

# 2010 ANNUAL DRINKING WATER QUALITY REPORT

*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:**

We are pleased to report that our drinking water meets Federal and State requirements. 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 Mr. Grant Boyer at 215-679-2012. 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 the 1st Monday of every month at 7:30PM.

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

Our water sources are the Perkiomen Creek and a ground water well located in Upper Hanover Township.

A Source Water Assessment of our sources was completed in 2003 by the PA Department of Environmental Protection (PADEP). Overall, our sources have moderate risk of significant contamination. Summary reports of the Assessment are available by writing to East Greenville Borough, 206 Main Street, East Greenville, PA 18041 and will be available on the PADEP website at [www.dep.state.pa.us](http://www.dep.state.pa.us) (directLINK "source water"). Complete reports will be distributed to municipalities, water supplier, local planning agencies, and PADEP offices. Copies of the complete report are available for review at the PADEP Southeast Regional Office, Records Management Unit at (484) 250-5900.

**EAST GREENVILLE  
BOROUGH  
WATER DEPARTMENT**

206 Main Street  
East Greenville, PA 18041

**[www.egreenville.org](http://www.egreenville.org)**

Office: 215-679-5194

Water Plant: 215-679-2012

Fax: 215-679-3931

Email: [egbwater@verizon.net](mailto:egbwater@verizon.net)

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, 2010 to December 31, 2010. 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.

**Treatment Technique (TT)** – A required process intended to reduce the level of a contaminant in drinking water.

**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

**ppt** = parts per trillion, or nanograms per liter

**DETECTED SAMPLE RESULTS:**

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
Lead	15	0	8.4	ppb	1	N	Corrosion of household plumbing.
Copper	1.3	1.3	0.385	ppm	0	N	Corrosion of household Plumbing.

Chemical Contaminant	MCL in CCR units	MCLG	Highest Level Detected	Range of Detections	Units	Sample Date	Violation Y/N	Sources of Contamination
Arsenic (ppb)	10	0	<5	0-5	ppb	09/2009	N	Erosion of natural deposits; Runoff from orchards; Runoff from glass and electronics production wastes
Nitrate (ppm)	10	10	2.25	2.04 – 2.25	ppm	6/2010	N	Runoff from fertilizer use; Leaching from septic tanks, sewage; Erosion of natural deposits
1,1-Dichloroethylene (ppb)	7	7	0.5	0-0.5	ppb	9/2010	N	Discharge from industrial chemical factories
Alpha emitters (pCi/l)	15	0	7.2	1.6 – 7.2	pCi/L	05/2003	N	Erosion of natural deposits
Radium 226 (pCi/l)	5	0	0.6	0.2 – 0.6	pCi/L	05/2003	N	Erosion of natural deposits
Lead (ppb)	AL=15	0	9	0 - 9	ppb	06/2010	N	Corrosion of household plumbing systems; Erosion of natural deposits
Copper (ppm)	AL=1.3	1.3	0.395	0.048 – 0.395	ppm	06/2010	N	Corrosion of household plumbing systems; Erosion of natural deposits; Leaching from wood preservatives
TTHMs [Total trihalomethanes] (ppb)	80	N/A	76	13-76	ppb	9/2010 12/2010	N	By-product of drinking water chlorination
Chlorine (ppm)	MRDL=4	MRDL=4	0.73	0.21-0.73	ppm	Done Monthly 1/2010 thru 12/2010	N	Water additive used to control microbes
Total organic carbon (ppm)	TT	N/A	1.4	0.9-1.4	TT	Done Quarterly 1/2010 thru 12/2010	N	Naturally present in the environment

Microbial Contaminants	MCL	MCLG	Highest # or % of Positive Samples	Violation Y/N	Typical Sources of Contamination
Total Coliform Bacteria	For systems that collect <40 samples/month: 1 positive monthly sample For systems that collect ≥40 samples/month: 5% of monthly samples are positive	0		N	Naturally present in the environment.
Fecal Coliform Bacteria or <i>E. coli</i>	0	0		N	Human and animal fecal waste.

