COMMONWEALTH OF PENNSYLVANIA
DEPARTMENT OF ENVIRONMENTAL PROTECTION
BUREAU OF SAFE DRINKING WATER

2023

ANNUAL DRINKING WATER QUALITY REPORT

PWSID #: 4110009 **NAME:** Ebensburg Municipal Authority

Este informe contiene información importante acera de su agua potable. Haga que alguien lo traduzca para usted, o 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 concerning your water utility, please contact Josh Surkovich at 814-472-8780. 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 every month on the fourth Monday at 4 PM in the Municipal Building, 300 W High Street Ebensburg, PA 15931.

SOURCE(S) OF WATER:

Our water sources are Old Reservoir #1 and New Reservoir #2, located on Tanner Street near the treatment plant in the Borough and Cambria Township. The water is combined before treatment at the plant. Water is also purchased from the Greater Johnstown Water Authority's Saltlick Reservoir Plant. Water from there is treated before being pumped into our system.

A Source Water Assessment of our sources was completed by the PA Department of Environmental Protection (Pa. DEP). The Assessment has found that our sources are potentially most susceptible to road deicing materials, accidental spills along roads, malfunctioning septic systems, stormwater runoff from agricultural areas, and runoff from stockpiles of composting. Overall, our sources have little risk of significant contamination. A summary report of the Assessment is available on the Source Water Assessment Summary Reports e-Library web page: http://www.depgreenport.state.pa.us/elibrary/GetFolder?FolderID=4501 Complete reports were distributed to municipalities, water supplier, local planning agencies and PADEP offices. Copies of the complete report are available for review at the Pa. DEP Southwest Regional Office, Records Management Unit at (412) 442-4000.

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, 2023 to December 31, 2023. 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:

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.

Level 1 Assessment— A Level 1 assessment is a study of the water system to identify potential problems and determine (if possible) why total coliform bacteria have been found in our water system.

Level 2 Assessment— A Level 2 assessment is a very detailed study of the water system to identify potential problems and determine (if possible) why an *E. coli* MCL violation has occurred and/or why total coliform bacteria have been found in our water system on multiple occasions.

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 (pg/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

DETECTED SAMPLE RESULTS:

Chemical Contaminants: Ebensburg Water Treatment Plant								
Contaminant	**MCL in CCR Units**	**MCLG**	**Level Detected**	**Range of Detections**	**Units**	**Sample Date**	**Violation Y/N**	**Sources of Contamination**
Fluoride	2*	2	0.88	0.04-0.88	ppm	12/29/23	N	Water additive that promotes strong teeth
Haloacetic Acids (HAA5's)	60	N/A	75.56	8.90 to 39.80	ppb	01/03/23	Y	By-product of drinking water disinfection
Total Trihalomethanes (TTHM's)	80	N/A	59.64	17.46 to 49.30	ppb	01/03/23	N	By-product of drinking water disinfection
Barium (IOC)	2	2	0.0234	N/A	ppm	05/16/23	N	Erosion of natural deposits
Chlorine (Distribution)	MRDL = 4.0	MRDLG = 4.0	1.77	0.25-1.77	ppm	08/29/23	N	Water additive used to control microbes

*EPA's MCL for fluoride is 4 ppm. However, Pennsylvania has set a lower MCL to better protect human health.

Entry Point Disinfectant Residual: Ebensburg Water Treatment Plant							
Contaminant	**Minimum Disinfectant Residual**	**Lowest Level Detected**	**Range of Detections**	**Units**	**Sample Date**	**Violation Y/N**	**Sources of Contamination**
Chlorine	0.20	0.49	0.49 -1.73	ppm	12/18/23	N	Water additive used to control microbes.

Lead and Copper: Ebensburg Water Treatment Plant							
Contaminant	**Action Level (AL)**	**MCLG**	**90th Percentile Value**	**Units**	**# of Sites Above AL of Total Sites**	**Violation Y/N**	**Sources of Contamination**
Lead	15	0	1.67	ppb	0 out of 20	N	Corrosion of household plumbing.
Copper	1.3	1.3	0.119	ppm	0 out of 20	N	Corrosion of household plumbing.

Microbial (related to Assessments/Corrective Actions regarding TC positive results): Ebensburg Plant					
Contaminants	**TT**	**MCLG**	**Assessments/ Corrective Actions**	**Violation Y/N**	**Sources of Contamination**
Total Coliform Bacteria	Any system that has failed to complete all the required assessments or correct all identified sanitary defects, is in violation of the treatment technique requirement	N/A	See detailed description under "Detected Contaminants Health Effects Language and Corrective Actions" section	N	Naturally present in the environment.

