WATER QUALITY REPORT
BADEN BOROUGH WATER DEPARTMENT
PWSID 5040080

Este informe contiene informacion muy importante sobre su agua de beber. Traduzcalo o hable con alguien que lo entienda bien. (This report contains very important information about your drinking water. Translate it, or speak to someone who understands it.)

We're pleased to present to you this year's Water Quality Report for the period **January 1st to December 31st, 2023**. This report is designed to inform you about the quality water and services we deliver to you every day. Our constant goal is to provide you with a dependable supply of drinking water. We want you to understand the efforts we make to continually improve the water treatment process and protect our water resources. We are committed to ensuring the quality of your water. We purchase our water from the Ambridge Water Authority. Their water source is the Ambridge Reservoir located in Raccoon and Independence Townships, Beaver County.

The source water assessment report is available at the Ambridge Water Authority office and provides more detailed information such as potential sources of contamination. The assessment is completed by the PA Department of Environmental Protection. An assessment summary report is also available on the *Source Water Assessment & Protection* Web page at:

https://greenport.pa.gov/elibrary/GetDocument?docId=3385&DocName=AMBRIDGE%20WATER%20AUTHORITY.PDF%20%20%3Cspan%20style%3D%22color%3Agreen%3B%22%3E%3C%2Fspan%3E%20%3Cspan%20style%3D%22color%3Ablue%3B%22%3E%3C%2Fspan%3E

Baden Borough Water Department routinely monitors for contaminants in your drinking water according to Federal and State laws. All sources of drinking water are subject to potential contaminants that are naturally occurring or man made. Those contaminants can be microbes, organic or inorganic chemicals, or radioactive materials. 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.

Some people may be more vulnerable to contaminants in drinking water than the general population. Immunocompromised 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).

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 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.

In these tables you will find many terms and abbreviations you might not be familiar with. To help you better understand these terms we've provided the following definitions:

AL *Action Level* – 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 contaminants.

pCi/l *Picocuries per liter* - a measure of radioactivity

ppm *parts per million or milligrams per liter* –one part per million corresponds to one minute in two years or a single Penny in $10,000.

ppb *parts per billion or micrograms per liter* – one part per billion corresponds to one minute in 2,000 years, or a single penny in $10,000,000.

MFL *Million fibers per lilter*

NTU *Nephelometric Turbidity Unit* –nephelometric turbidity unit is a measure of the clarity of water. Turbidity in excess of 5 NTU is just noticeable to the average person.

TT *Treatment Technique* – A treatment technique is a required process intended to reduce the level of a contaminant in drinking water.

RAA *Running Annual Average*-Mathematical average of analytical data in which four quarterly results are continuously averaged

N/A Not Applicable

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 (distribution)	MRDL=4	MRDLG= 4	0.73	0.51-0.73	ppm	2023	N	Water additive used to control microbes
TTHM (total trihalomethanes)	80	N/A	50.1	34-62	ppb	2023	N	By-product of drinking water chlorination
Haloacetic acids	60	N/A	40.1	24-51	ppb	2023	N	By-product of drinking water chlorination

Lead and Copper							
Contaminant	**Action Level (AL)**	**MCLG**	**90th Percentile Value**	**Units**	**# of Sites Above AL of Total Sites**	**Violation Y/N**	**Sources of Contamination**
Lead (2022)	15	0	0.0	ppb	0 of 20	N	Corrosion of household plumbing.
Copper (2022)	1.3	1.3	0.048	ppm	0 of 20	N	Corrosion of household plumbing.

