



## Drinking Water Quality Report – 2023

Public Water System Identification Number: 4140095

*Este Informe contiene información muy importante sobre su agua potable. Tradúzcalo o hable con alguien que lo entienda bien.*

此份有關你的食水報告,內有重要資料和訊息,請找  
他人為你翻譯及解釋清楚。

### Water System Information:

This report shows the water quality for the Penn State University water system at University Park and what it means. If you have any questions about this report or concerning your water utility, please contact Garry Beck, Water Services Supervisor at (814) 506-5008.

### Sources of Water:

Penn State's drinking water supply originates from two main well fields: the Houserville Well Field containing three wells and the Big Hollow Well Field containing six wells. Penn State has water interconnections between the State College Borough Authority Water System and the College Township Water System. Water can be exchanged between the State College Borough Water Authority and Penn State University water systems. Water can only be supplied to the College Township Water System by the Penn State University Water System.

The PA Department of Environmental Protection (PA DEP) completed a Source Water Assessment of the Penn State Water System in 2003. Potential Sources of Contamination (PSOCs) documented in the report resulting from the assessment included industrial land use, major roads, and the former fire-training site located just off of Big Hollow Road. A summary is available on the PA DEP website at [www.depstate.pa.us](http://www.depstate.pa.us) (Keyword: "DEP source water"). Copies of the complete reports are available for review at the PA DEP Williamsport Regional Office, Records Management Unit at (570) 327-3636.

### Special Health Concerns:

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, persons with HIV/AIDS or other immune system disorders, some elderly persons, 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 microbiological contaminants are available from the Safe Drinking Water Hotline at 1-800-426-4791.

## Monitoring Your Water:

Penn State routinely monitors your drinking water in accordance with applicable federal and state laws. Penn State is pleased to report that our drinking water met every federal and state primary drinking water standard. The table entitled "Detected Sample Results" on pages 3 and 4 documents monitoring results for the Penn State system from January 1, 2023, to December 31, 2023. In this table you will find several technical terms and abbreviations that are defined below.

### **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.

*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 ( $\mu\text{g/L}$ )

*ppm* = parts per million, or milligrams per liter ( $\text{mg/L}$ )

*ppq* = parts per quadrillion, or picograms per liter

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

**DETECTED SAMPLE RESULTS:**

<i>Chemical Contaminants</i>								
Contaminant	MCL in CCR Units	MCLG	Level Detected	Range of Detections	Units	Sample Date	Violation Y/N	Sources of Contamination
<b>Nitrate</b>	<b>10</b>	<b>10</b>	<b>1.48</b>	<b>1.48– 1.575</b>	<b>ppm</b>	<b>2023</b>	<b>N</b>	<b>Runoff from fertilizer use.</b>
<b>Total Trihalomethanes (TTHM)</b>	<b>80</b>	<b>NA</b>	<b>1.39</b>	<b>1.39-2.39</b>	<b>ppb</b>	<b>2023</b>	<b>N</b>	<b>By-product of drinking water chlorination</b>
<b>Mercury (IOC)</b>	<b>2</b>	<b>2</b>	<b>0.21</b>	<b>0.21</b>	<b>ppb</b>	<b>2021</b>	<b>N</b>	<b>Erosion of natural deposits, discharges from refineries and factories; runoff from landfills; runoff from cropland</b>
<b>Chlorine</b>	<b>MRDL=4</b>	<b>MRDLG=4</b>	<b>0.88</b>	<b>0.88 – 0.95</b>	<b>ppm</b>	<b>2023</b>	<b>N</b>	<b>Water additive used to control microbes.</b>

<b>Entry Point Disinfectant Residual</b>							
Contaminant	Minimum Disinfectant Residual	Lowest Level Detected	Range of Detections	Units	Sample Date	Violation Y/N	Sources of Contamination
<b>Chlorine</b>	<b>0.40</b>	<b>0.82</b>	<b>0.82– 1.15</b>	<b>ppm</b>	<b>01/01/23 to 12/31/23</b>	<b>N</b>	<b>Water additive used to control microbes.</b>

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

Lead and Copper							
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
<b>Lead</b>	<b>15</b>	<b>0</b>	<b>7.50</b>	<b>ppb</b>	<b>1 out of 30</b>	<b>N</b>	<b>Corrosion of household plumbing.</b>
<b>Copper</b>	<b>1.3</b>	<b>0</b>	<b>0.346</b>	<b>ppm</b>	<b>0 out of 30</b>	<b>N</b>	<b>Corrosion of household plumbing.</b>

**Other Violations:**

*There were no violations for this calendar year.*

**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, the US EPA and PA DEP prescribes regulations which limit the amount of certain contaminants in water provided by public water systems. The US FDA and PA 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 building plumbing. The University 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 thirty seconds to two 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>.