

2016 ANNUAL DRINKING WATER QUALITY REPORT

**PWSID # 6240022 - RIDGWAY TOWNSHIP MUNICIPAL AUTHORITY
AND PWSID # 6240012 - RIDGWAY BOROUGH WATER SYSTEM**

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 concerns about the quality of your water, please contact Andrew Gosnell or Chris Klase (Ridgway Township) at 772-2476 or Rick McKnight (Ridgway Borough) at 772-3251. 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 first Thursday of each month at 7:00 P.M., in the Ridgway Township Municipal Building at 1537 Montmorenci Road and on the third Monday of the month at 7:00 in the Ridgway Borough Municipal Building at 108 Main Street.

SOURCE(S) OF WATER:

Our source is surface water from H.B. Norton Dam located on Big Mill Creek in the Allegheny National Forest.

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. A Source Water Protection Plan was also done in 2012. The following tables show the results of our monitoring for the period of January 1 to December 31, 2016. The State allows us to monitor for some contaminants less than once per year because the concentrations 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.

ppm = parts per million, or milligrams per liter (mg/L)

ppb = parts per billion, or micrograms per liter (µg/L)

DETECTED SAMPLE RESULTS:

Chemical Contaminants								
Contaminant	MCL in CCR Units	MCLG	Level Detected	Range of Detections	Units	Sample Date	Violation Y/N	Sources of Contamination
CHLORINE	MRDL= 4	MRDL= 4	0.11	0.11 – 0.37	ppm	3/16	N	Water Additive used to control microbes.
FLUORIDE	2	4	0.58	-	ppm	11/16/16	N	Water additive used to promote strong teeth.
TTHM	80	N/A	39	16 - 84	ppb	2016	N	By-product of drinking water disinfection.
HAA5	60	N/A	19	11 - 29	ppb	2016	N	By-product of drinking water disinfection
BARIUM	2	2	0.058	-	ppm	11/16/16	N	Drilling wastes and erosion of natural deposits .
NITRATE	10	10	< 0.10	-	ppm	2016	N	Erosion of natural deposits.

Entry Point Disinfectant Residual

Contaminant	Minimum Disinfectant Residual	Lowest Level Detected	Range of Detections	Units	Sample Date	Violation Y/N	Sources of Contamination
CHLORINE	0.2	0.4	0.4 – 1.41	ppm	10/26/16	N	Water additive used to control microbes.

Lead and Copper

Contaminant	Action Level (AL)	MCLG	90 th Percentile Value	Units	# of Sites Above AL of Total Sites	Violation Y/N	Sources of Contamination
LEAD	15	0	0	ppb	0 out of 20	N	Corrosion of household plumbing.
COPPER	1.3	1.3	0.067	ppm	0 out of 20	N	Corrosion of household plumbing.

Microbial					
Contaminants	MCL	MCLG	Highest # or % of Positive Samples	Violation Y/N	Sources of Contamination
TOTAL COLIFORM BACTERIA	For systems that collect <40 samples/month: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • More than 1 positive monthly sample For systems that collect ≥ 40 samples/month: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • 5% of monthly samples are positive 	0	0	N	Naturally present in the environment.

Turbidity						
Contaminant	MCL	MCLG	Level Detected	Sample Date	Violation Y/N	Source of Contamination
TURBIDITY	TT=1 NTU for a single measurement	0	0.21	10/23/16	N	Soil runoff.
	TT= at least 95% of monthly samples ≤0.3 NTU		100%	2016	N	

Total Organic Carbon (TOC)					
Contaminant	Range of % Removal Required	Range of percent removal achieved	Number of quarters out of compliance	Violation Y/N	Sources of Contamination
TOC	35%	45.3% to 62.6%	N	N	Naturally present in the environment.

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.

- 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).

MONITORING VIOLATION:

RIDGWAY BOROUGH – This was not the fault of the Ridgway Borough. Five samples were taken and delivered to an independent lab in the specified time frame. The independent lab mishandled the samples resulting in a violation for failure to meet the time deadline for reporting **one** result with DEP. The samples were immediately retaken and the result was negative for any contaminants. For more information, please contact Rick McKnight at 814-772-3251. Last year, as in years past, your tap water met all EPA and state drinking water health standards. SEE ATTACHED NOTICE.

RIDGWAY TOWNSHIP MUNICIPAL AUTHORITY – SEE ATTACHED NOTICE.

IMPORTANT INFORMATION ABOUT YOUR DRINKING WATER

ESTE INFORME CONTIENE INFORMACION 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 Ridgway Borough

Our water system violated a drinking water standard over the past year. 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 October 1-31, 2016 the independent lab mishandled our samples resulting in a violation and a failure to report one result.

What should I do?

There is nothing you need to do at this time.

The table below lists the contaminant(s) that were not properly tested for during the last year, how often we are supposed to sample for Total Coliform Bacteria 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 results reported.	When all samples should have been taken	When samples were or will be taken
Total Coliform Bacteria	Monthly at five locations.	4	Oct. 1-31, 2016	

What happened? What was done?

This was not the fault of The Ridgway Borough. Five samples were taken and delivered to an independent lab in the specified time frame. The independent lab mishandled one sample resulting in a violation for failure to meet the time deadline for reporting one result with DEP. The samples were immediately retaken and the result was negative for any contaminates. For more information, please contact Rick McKnight at 814-772-3251

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 Ridgway Borough

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Contaminant	Required sampling frequency	Number of results reported.	When all samples should have been taken	When samples were or will be taken
Total Coliform Bacteria	Monthly at two locations.	1	Oct. 1-31, 2016	

What happened? What was done?

The missing sample was collected on time and analyzed, but a laboratory quality assurance failure ultimately resulted in the second sample being rejected by DEP Bureau of Laboratories. The problem was not discovered until November of 2016 when it was too late to collect a replacement sample. For more information, please contact Andrew Gosnell or Chris Klase at 814-772-2476.

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