Collegeville-Trappe Joint Public Works Department

Boroughs of Collegeville and Trappe
2020 Annual Water Quality Report

PWS ID: PA1460022

COLLEGEVILLE TRAPPE Public Works

Este informe contiene información importante acerca de su agua potable. Haga que alguien lo traduzca para usted, ó hable con alguien que lo entienda.

Required Additional Health Information

To ensure that tap water is safe to drink, EPA prescribes limits on the amount of certain contaminants in water provided by public water systems. FDA regulations establish limits for contaminants in bottled 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 Environmental Protection Agency's Safe Drinking Water Hotline (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 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:

(A) Microbial contaminants, such as viruses and bacteria, which may come from sewage treatment plants, septic systems, agricultural livestock operations, and wildlife.

(B) Inorganic contaminants, such as salts and metals, which can be naturally-occurring or result from urban storm runoff, industrial or domestic wastewater discharges, oil and gas production, mining, or farming.

(C) Pesticides and herbicides, which may come from a variety of sources such as agriculture, stormwater runoff, and residential uses.

(D) Organic chemical contaminants, including synthetic and volatile organics, which are by-products of industrial processes and petroleum production, and can also come from gas stations, urban stormwater runoff, and septic systems.

(E) 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. FDA regulations establish limits for contaminants in bottled water which must provide the same protection for public health.

Important Information

Some people may be more vulnerable to contaminants in drinking water than is 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 are available from the Safe Drinking Water Hotline (800-426-4791).

Concerning Nitrate in Our Water

Nitrate in drinking water at levels above 10 ppm is a health risk for infants of less than six months of age. High nitrate levels in drinking water can cause blue baby syndrome. Nitrate levels may rise quickly for short periods of time because of rainfall or agricultural activity. If you are caring for an infant you should ask advice from your health care provider.

Concerning Arsenic in Our Water

While your drinking water meets EPA's standard for arsenic, it does contain low levels of arsenic. EPA's standard balances the current understanding of arsenic's possible health effects against the costs of removing arsenic from drinking water. EPA continues to research the health effects of low levels of arsenic which is a mineral known to cause cancer in humans at high concentrations and is linked to other health effects such as skin damage and circulatory problems.

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. Collegeville Trappe Public Works 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.

National Primary Drinking Water Regulation Compliance

This report was prepared using technical assistance provided by the American Water Works Association. For more information, call Collegeville-Trappe Joint Public Works Department at 610-489-2831 and ask for Joe Hastings.

Our goal is to provide you with high-quality, safe drinking water that exceeds every federal and state standard. As mandated by the Safe Drinking Water Act (SDWA), this "Consumer Confidence Report" details our water sources, the results of our water tests, and other information. You can rely on the Collegeville-Trappe Joint Public Works Department for quality water.

Last year, we conducted over 1,000 tests for over 80 contaminants. We only detected 7 of those contaminants. Collegeville-Trappe Joint Public Works Department's drinking water meets or surpasses all federal and state drinking water standards.

We encourage public interest and participation in our community's decisions affecting drinking water. Regular meetings occur on the fourth Tuesday of the month, at 7:30 pm at Trappe Borough Hall. The public is welcome.

Water Source

All of the drinking water provided to the Boroughs of Collegeville and Trappe comes from groundwater sources in the Brunswick Formation. The groundwater is pumped from 10 wells located throughout both Boroughs. We pumped an average of 589,760 gallons of water daily in 2020.

How to Read This Table

The table shows the results of our water-quality analyses. Every regulated contaminant that we detected in the water, even in the most minute traces, is listed here. The table contains the name of each substance, the highest level allowed by regulation (MCL), the ideal goals for public health, the amount detected, the usual sources of such contamination, and a key to units of measurement. Definitions of MCL, MCLG, MRDL, and MRDLG are important.

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.

Key to Table

Maximum Contaminant Level or 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 or 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 or 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 or MRDLG: The level of a drinking water disinfectant below which there is no known risk to health. MRDLGs do not reflect the benefits of the use of disinfectants to control microbial contamination.

