2020 - Consumer Confidence Report For Municipal Authority of the Borough of Boswell

Spanish (Espanol)
Este informe contiene información importante acerca de su agua potable. Haga que alguien lo traduzca para usted, ó hable con alguien que lo entienda.

Is my water safe?
In 2020, we conducted water sampling tests for 73 contaminants. We detected only 1 of those contaminants, and found none at a level higher than the EPA allows. This report is a snapshot of last year's water quality. Included are details about where your water comes from, what it contains, and how it compares to standards set by regulatory agencies. We are committed to providing you with information because informed customers are our best allies.

Do I need to take special precautions?
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/Centers for Disease Control (CDC) guidelines on appropriate means to lessen the risk of infection by Cryptosporidium and other microbial contaminants are available from the Safe Water Drinking Hotline (800-426-4791).

Where does my water come from?
Your water source consists of two (2) groundwater wells located in the Roaring Run watershed located West of Boswell Borough on the Laurel Hill Mountain Range. The Water Authority also has an Interconnect with the Somerset County General Authority's Quemahoning Waterline. This source is used at times during breaks, high volume and / or flushing of lines.

Source water assessment and its availability
Your source water protection plan consists of ownership of approximately 200 acres encompassing Well #1 and Well #2. The adjacent properties to the north within the watershed are State owned Park and Game Lands that are regulated for pollution control. The Authority regularly monitors the well sites for potential pollution activity. Boswell completed a Pennsylvania Department of Environmental Protection sponsored Wellhead Protection Program to continue to deliver safe drinking water. The Program has identified the Well Head Protection Area and subsequently sponsored a presentation on groundwater to the North Star Ninth Grade Science Class.

Why are there contaminants in my drinking water?
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 (EPA) Safe Drinking Water Hotline (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:
microbial contaminants, such as viruses and bacteria, that 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 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 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; and 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 that limit the amount of certain contaminants in water provided by public water systems. Food and Drug Administration (FDA) regulations establish limits for contaminants in bottled water which must provide the same protection for public health.

How can I get involved?
We want our customers to be informed about their water utility. If you want to learn more, please attend any of our regularly scheduled meetings. They are held on the second Thursday of every month at the Municipal Authority office located at 300 Stonycreek Street, Boswell, PA 15531 beginning at 6:30 PM.

Public Notification by Automatic Telephone Dialing System
The Municipal Authority of the Borough of Boswell is now using an Automatic Telephone Dialing System to notify every customer in the event of a loss of water supply, major leak, water quality problem or other emergency situation.

If you change telephone numbers please notify the Water Authority at the number listed below under "Other Information".

Lead in Drinking Water
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. The Municipal Authority of the Borough of Boswell is responsible for providing high quality drinking water, but cannot control the variety of materials used in plumbing components. When water has been sitting for several hours in your service line, 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
If you have any questions about this report or concerning your water utility, please contact the Authority Executive Chairman Joseph L. DeBlase at (814) 629-6107 or visit the Authority's office at 300 Stonycreek Street.

Water Conservation
The Municipal Authority of the Borough of Boswell asks its customers to always be on the lookout for leaks. Water main breaks are the most noticeable form of leak, but the common household leak can waste just as much water over the course of a year. Dripping faucets and leaking toilets can waste thousands of gallons of water each year. Energy – such as from electricity, oil, and natural gas – heats water for washing, and runs appliances that use water. So, when you save water, your family spends less money on energy. For more information on water conservation, contact the Water Authority.

Water Quality Data Table

The table below lists all of the drinking water contaminants that we analyzed during the calendar year of this report. During calendar year 2020, water sample testing detected only one (1) of the 73 contaminants examined (Not including Chlorine which is used by the Authority to control microbes). The presence of contaminants in the water does not necessarily indicate that the water poses a health risk. Unless otherwise noted, the data presented in this table is from testing completed in the calendar year of the report. The EPA or the State requires us to monitor for certain contaminants less than once per year because the concentrations of these contaminants do not change frequently.

Contaminants	MCLG, AL, or MRDLG	MCL, TT, or MRDL	Your Water	Range Low	Range High	Sample Date	Violation	Typical Source
Chemical Contaminants								
Chlorine (as Cl2) (ppm)	4	4	0.82	0.73	0.90	2020	No	Water additive used to control microbes.
HAA5 (ppb)	NA	60	0	0	0	2020	No	By-product of drinking water disinfection.
TTHM (ppb)	NA	80	0	0	0	2020	No	By-product of drinking water chlorination.
Barium (ppm)	NA	2	0.158	0.158	0. 158	2018	No	Discharge of drilling wastes; discharge from metal refineries; erosion of natural deposits
Nickel (ppb)	NA	100	1.5	1.5	1.5	2018	No	Discharge of drilling wastes; discharge from metal refineries; erosion of natural deposits
Nitrite (ppm)	1	1	0	0	0	2020	No	Runoff from Fertilizer use.
Nitrate (ppm)	10	10	0.08	0.08	0.08	2020	No	Runoff from Fertilizer use.
Microbiological Contaminants								
Total Coliform (positive samples/month)	0	2/month	ND	ND	ND	2020	No	Naturally present in the environment.

A violation occurs when a routine sample and a repeat sample, in any given month, are total coliform positive, and one is also fecal coliform or E. coli positive. Failure to collect or report distribution samples for a monitoring period are also considered a violation.

Entry Point Disinfectant Residual	Min. Disinfectant Residual	Average Level	Range Low	Range High	Sample Date	Violation	Typical Source
Chlorine (as Cl2) (ppm)	0.4	0.86	0.53	1.30	2020	No	Water additive used to control microbes.

Lead & Copper Rule	Action Level	MCLG	Your Water	Range Low	Range High	Sample Date	Violation	Typical Source
Lead (ppb)	15	0	0	0	0	2019	No	Corrosion of household plumbing.
Copper (ppm)	1.3	1.3	0.101	0.0163	0.1719	2019	No	Corrosion of household plumbing.

VIOLATIONS

The following violations were found:

Contaminants & Other

Failure to Monitor/Report Routine Samples for Contaminant Specified – Failure to report sample results for 2,3,7,8-TCCD (Doixin) from entry point. Monitoring was completed on time. Laboratory reported results late to PA DEP, and compliance was subsequently achieved.

TERMS & DEFINITIONS

Unit Descriptions

Term	Definition
ppm	ppm: parts per million, or milligrams per liter (mg/L)
ppb	Parts per billion or micrograms per liter (µg/L)
pCi/L	Picocuries per liter (a measure of radioactivity)
positive samples/month	positive samples/month: Number of samples taken monthly that were found to be positive
positive samples	positive samples/year: The number of positive samples taken that year
NA	NA: not applicable
ND	ND: Not detected
NR	NR: Monitoring not required, but recommended.

Important Drinking Water Definitions	
Term	**Definition**
MCLG	MCLG: Maximum Contaminant Level Goal: 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.
MCL	MCL: Maximum Contaminant Level: 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.
TT	TT: Treatment Technique: A required process intended to reduce the level of a contaminant in drinking water.
AL	AL: Action Level: The concentration of a contaminant which, if exceeded, triggers treatment or other requirements which a water system must follow.
Variances and Exemptions	Variances and Exemptions: State or EPA permission not to meet an MCL or a treatment technique under certain conditions.
MRDLG	MRDLG: Maximum residual disinfection level goal. 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.
MRDL	MRDL: Maximum residual disinfectant level. 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.
MNR	MNR: Monitored Not Regulated
MPL	MPL: State Assigned Maximum Permissible Level