

2012 Annual Drinking Water Quality Report

From

Tionesta Borough Water Supply (PWSID# 6270001)

Tionesta Borough is very pleased to provide you with this year's Annual Drinking Water Quality Report. We are happy to report that the system operated without violation during 2012. Our goal is, and will be, to provide to you a safe and dependable supply of drinking water. The purpose of this report is to keep you informed about the water and services that we have delivered to you over the past year.

If you have any questions about this report or concerns about your water utility in general, please contact the borough manager Colleen M. Call at (814) 755-3502 or feel free to visit our regular meetings. Meetings are held the 1st Tuesday of each month at 5:00 PM and the 3rd Tuesday of each month at 4:00 PM. in the borough office located at 631 Elm Street.

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.)

Is my water safe?

Tionesta Borough routinely monitors contaminants in your drinking water according to Federal and State regulations. Your water met all applicable requirements during the 2012 calendar year. 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.

Where does my water come from?

Your water comes from three wells located within the Borough. Two of these wells are at our pump house located on the west side of Elm Street across from the Industrial Development Complex and the third is located at the IDC property on the east side of Elm Street, both at the northern end of the Borough. A Source Water Assessment of our sources was completed by the PA Department of Environmental Protection (PADEP). The assessment has found that our sources are potentially most susceptible to agricultural pesticides and road deicing materials. Overall, our sources have little risk of significant contamination. A summary report of the assessment is available on the Source Water Assessment & Protection webpage at (<http://www.dep.state.pa.us/dep/deputate/watermgt/wc/Subjects/SrceProt/SourceAssessment/default.htm>).

Complete reports were distributed to municipalities, water supplier, local planning agencies and PADEP regional office. Copies of the complete report are available for review at the PADEP Northwest Regional Office, Records Management Unit at (814) 332-6340.

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 EPA's Safe Drinking Water Hotline (1-800-426-4791).

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. 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 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 byproducts 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, EPA prescribes regulations which limit the amount of certain contaminants in water provided by public water systems. Food and Drug Administration regulations establish limits for contaminants in bottled water which must provide the same protection for public health.

Water Quality Data Table

The table below lists all of the drinking water contaminants we detected that are applicable for the period of January 1, 2012 to December 31, 2012. The presence of contaminants in the water does not necessarily indicate that the water poses a health risk. The State allows us to monitor for certain 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 State Drinking Water Act. The date has been noted on the sampling results table.

| Inorganic Contaminants | | | | | | |
|-----------------------------------|-----------------|-------------------------------------|-----------------------------|---------|--------|--|
| Contaminant (Unit of Measurement) | Violation (Y/N) | Highest Level Detected in Our Water | Range Detected in Our Water | MCLG | MCL | Likely Source of Contamination |
| 1. Chlorine (ppm) | N | 1.26 | 0.45-1.26 | 4 MDRLG | 4 MDRL | Water additive used to control microbes |
| 2. Copper (ppm) | N | 0.331 (b) | (a) | 1.3 | 1.3 AL | Corrosion of household plumbing systems; erosion of natural deposits; leaching from wood preservatives |
| 3. Lead (ppm) | N | 1.4 (b) | (a) | 0 | 15 | Corrosion of household plumbing systems; erosion of natural deposits |
| 4. Total Haloacetic Acids | N | 16.0 | (c) | n/a | 60.0 | By-product of drinking water chlorination |
| 5. Total Trihalomethanes | N | 47.9 | (c) | n/a | 80 | By-product of drinking water disinfection |

- (a) Range value represents the 90th percentile of the 5 samples taken. No samples exceeded the set action level.
 (b) Lead and Copper results shown are from the 2010 calendar year.
 (c) Only one test required. No range available.

Data Table Key: Unit Descriptions

| | |
|-----|---|
| n/a | not applicable |
| nd | not detected |
| ppm | parts per million, also known as milligrams per liter |
| ppb | parts per billion, also known as micrograms per liter |

Important Drinking Water Definitions

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|-------|---|
| AL | Action Level (AL): The concentration of a contaminant which, if exceeded, triggers treatment or other requirements which a water system must follow. |
| 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. |
| 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. |
| 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. |
| MRDLG | Maximum Residual Disinfectant 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 contamination. |

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).

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 Borough 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 <http://www.epa.gov/safewater/lead>.

How can I get involved?

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