AL = Action Level, The concentration of a contaminant, which, if exceeded, triggers treatment or other requirements, which a water system must follow
pCI/l = picocuries per liter (a measure of radioactivity)
ppm = parts per million, or milligrams per liter (mg/l)
ppb = parts per billion, or micrograms per liter (ug/l)
ND = not detected
NA = not applicable

Water Quality Analysis Table

Contaminant	Sample Date	Unit	MCL	MCLG	Level Detected	Range Low - High	Sources of Contamination	Compliance Achieved
Chemical Contaminants								
Antimony	03/05/18	ppb	6	0	0.60	0 – 0.60	Discharge from petroleum refineries; fire retardants; ceramics; electronics; solder.	YES
Arsenic	03/05/18	ppb	10	0	5.0	1.0 - 5.0	Erosion of natural deposits; run-off from orchards, run-off from glass and electronics production.	YES
Barium	03/05/18	ppm	2	2	0.52	0.06 - 0.52	Erosion of natural deposits; discharge of drilling wastes; discharge from metal refineries.	YES
Nitrate	04/20/20	ppm	10	10	5.42	2.31 – 5.42	Runoff from fertilizer use; Leaching from septic tanks, sewage; erosion of natural deposits	YES
Gross Alpha	2/6/17 & 3/2/20	pCi/l	15	0	6.13	3.54-6.13	Erosion of natural deposits	YES
Combined Uranium	2/6/17 & 3/2/20	ug/l	30	0	4.48	1.26-4.48	Erosion of natural deposits	YES
Radium-228	03/20/20	pCi/l	5	0	1.75	0.0-1.75	Erosion of natural deposits	YES
Chlorine Residual	03/16/20	ppm	MRDL=4	MRDLG=4	1.10	0.72 – 1.10	Water additive used to control microbes	YES
TTHMs (Total Trihalomethanes)	08/17/20	ppb	80	N/A	12.2	12.2-12.2	Byproduct of drinking water chlorination	YES
HAA (Haloacetic Acids)	08/17/20	ppb	60	N/A	2.19	2.19 – 2.19	Byproduct of drinking water chlorination.	YES

Contaminant	Sample Date	Action Level (AL)	MCLG	90th Percentile Value	Units	# of Sites Above AL of Total Sites	Sources of Contamination	Compliance Achieved
Lead and Copper								
Lead	9/2019	15	0	5.8	ppb	2 of 22	Corrosion of household plumbing systems	YES
Copper	9/2019	1.3	1.3	1.2	ppm	0	Corrosion of household plumbing systems	YES

Entry Point Disinfection Residual

Contaminant	Source Name	Entry Point ID	Sample Date	Units	Minimum Disinfection Residual	Lowest Detected Level	Range of Detections	Sources of Contamination	Compliance Achieved
Chlorine	Wells 1, 3, 4 & 7	101	2019	ppm	0.8	0.60	0.60 - 1.19	Water additive used to control microbes	Yes
Chlorine	Well 5	102	2019	ppm	0.4	0.15	0.15 - 1.31	Water additive used to control microbes	Yes
Chlorine	Well 8	104	2019	ppm	0.4	0.30	0.30 – 2.15	Water additive used to control microbes	Yes
Chlorine	Well 10	106	2019	ppm	0.4	0.03	0.03 – 1.18	Water additive used to control microbes	Yes
Chlorine	Well 11	107	2019	ppm	0.6	0.29	0.29 - 1.32	Water additive used to control microbes	Yes
Chlorine	Well 12	108	2019	ppm	0.41	0.02	0.02 – 1.09	Water additive used to control microbes	Yes
Chlorine	Well 14	109	2019	ppm	0.4	0.37	0.37 - 1.17	Water additive used to control microbes	Yes

According to the PA DEP guidelines a violation occurs when the Minimum Residual Level Detected falls and stays below the Minimum Residual Level Required for a period of time exceeding 4 hours. Although our Minimum Residual Detected Levels do drop below the Minimum Residual Level Required our pumps are programmed to shut off after 45 minutes therefore preventing potential microbial contamination.

Microbial

Contaminant	MCL	MCLG	Highest# of Positive Samples	Sources of Contamination	Compliance Achieved
Total Coliform Bacteria	More than 1 positive monthly sample	0	0	Naturally present in the environment	YES
Fecal Coliform Bacteria or E. Coli	0	0	0	Human and animal fecal waste	YES