

# 2021 ANNUAL DRINKING WATER QUALITY REPORT

## Millheim Borough Water Company

PWSID #: 4140084

*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 shows our water quality and what it means. If you have any questions about this report or concerning your water utility, please contact Justin Kerstetter @ 814-349-5350. We want you to be informed about your water supply. If you want to learn more, please attend any of our regularly scheduled meetings. They are held at the Millheim Borough Building on the second Tuesday of each month at 7:00 PM.

### **SOURCES OF WATER:** Phillips Creek Reservoir and Elk Creek

A *Source Water Assessment* of our sources was completed by the PA Department of Environmental Protection (Pa. DEP). The Assessment has found that our sources are potentially most susceptible to transportation corridors and bridges, on-lot waste disposal, stormwater runoff, wildlife, and a fish hatchery. Overall, our sources have little risk of significant contamination. A summary report of the Assessment is available on the *Source Water Assessment & Protection Web* page at (<http://www.dep.state.pa.us/dep/deputate/watermgt/wc/Subjects/SrceProt/SourceAssessment/default.htm>). Complete reports were distributed to municipalities, water supplier, local planning agencies and PADEP offices. Copies of the complete report are available for review at the Pa. DEP Williamsport Regional Office, Records Management Unit at (570) 327-3636.

### **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. Millheim Borough 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>.

## **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, 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:**

**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.

**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)

**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

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).

### **Entry Point Disinfectant Residual**

Contaminant	Minimum Disinfectant Residual	Lowest Level Detected	Range of Detections	Units	Lowest Sample Date	Violation Y/N	Sources of Contamination
Free Chlorine (2021)	0.2	0.45	0.45 – 2.25	ppm	9/24/21	N	Water additive used to control microbes.

**DETECTED SAMPLE RESULTS:**

<b>Chemical Contaminants</b>								
Contaminant	MCL	MCLG	Level Detected	Range of Detections	Units	Sample Date	Violation Y/N	Sources of Contamination
Trihalomethanes (TTHM)	80	80	16.6075 (Average of 4 samples)	8.13-24.40	ppb	2021	N	By-product of drinking water chlorination
Haloacetic Acids (Five)	60	60	26.00 (Average of 4 samples)	12.10-36.90	ppb	2021	N	By-product of drinking water disinfection
Barium	2	2	0.0208	N/A	ppm	10/14/21	N	Discharge of drilling wastes; Discharge from metal refineries; Erosion of natural deposits
Chlorine (Distribution)	MRDL = 4	MRDLG = 4	0.86 (December 2021)	0.57-0.86	ppm	2021	N	Water additive used to control microbes.

<b>Lead and Copper</b>							
Contaminant	Action Level (AL)	MCLG	90 <sup>th</sup> Percentile Value	Units	# Of Sites Above AL of Total Sites	Violation Y/N	Sources of Contamination
Lead (2019)	15	0	1.16	ppb	0 out of 9	N	Corrosion of household plumbing systems; Erosion of natural deposits
Copper (2019)	1.3	1.3	0.451	ppm	0 out of 9	N	Corrosion of household plumbing systems; Erosion of natural deposits; Leaching from wood preservatives

<b>Turbidity</b>							
Contaminant	MCL	MCLG	Level Detected	Sample Date	Violation Y/N	Source of Contamination	
Turbidity	TT=1 NTU for a single measurement	0	0.29	3/23/21	N	Soil runoff	
	TT= at least 95% of monthly samples ≤ 0.3 NTU		100%	2021	N		

Contaminant	Range of percent removal achieved	Number of quarters out of compliance	Violation Y/N	Sources of Contamination
TOC (2021)	Compliance is based on alternative compliance criteria (ACC)	0	N	Naturally present in the environment.

**Violations:** In the 1st quarter of 2021 we monitored for Total Alkalinity but when the result was reported to the PA Department of Environmental Protection it was past the required due date. During 2020, we failed to monitor for IOCS, during 2021-VOCS and Uranium, during 2018-Radium 226 and 228, Total Coliform in March of 2019, Distribution Chlorine in September of 2021, TOC in the 3<sup>rd</sup> Quarter of 2021, and failed to monitor for the correct number of samples in 2019 for Lead and Copper. Public Notification regarding these missed and late samples is enclosed at the end of this report.

## 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 Millheim Borough Water Company

Our water system violated drinking water standards over the past several years. 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 or not our drinking water meets health standards. During 2020 we failed to monitor for IOCS, during 2021-VOCS and Uranium, during 2018-Radium 226 and 228, Total Coliform in March of 2019, Distribution Chlorine in September of 2021, TOC in the 3<sup>rd</sup> Quarter of 2021, and failed to monitor for the correct number of samples in 2019 for Lead and Copper and therefore, cannot be sure of the quality of our drinking water during that time.

#### 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 past several years, how often we are supposed to sample for IOCS,VOCS, Uranium, Radium 226 and 228, Total Coliform, Distribution Chlorine, TOC, Lead, and Copper, and 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 (or will be) taken.

Contaminant	Required sampling frequency	Number of samples taken	When all samples should have been taken	When samples were or will be taken
<sup>1</sup> Inorganic Chemicals(IOCS)	Annually	0	2020	10/14/21
<sup>2</sup> Volatile Organic Chemicals(VOCS)	Annually	0	2021	2022
Uranium	Every 9 Years	0	2021	June 2022
Radium 226 and 228	Every 6 Years	0	2018	4/22/20
Total Coliform	Monthly	0	March 2019	April 2019
Distribution System Chlorine	Weekly	4 (Should have taken 5) Missed Week of 9/19/21 to 9/25/21	September 2021	All Samples were taken in October of 2021
Lead and Copper	Every 3 Years (10 Samples)	9 (Should have taken 10)	2019	2022
Total Organic Carbon (TOC)	Each Quarter	3 (Should have taken 4)	3 <sup>rd</sup> Quarter of 2021	4 <sup>th</sup> Quarter of 2021

<sup>1</sup> Arsenic, Barium, Cadmium, Chromium, Cyanide (Free), Fluoride, Mercury, Nickel, Selenium, Antimony, Beryllium, and Thallium.

<sup>2</sup> 1,2,4-Trichlorobenze, Cis-1,2-Dichloroethylene, Xylenes (Total), Dichloromethane, O-Dichlorobenzene, Para-Dichlorobenzene, 1,1-Dichloroethylene, Trans-1,2-Dichloroethylene, 1,2-Dichloroethane, 1,1,1-Trichloroethane, Carbon Tetrachloride, 1,2-Dichloropropane, Trichloroethylene, 1,1,2-Trichloroethane, Tetrachloroethylene, Chlorobenzene, Benzene, Toluene, Ethylbenzene, Styrene

**What happened? What was done?**

During 2020 we failed to monitor for IOCS, during 2021-VOCS and Uranium, during 2018-Radium 226 and 228, Total Coliform in March of 2019, Distribution Chlorine in September of 2021, TOC in the 3<sup>rd</sup> Quarter of 2021, and failed to monitor for the correct number of samples in 2019 for Lead and Copper. We are working with the PA Department of Environmental Protection to ensure we are following our monitoring requirements in the future.

For more information, please contact Justin Kerstetter at 814-349-5350.

*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 Millheim Borough Water Company.

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Date distributed: June 2022