DETECTIONS BELOW ARE FROM SAMPLES TAKEN BY AMBRIDGE WATER AUTHORITY

Chemical Contaminants								
Contaminant	**MCL in CCR Units**	**MCLG**	**Highest Detected**	**Range of Detections**	**Units**	**Sample Date**	**Violation Y/N**	**Sources of Contamination**
Barium	2	2	0.025	(a)	ppm	8/02/23	N	Discharge of drilling wastes; Discharge from metal refineries; Erosion of natural deposits
Cyanide	200	200	4.1	(a)	ppb	3/13/19	N	Discharge from steel/metal factories; Discharge from plastic and fertilizer factories
Fluoride	2	2	0.106	(a)	ppm	8/02/23	N	Erosion of natural deposits; Water additive which promotes strong teeth; Discharge from fertilizer and aluminum factories
Nitrate	10	10	0.287	(a)	ppm	8/02/23	N	Runoff from fertilizer use; Leaching from septic tanks, sewage; Erosion of natural deposits

(a) Only one sample required. The results shown are form the latest samples required by regulation

Turbidity -Ambridge Water Authority						
Contaminant	**MCL**	**MCLG**	**Level Detected**	**Sample Date**	**Violation Y/N**	**Source of Contamination**
Turbidity	TT=1 NTU for a single measurement	0	0.18	2023	N	Soil runoff.
	TT= at least 95% of monthly samples≤0.3 NTU		100%	2023	N	

Total Organic Carbon (TOC)-Ambridge Water Authority					
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%	16.8 – 49.7%	0 (b)	N	Naturally present in the environment.

(b) Specific Ultraviolet Absorbance (SUVA) was used as alternative compliance criteria for TOC

Note about Baden Violations – Water Monitoring Requirements Not Met for Baden Water System

Due to an oversight, the Borough Water Department failed to conduct Asbestos monitoring in the distribution system by December 31, 2022. The Borough Water Department is required to monitor for Asbestos in the distribution system once every 9 years. This sampling should have taken place during the first three-year compliance period of each nine-year compliance cycle, which was 2020-2022. The required make-up sampling took place in September 2023 and the results are shown in the following table. The Borough has reviewed its procedures and is making adjustments to avoid having this problem in the future. Contact **Elaine K. Rakovan, Baden Borough Manager at 724-869-3700** if you have questions.

Asbestos							
Contaminant (units)	**MCL**	**MCLG**	**Level Detected**	**Range of Detections**	**Sample Date**	**Violation Y/N**	**Source of Contamination**
Asbestos (MFL)	7	2	0	0	9/07/23	N	Decay of asbestos cement water mains; erosion of natural deposits

In April 2023, the Borough Water Department had a reporting violation pertaining to a Chlorine sampling result being submitted to PA DEP with incorrect date information. The Borough Water Department worked with PA DEP to correct this mistake and the issue has been resolved.

In June 2023, the Borough Water Department mailed a copy of the 2022 Consumer Confidence Report to PA DEP, however, it was not received by PA DEP until after the July 1, 2023 deadline for receiving this report (this resulted in a reporting violation). The Borough's 2022 Water Quality Report has since been received and accepted by PA DEP. The Borough has reviewed its procedures and is making adjustments to avoid having this problem in the future.

Note about Ambridge Violations – Water Monitoring Requirements Not Met for Ambridge Water System

In the last week of June 2023, the Ambridge Water Authority had a reporting violation pertaining to a Chlorine Residual sampling result being submitted to PA DEP after the due date.

Ambridge Water Authority had a reporting violation pertaining to a Fluoride Testing result not being submitted. The testing was performed as required, but the result was not reported to PA DEP at the time. It has since been reported and the issue has been resolved.

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. Baden Borough Water Department 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 Safe Drinking Water Hotline or at **www.epa.gov/safewater/lead .**

Do I need to take special precautions?

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, 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 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).

In our continuing efforts to maintain a dependable water supply it may be necessary to make improvements in your water system. The costs of these improvements may be reflected in the rate structure. Rate adjustments may be necessary in order to address these improvements.

If you have any questions about this report or concerning your water utility, please contact **Elaine K. Rakovan, Baden Borough Manager at 724-869-3700.** We want our valued customers to be informed about their water utility. If you want to learn more, please attend any of our regularly scheduled meetings. They are held on the third Wednesday of every month and the preceding Monday in the Council Chambers of the Baden Borough Municipal Building located at 149 State Street, Baden, Pennsylvania.

We at Baden Borough Water Department work around the clock to provide top quality water to every tap. We ask that all our customers help us protect our water sources, which are the heart of our community, our way of life and our children's future.