Microbial (related to E. coli): Ebensburg Water Treatment Plant					
Contaminants	**MCL**	**MCLG**	**Positive Sample(s)**	**Violation Y/N**	**Sources of Contamination**
E. coli	Routine and repeat samples are total coliform-positive and either is *E*. coli-positive or system fails to take repeat samples following *E. coli*-positive routine sample or system fails to analyze total coliform-positive repeat sample for *E. coli.*	0	0	N	Human and animal fecal waste.
Contaminants	**TT**	**MCLG**	**Assessments/ Corrective Actions**	**Violation Y/N**	**Source of Contamination**
E. coli	Any system that has failed to complete all the required assessments or correct all identified sanitary defects, is in violation of the treatment technique requirement	N/A	See description under "Detected Contaminants Health Effects Language and Corrective Actions" section	N	Human and animal fecal waste.

Turbidity: Ebensburg Water Treatment Plant						
Contaminant	**MCL**	**MCLG**	**Level Detected**	**Sample Date**	**Violation Y/N**	**Source of Contamination**
Turbidity	TT=1 NTU for a single measurement	0	0.080 NTU	10/23/23	N	Soil runoff
	TT= at least 95% of monthly samples<0.3 NTU		100%	2023	N	

Total Organic Carbon (TOC): Ebensburg Water Treatment Plant					
Contaminant	**Range of % removal required**	**Range of % removal achieved**	**Number of quarters out of compliance**	**Violation Y/N**	**Source of Contamination**
TOC	35 – 50%	47 – 73%	0	N	Naturally present in the environment

Chemical Contaminants: Greater Johnstown Water Authority's Saltlick Reservoir Plant								
Contaminant	**MCL in CCR Units**	**MCLG**	**Level Detected**	**Range of Detections**	**Units**	**Sample Date**	**Violation Y/N**	**Sources of Contamination**
Barium (IOC)	2	2	0.05	0.04 - 0.05	ppm	12/18/23	N	Erosion of natural deposits

Entry Point Disinfectant Residual: Greater Johnstown Water Authority's Saltlick Reservoir Plant							
Contaminant	**Minimum Disinfectant Residual**	**Lowest Level Detected**	**Range of Detections**	**Units**	**Sample Date**	**Violation Y/N**	**Sources of Contamination**
Chlorine	0.20	0.80	0.80 – 1.40	ppm	09/13/23	N	Water additive used to control microbes.

Turbidity: Greater Johnstown Water Authority's Saltlick Reservoir Plant						
Contaminant	**MCL**	**MCLG**	**Level Detected**	**Sample Date**	**Violation Y/N**	**Source of Contamination**
Turbidity	TT=1 NTU for a single measurement	0	0.09	02/27/23	N	Soil runoff
	TT= at least 95% of monthly samples<0.3 NTU		100%	2023	N	

DETECTED CONTAMINANTS HEALTH EFFECTS LANGUAGE AND CORRECTIVE ACTIONS:

Note about Haloacetic acids, Haloacetic acid running annual average exceedance occurred once in January 2023 due to elevated historical results. Recently GJWA has had success with the removal of total organic carbons in their treatment process which has helped to decreased Haloacetic acid formation. These water constituents are a byproduct of chlorine used to disinfect water. Some people who drink water containing Haloacetic acids in excess of the MCL over many years may have an increased cancer risk.

VIOLATIONS FOR EBENSBURG:

1. Late reporting for annual Cyanide testing. Analysis was conducted but contracted lab did not report the results on time.

VIOLATIONS FOR SALTLICK*:*

1. Failure to report the one required distribution residual sample during 5th week. Sample reported late when notified of violation, the violations occurred 03/01, 09/01, 12/01.
2. Asbestos monitoring and reporting was missed during the year 2022, sampling was conducted 12/18/2023.
3. Failure to report one required Nitrate/Nitrite sample during 2023. Sample reported late, during February 2024.

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 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 run-off 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 run-off 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 assure that tap water is safe to drink, EPA and DEP prescribes regulations which limit the amount of certain contaminants in water provided by public water systems. FDA and 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 the 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. Ebensburg Municipal Authority 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://epa.gov/safewater/lead*

OTHER INFORMATION:

Visit our webpage for water saving tips and Swift 911 information at: www.ebensburgpa.com Swift 911 allows us to promptly notify you with important information and announcements. It is very important that we have your updated contact information. This can be done by using the Swift 911 Portal on the website or calling the Borough Office. Customers of Ebensburg Municipal Authority should review both Ebensburg and Saltlick Consumer Confidence Reports due to blending of the water in the distribution system