Contaminant (units)	Health Effects Language (Required when MCL, MRDL, or TT is exceeded)
Total Coliform Bacteria	Coliforms are bacteria that are naturally present in the environment and are used as an indicator that other, potentially-harmful, bacteria may be present. Coliforms were found in more samples than allowed and this was a warning of potential problems.
Fecal coliform and <i>E. coli</i>	Fecal coliforms and <i>E. coli</i> are bacteria whose presence indicates that the water may be contaminated with human or animal wastes. Microbes in these wastes can cause short-term health effects, such as diarrhea, cramps, nausea, headaches, or other symptoms. They may pose a special health risk for infants, young children, some of the elderly, and people with severely compromised immune systems.
Turbidity (NTU)	Turbidity has no health effects. However, turbidity can interfere with disinfection and provide a medium for microbial growth. Turbidity may indicate the presence of disease-causing organisms. These organisms include bacteria, viruses, and parasites that can cause symptoms such as nausea, cramps, diarrhea and associated headaches.
Giardia lamblia Viruses Heterotrophic plate count bacteria Legionella <i>Cryptosporidium</i>	Inadequately treated water may contain disease-causing organisms. These organisms include bacteria, viruses, and parasites that can cause symptoms such as nausea, cramps, diarrhea, and associated headaches.
Lead (ppb)	Infants and children who drink water containing lead in excess of the action level could experience delays in their physical or mental development. Children could show slight deficits in attention span and learning abilities. Adults who drink this water over many years could develop kidney problems or high blood pressure.

Contaminant	MCL	MCLG	Level	Sample Date	Violation of TT	Source of Contamination
Turbidity	TT=1 NTU for a single measurement	0	NTU 0.13	10/18/10	N	Soil runoff
	TT= at least 95% of monthly samples ≤0.3 NTU		100%	1/10 thru 10/10	N	

## Special Educational Statement for Nitrate, Arsenic, and Lead:

**Nitrate:** Nitrate in drinking water at levels above 10 ppm is a health risk for infants of less than six months of age. High nitrate levels in drinking water can cause blue baby syndrome. Nitrate levels may rise quickly for short periods of time because of rainfall or agricultural activity. If you are caring for an infant, you should ask for advice from your health care provider.

**Arsenic:** While your drinking water meets EPA's standard for arsenic, it does contain low levels of arsenic. EPA's standard balances the current understanding of arsenic's possible health effects against the costs of removing arsenic from drinking water. EPA continues to research the health effects of low levels of arsenic which is a mineral known to cause cancer in humans at high concentrations and is linked to other health effects such as skin damage and circulatory problems.

**Lead:** Infants and young children are typically more vulnerable to lead in drinking water than the general population. It is possible that lead levels at your home may be higher than at other homes in the community as a result of materials used in your home's plumbing. If you are concerned about elevated lead levels in your home's water, you may wish to have your water tested and flush your tap for 30 seconds to 2 minutes before using tap water. Additional information is available from the Safe Drinking Water Hotline (800-426-4791).

## ***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 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 that limit the amount of certain contaminants in water provided by public water systems. FDA and DEP regulations establish limits for contaminants in bottled water that 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).

### **Water Saving Tips**

- A dripping faucet is more than annoying—it's expensive. Even small leaks can waste significant amounts of water. Hot water leaks are a waste of water and energy.
- When using a hose, control the flow with an automatic shutoff nozzle.
- Operate the dishwasher only when completely full.
- Sweep driveways, sidewalks, and steps rather than hosing them off.
- Avoid purchasing water toys that require a constant stream of water.

Knowing how to read your water meter will help you keep an eye on your water conservation efforts, check for leaks, and save money. Monitor your usage by reading your meter regularly. Check for leaks by turning off all taps in your home and then looking at the meter. If the meter is still detecting water flowing, chances are you have a leak somewhere. Your water meter is located either in your basement where the water line comes into the house or near your water heater in a closet. The meter looks and reads like an odometer. To find out how much water you have used in any given period, subtract the reading of the first day of the period from the next reading. The meter reads usage in gallons.

EAST GREENVILLE BOROUGH WATER DEPT.  
206 MAIN STREET  
EAST GREENVILLE, PA 18041

FIRST CLASS MAIL U.S. POSTAGE PAID EAST GREENVILLE, PA PERMIT NO. 46
--