

## ***2023 ANNUAL DRINKING WATER QUALITY REPORT***

**PWSID # 6240022 NAME: RIDGWAY TOWNSHIP 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 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 the month at 7:00 at the Ridgway Township Municipal Building.

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

***Our source is surface water from H.B. Norton Dam located on Big Mill Creek in the Allegheny National Forest. Because of the remote location there is no contamination.***

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 done in 2012. The following tables show the results of our monitoring for the period of January 1 to December 31, 2023. The State allows us to monitor 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 (Min RDL)** - 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)

<b>Chemical Contaminants</b>								
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	0.63	0.36 – 0.63	ppm	JAN	N	Water Additive used to control microbes.
TTHM	80	N/A	38	4-38	ppb	12/6/23	N	By-product of drinking water disinfection.
HAA5	60	N/A	41	9 - 41	ppb	9/6/23	N	By-product of drinking water disinfection

<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	15	0	4.9	ppb	0 out of 10	N	Corrosion of household plumbing.
COPPER	1.3	1.3	0.14	ppm	0 out of 10	N	Corrosion of household plumbing.

<b>Microbial</b>					
<b>Contaminants</b>	<b>MCL</b>	<b>MCLG</b>	<b>Highest # or % of Positive Samples</b>	<b>Violation Y/N</b>	<b>Sources of Contamination</b>
TOTAL COLIFORM BACTERIA	For systems that collect <40 samples/month: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• More than 1 positive monthly sample</li> </ul> For systems that collect ≥ 40 samples/month: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• 5% of monthly samples are positive</li> </ul>	0	0	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, may come from sewage treatment plants, septic systems, agricultural livestock operations, and wildlife.
- Inorganic contaminants, such as salts and metals 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, 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).

**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. Ridgway Borough Water System 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 [www.epa.gov/safewater/lead](http://www.epa.gov/safewater/lead).

**VIOLATION:**

None