/16/2018 & 4/17/2018                   | None          | 4.77                   | 1.16 to 4.77       | 10  | 0    | Erosion of natural deposits; Runoff from orchards; Runoff from glass and electronics production wastes |
| Barium (ppm)<br>4/16/2016 & 4/17/2018                    | None          | 0.0136                 | 0.00716 to 0.0136  | 2   | 2    | Discharge of drilling wastes; discharge from metal refineries; erosion of natural deposits             |
| Nickle (ppm)<br>(Not Regulated)<br>4/16/2018 & 4/17/2018 | None          | 0.00301                | 0.00301 to 0.00175 | N/A | N/A  | Leaching from metals in contact with drinking water, erosion in the production of steel alloys         |
| Chlorine (ppm)<br>2020<br>Distribution System            | None          | 0.81<br>February       | 0.43 to 0.81       | 4   | 4    | Water additive used to control microbes.   |
| Nitrate (ppm)<br>3/2/20                                  | None          | 3.90                   | 1.04 to 3.90       | 10  | 10   | Runoff from fertilizer use; Leaching from septic tanks, sewage; Erosion of natural deposits            |
| Gross Alpha (pCi/L)<br>(EP 108)<br>1/31/17               | None          | 1.83                   | N/A                | 15  | 0    | Erosion of natural deposits  |
| Combined Radium (pCi/L) (EP108)<br>Sampled in 2017       | None          | 1.16                   | N/A                | 5   | 0    | Erosion of natural deposits  |
| Combined Uranium (EP108) (ppb) 1/31/17                   | None          | 2.01                   | N/A                | 30  | 0    | Erosion of natural deposits  |
| Total Trihalomethanes (TTHM) (ppb)<br>8/17/20            | None          | 4.90                   | N/A                | 80  | N/A  | By-product of drinking water chlorination  |

| Contaminant Entry Point Chlorine (2020) | Minimum Disinfectant Residual | Lowest Level Detected | Range of Detections | Units | Lowest Sample Date | Violation Y/N | Sources of Contamination                 |
|---|-------------------------------|-----------------------|---------------------|-------|--------------------|---------------|--|
| Entry pt. 101                           | 0.20                          | 0.22                  | 0.22 to 1.97        | ppm   | 9/15/20            | N             | Water additive used to control microbes. |
| Entry pt. 103                           | 0.21                          | 0.30                  | 0.30 to 1.29        |       | 7/10/20            | N             |  |
| Entry pt. 107                           | 0.20                          | 0.27                  | 0.27 to 1.48        |       | 7/8/20             | N             |  |
| Entry pt. 108                           | 0.34                          | 0.35                  | 0.35 to 1.28        |       | 7/7/20             | N             |  |
| Entry pt. 109                           | 0.20                          | 0.35                  | 0.35 to 1.49        |       | 7/7/20             | N             |  |

| Lead and Copper (Sampled in 2019) |                   |      |                                   |       |                                    |                     |  |
|-----------------------------------|-------------------|------|-----------------------------------|-------|------------------------------------|---------------------|--|
| 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                            | 1.3               | 1.3  | 0.152                             | ppm   | 0 out of 10                        | None                | Corrosion of household plumbing systems; Erosion of natural deposits                                   |
| Lead                              | 15                | 0    | 0                                 | ppb   | 0 out of 10                        | None                | Corrosion of household plumbing systems; Erosion of natural deposits; Leaching from wood preservatives |

"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. Conyngham 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>."

**Violations:** In November of 2020 we monitored for Distribution Chlorine on a weekly basis but failed to report the results to the Pennsylvania Department of Environmental Protection by the required due date resulting in monitoring/reporting violations. All sample results were in compliance.

## **Water Quality Definitions**

In this table you will find many terms and abbreviations you might not be familiar with. To help you better understand these terms we've provided the following definitions:

Non-Detects (ND) - laboratory analysis indicates that the contaminant is not present at a detectable level.

Parts per million (ppm) or Milligrams per liter (mg/l) - one part per million corresponds to one minute in two years or a single penny in \$10,000.

Parts per billion (ppb) or Micrograms per liter ( $\mu\text{g/L}$ ) - one part per billion corresponds to one minute in 2,000 years or a single penny in \$10,000,000.

pCi/l picocuries per liter (a measure of radioactivity)

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 “Maximum Allowed” (MCL) is 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 “Goal” (MCLG) is 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 that is 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.

*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.

## Additional Information

As you can see by the table, our system had no violations resulting from contaminated water in 2020. We have learned through our monitoring and testing that some constituents have been detected. These contaminants are listed in the table above. The state allows us to monitor for some contaminants less than once a year because the concentrations of these contaminants do not change frequently. Some of our data, though representative, is more than one year old.

All sources of drinking water are subject to potential contaminants that are naturally occurring or manmade. Those contaminants can be microbes, organic or inorganic chemicals, or radioactive materials. 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 the 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 at 1-800-426-4791.

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 runoff, 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 byproducts of industrial process and petroleum production and mining activities.
- 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 prescribes regulations which limit the amount of certain contaminants in water provided by public water systems. FDA regulations establish limits for contaminants in bottled water, which must provide the same protection for public health.