

2020 ANNUAL DRINKING WATER QUALITY REPORT

PWSID #: 5650080

NAME: Ligonier Twp. Municipal Authority

Este informe contiene información muy importante sobre su agua de beber. Tradúzcalo ó hable con alguien que lo entienda bien. (This report contains very important information about your drinking water. Translate it, 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 our office at 724-238-7464. 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 the first Wednesday of each month at 7:00 PM in the Ligonier Township Building at 1 Municipal Park Drive, Ligonier PA.

SOURCES OF WATER:

Our water sources are the Ligonier Township Reservoir and the State Gamelands Well #1. The source of water for the Reservoir is South Branch Creek. The Gamelands Well is located in the Mauch Chunk/Burgoon Aquifer sequence.

A Source Water Assessment of our sources was completed in 2004 by the PA Department of Environmental Protection (PADEP). The Assessment has found that our sources are potentially most susceptible to accidental spills along the roadways in the watershed and lack of best management practices to minimize potential non-point source contamination associated with residential areas. Overall, our sources have moderate risk of significant contamination. These risks though, have been substantially reduced by the development of a DEP approved Source Water Protection plan. Summary reports of the Assessment are available by writing to the Ligonier Twp. Municipal Authority, 1 Municipal Park Drive, Ligonier, PA 15658 and will be available on the PADEP website at www.dep.state.pa.us (Keyword: "DEP source water"). 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 PADEP Southwest Regional Office, Records Management Unit at 724-442-4000.

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 to December 31, 2020. 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 AND ABBREVIATIONS:

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 – 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.

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.

ppb = parts per billion, or micrograms per liter (µg/L)

ppm = parts per million, or milligrams per liter (mg/L)

pCi/L – picocurie per liter – a measure of radioactivity

DETECTED SAMPLE RESULTS:

Chemical Contaminant	MCL In CCR Units	MCLG	Highest Level Detected	Range of Detections	Units	Violation Y/N	Sources of Contamination
Chlorine Distribution (2020)	MRDL = 4	MRDL = 4	0.88 (April)	0.47 – 0.88	ppm	N	Water additive used to control microbes
Barium (7/28/20)	2	2	0.038	(a)	ppm	N	Discharge of drilling wastes; Discharge from metal refineries; Erosion of natural deposits
Trihalomethanes (TTHM) (2020)	80	80	*10.97 avg.	4.71 – 21.8	ppb	N	By-product of drinking water chlorination
Haloacetic acids five (HAA5) (2020)	60	60	*12.25 avg.	6.03 – 22.4	ppb	N	By-product of drinking water chlorination

(a) Only one sample required * Highest Locational Running Annual Average – Sampled quarterly

Entry Point Disinfectant Residual

Contaminant	Minimum Disinfectant Residual	Lowest Level Detected	Range of Detections	Units	Lowest Value Sample Date	Violation Y/N	Sources of Contamination
Chlorine (2020)	0.20	0.55	0.55 – 1.3	ppm	7/11/2020	N	Water additive used to control microbes.

Contaminant	Action Level (AL)	MCLG	90 th Percentile Value	Units	# of Sites Above AL of 10 Total Sites	Violation Of TT Y/N	Sources of Contamination
Lead (2019)	15	0	0	ppb	0	N	Corrosion of household plumbing systems; Erosion of natural deposits
Copper (2019)	1.3	1.3	0.703	ppm	0	N	Corrosion of household plumbing systems; Erosion of natural deposits; Leaching from wood preservatives

Contaminant	MCL	MCLG	Highest Level Detected	Sample Date	Violation Of TT Y/N	Source of Contamination
Turbidity	TT=2 NTU for a single measurement	0	0.20	6/12/2020	N	Soil runoff
	TT= at least 95% of monthly samples ≤1.0 NTU		100%		N	

Turbidity is a measure of the cloudiness of the water. We monitor it because it is a good indicator of the effectiveness of our filtration system.

VIOLATIONS: In May 2020 and October 2020 one of our monthly chlorine residual test results were not submitted to DEP by the required date. This resulted in a violation each month that required notification to our customers of the situation. Public Notification of the May violation was issued to our customers within the DEP required time period. Public Notification of the October violation was issued to our customers within the DEP required time period.

EDUCATIONAL INFORMATION:

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 Ligonier Township 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://www.epa.gov/safewater/lead>.

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)