

Annual Drinking Water Quality Report  
**SOUTHWESTERN PENNSYLVANIA WATER AUTHORITY**

PWS ID# 5300017

*Este informe contiene información muy importante sobre su agua beber. Tradúzcalo o hable con alguien que lo entienda bien.*  
(This report contains very important information about your drinking water. Translate it or find someone to talk to who understands.)

We are pleased to present the Annual Drinking Water Quality Report and are proud to report that our drinking water meets all Federal and State requirements. This report is designed to inform you about the quality of water and services that we delivered to you over the past year. Our goal is, and always has been, to provide our customers a safe and dependable supply of drinking water from our Crucible Plant whose source is surface water from the Monongahela River.

Southwestern Pennsylvania Water Authority routinely monitors for constituents in your drinking water according to Federal and State laws. This table shows the results of our monitoring for the period of **January 1<sup>st</sup> to December 31<sup>st</sup>, 2023**. All drinking water, including bottled drinking water, may be reasonably expected to contain at least small amounts of some constituents. It's important to remember that the presence of these constituents does not necessarily pose a health risk.

All sources of drinking water are subject to potential contamination by either naturally occurring or manmade constants. These constituents can appear in the form of microbes, organic or inorganic chemicals, or radioactive materials. The presence of contaminants does not necessarily indicate that the water poses a health risk. More information about contaminants and their potential health effects can be obtained by calling the Environmental Protection Agency's Safe Drinking Water Hotline at 1-800-426-4791. Southwestern Pennsylvania Water Authority works around the clock to provide top quality water to every consumer. We ask that all of our customers help protect our water resources, as they are a vital part of our community, our way of life and our children's future.

We have provided these definitions to help you better understand the terms in the following table.

**ppm or mg/l** (parts per million or milligrams per liter) – one part per million corresponds to one minute in two years.

**ppb** (parts per billion or micrograms per liter) – one part per billion corresponds to one minute in 2,000 years.

**pCi/L** (picocuries per liter) – picocuries per liter is a measure of the radioactivity in water

**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.

**AL** (Action Level) – concentration of a contaminant if exceeded, triggers treatment or other requirements which a water system must follow.

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

**MCLG** (Maximum Contaminant Level Goal) – The level of a contaminant in drinking water below which there is no known or expected risk to health. MCLG's allow for a margin of safety.

**MCL** (Maximum Contaminant Level) – The "Maximum Allowed" (MCL) is the highest level of a contaminant that is allowed in drinking water. MCL's are set as close to the MCLG's as feasible using the best available treatment technology.

**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 drinking water disinfectant below which there is no known or expected risk to health. MRDLG's do not reflect the benefits of the use of disinfectants to control microbial contamination.

**MinRDL** (Minimum Residual Disinfectant Level) – The minimum level of residual required at the entry point to the distribution system.

**Some persons may be more vulnerable to contaminants in drinking water than the general population. Immuno-compromised persons such as those who have cancer and are undergoing chemotherapy, those who have undergone organ transplants, those who tested positive for HIV/AIDS or other immune system disorders, some elderly and infants can be particularly at risk. Those persons 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 Hotline at 1-800-426-4791.**

**What does this information mean?**

Although we have learned through monitoring and testing that some constituents have been detected, you can see by the following table that our system keeps a high standard and we strive for even higher. We are proud that our drinking water meets or exceeds all Federal and State requirements. If you have any questions concerning this report or your water utility, please contact our Manager at (724) 883-2301. 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 second Thursday of each month at **5:00 P.M.** at the Authority's Business Office located on 1442 Jefferson Road in Jefferson, Pennsylvania.

## Detected Sample Results:

Chemical Contaminants							
Contaminant (Units)	Violation Y/N	Level Detected	Range	Sample Date	MCLG	MCL	Sources of Contamination
Fluoride (ppm)	N	0.90	-	2023	2	2	Water additive that promotes strong teeth.
Nitrate (ppm)	N	0.60	-	2023	10	10	Runoff from fertilizer use.
Chlorine (ppm)	N	2.10	.20-2.30	2023	MRDLG=4	MRDL=4	Water additive used to control microbes.
TTHM (ug/l)	N	41.3	36-81	2023	NA	80	Byproduct of drinking water chlorination.
HAA5 (ug/l)	N	26.7	25-35	2023	NA	60	Byproduct of drinking water chlorination.
Combined Radium (pCi/l)	N	.54	-	2017	0	5	Erosion of natural deposits.
Gross Beta (pCi/L)	N	1.2	-	2011	0	50	Erosion of natural deposits.
Gross Alpha (pCi/L)	N	0.0	-	2023	0	15	
Combined Uranium (pCi/L)	N	0	-	2020	0	20	

Entry Point Disinfectant Residual						
Contaminant (Units)	Violation Y/N	Lowest Level Detected	Range	Sample Date	MinRDL	Sources of Contamination
Chlorine (ppm)	N	0.81	0.20-2.30	2023	0.20	Water additive used to control microbes.

Lead and Copper							
Contaminant (Units)	Violation Y/N	90 <sup>th</sup> Percentile Value	Action Level (AL)	MCLG	Sample Date	# of Sites Above AL of Total Sites	Sources of Contamination
Lead (ppm)	N	.0005	15	.005	2023	0 out of 30	Corrosion of household plumbing.
Copper (ppm)	N	.02	1.3	1.3	2023	0 out of 30	Corrosion of household plumbing.

Turbidity						
Contaminant	Violation Y/N	Level Detected	MCL	MCLG	Sample Date	Sources of Contamination
Turbidity	N	0.27	TT =1 NTU for a single measurement	0	1/23-12/23	Soil runoff
	N	100%	TT=at least 95% of monthly samples <0.3 NTU		1/23-12/23	

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Total Organic Carbon (TOC)							
Contaminant	Violation Y/N	Level Detected	Range	Alternate Compliance Criteria used to Determine Compliance	MCLG	MCL	Sources of Contamination
TOC	N	1.35	1.2-2.4	0 Quarters out of compliance	TT	NA	Naturally present in the environment

This letter is to serve notice that SPWA was served a Violation by PA DEP for failure to sample Asbestos in the distribution system in 2023. SPWA is given a list by PA DEP of sampling requirements for each calendar year, the list for 2023 included a sample to be pulled only at the effluent of the plant which SPWA did perform. A foot note at the end of the requirements list referenced systems wanting to opt out of distribution testing would need to apply for a requirement adjustment. It was SPWA's interpretation that with no requirement on the list that it would not apply to us and no sample was needed. PA DEP concluded that it was misinterpreted by SPWA and the Violation would stand. This is a sample that is to be pulled once every nine years.