

# 2020 ANNUAL DRINKING WATER QUALITY REPORT

**PWSID #:** 5030004 **NAME:** Eastern Armstrong County Municipal 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 shows our water quality and what it means. If you have any questions about this report or concerning your water utility, please contact William Ferrier at 724-354-2540. 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 on the third Tuesday of each month at 10:00 a.m. at the Authority office building located at the end of Windy Ridge Lane, next to the sewage treatment plant..

## **SOURCE(S) OF WATER:**

Our water source is from groundwater from Well #5, #6, #7, and #8.

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:**

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, 2020. 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.

*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:**

<b>Chemical Contaminants</b>						
<b>Contaminant</b>	<b>MCL in CCR Units</b>	<b>Level Detected</b>	<b>Units</b>	<b>Sample Date</b>	<b>Violation Y/N</b>	<b>Sources of Contamination</b>
Fluoride	2	0.42	ppm	01-11-2018	N	Water additive which promotes strong teeth.
Barium	2	0.65	ppm	01-11-2018	N	Discharge of drilling wastes; Discharge from metal refineries, erosion of natural deposits.
HAA5	.060	.00605	ppb	08-10-2020	N	By-product of drinking water disinfection.
Trihalomethanes	.080	0.009	ppm	11-20-2020	N	By-product of drinking water chlorination.

\*EPA's MCL for fluoride is 4 ppm. However, Pennsylvania has set a lower MCL to better protect human health.

<b>Entry Point Disinfectant Residual</b>							
<b>Contaminant</b>	<b>Minimum Disinfectant Residual</b>	<b>Lowest Level Detected</b>	<b>Range of Detections</b>	<b>Units</b>	<b>Sample Date</b>	<b>Violation Y/N</b>	<b>Sources of Contamination</b>
Chlorine	0.80	1.2	1.2 – 3.7	ppm	01-09-2020	N	Water additive used to control microbes.

<b>Lead and Copper</b>							
<b>Contaminant</b>	<b>Action Level (AL)</b>	<b>MCLG</b>	<b>90<sup>th</sup> Percentile Value</b>	<b>Units</b>	<b># of Sites Above AL of Total Sites</b>	<b>Violation Y/N</b>	<b>Sources of Contamination</b>
Lead	15	0	15	ppb	1 out of 10	N	Corrosion of household plumbing.
Copper	1.3	1.3	.304	ppm	1 out of 10	N	Corrosion of household plumbing.

#### **VIOLATIONS:**

Failure to monitor TTHM in the third quarter

Failure to monitor weekly distribution chlorine in October

Failure to monitor at least 90% of distribution chlorine samples in a month

Failure to monitor Entry point chlorine for the month of October

These violations have no public health risk. They were all completed during the month, but the report was not submitted by the due date of November 10<sup>th</sup>.



## **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. Eastern Armstrong County Municipal 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 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>.

## **OTHER INFORMATION:**

Thank you for allowing us to continue providing your family with clean, quality water this year. In order to maintain a dependable water supply, we sometimes need to make improvements that will benefit all of our customers. These improvements are sometimes reflected as rate structure adjustments. Thank you for understanding.

The board members and employees of EACMA strive to provide top quality water to every tap. We ask that all of our customers help us protect our water sources which are the heart of our community, our way of life, and our children's future.



## Take Everyday Actions

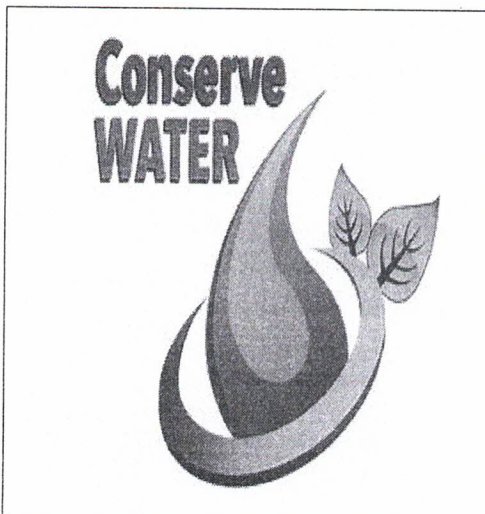
### *Use and Dispose of Harmful Materials Properly*

Don't pour hazardous waste down the drain, on the ground, or into storm sewers. This could contaminate the soil, groundwater, or nearby surface water.

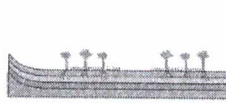
A number of products used at home contain hazardous or toxic substances that can contaminate ground or surface waters, such as:

- Motor oil
- Pesticides
- Leftover paints or paint cans
- Mothballs
- Flea collars
- Household cleaners
- A number of medicines

EPA's Household Hazardous Waste (HHW) program has more advice on how to safely manage and reduce the use of these materials.



## THE WATER CYCLE



**Aquifer**



**Groundwater**



**Rain**



**Surface Water**



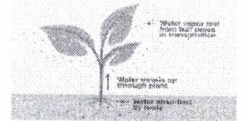
**Condensation**



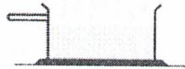
**Hail**



**Runoff**



**Transpiration**



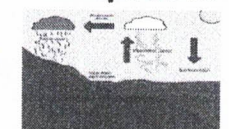
**Evaporation**



**Precipitation**



**Snow**



**Water Cycle**

### 8 Ways to Save Water – Time to Preserve and Conserve

1. Turn down water pressure when you don't need it to come out of the faucet at full force.
2. Keep a pitcher of drinking water in the fridge – then you will drink all the water you run, instead of letting some of it waste away down the drain each time you fill a glass.
3. Use just one glass every day for consuming water or other beverages. This will cut down on the number of glasses you have to use more water to wash.
4. Don't run the water while you are brushing your teeth. Brush, then rinse with the faucet on.
5. If you drop ice cubes on the floor, don't throw them away – put them in a houseplant to slowly water them as they melt.
6. Don't wash tiny loads of laundry in a full basin of water. Adjust water levels according to how much laundry you are going to wash.
7. Always wash darker clothes in cold water. This conserves both water and energy, and your colors won't fade as fast, either.
8. Shortening your shower by just a minute or more can save up to 150 gallons of water a month.