2022 Annual Drinking Water Quality Report
Bessemer Borough Water Department
PWSID#6370003

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 Annual Drinking Water Quality Report. This report is designed to inform you about the quality water and what it means. 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.

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 PUBLIC WORKS MANAGER, JOE WERHNYAK AT (724) 667-8126
OR
THE BOROUGH SECRETARY, JANET NOVAD AT (724) 667-7061.

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 MONDAY OF EACH MONTH AT 7:00 P.M. AT THE H. SPENCER CARR MUNICIPAL BUILDING AT 201 ½ EAST POLAND AVENUE, BESSEMER, PA.**

Our water source is ***two wells located at the Pump House on East Poland Avenue and Metro Drive in Bessemer, PA.***

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 microbiological contaminants are available from the Safe Drinking Water Hotline (800-426-4791).

The Bessemer Borough Water Department routinely monitors for contaminants in your drinking water according to Federal and State laws. The following table shows the results of our monitoring for the period of January 1st to December 31st, 2022**.** 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.

The following table 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:

Parts per million (ppm) or Milligrams per liter (mg/l) - one part per million corresponds to one minute in two years or a single penny in $10,000.

Parts per billion (ppb) or Micrograms per liter - one part per billion corresponds to one minute in 2,000 years, or a single penny in $10,000,000.

Picocuries per liter (pCi/L) - picocuries per liter is a measure of the radioactivity in water.

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

Maximum Contaminant Level - The "Maximum Allowed" (MCL) is 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 - The "Goal" (MCLG) is the level of a contaminant in drinking water below that 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 of health. MRDLGs do not reflect the benefits of the use of disinfectants to control microbial contaminants.

Lead (ppb) - Infants and children who drink water containing lead in excess of the action level could experience delays in their physical or mental development. Children could show slight deficits in attention span and learning abilities. Adults who drink this water over many years could develop kidney problems or high blood pressure.

Treatment Technique (TT) - A required process intended to reduce the level of a contaminant in drinking water.

DETECTED SAMPLE RESULTS:

Chemical Contaminants							
Chemical Contaminant (Unit of measurement)	MCL in CCR units	MCLG	Highest Level Detected	Range of Detections	Sample Date	Violation Yes/No	Sources of Contamination
Chlorine (ppm)	MRDL= 4	MRDL= 4	1.73	0.72-1.73	9/22	No	Water additive to control microbes
Barium (ppm)	2	2	0.097	0.097	8/2/21	No	Discharge of drilling wastes; discharge from metal refineries; erosion of natural deposits.
Nickel (ppm)	N/A	N/A	0.004	0.004	8/2/21	No	Corrosion of bronze
Fluoride (ppm)	2	2	0.45	0.45	8/2/21	No	Erosion of natural deposits; discharge from fertilizer and aluminum factories.
TTHMs (Total (trihalomethanes) (ppb)	80	N/A	4.3	4.3	9/7/22	No	Byproduct of drinking water disinfection

Haloacetic Acid (ppb) (Dibromoacetic Acid only detect)	60	N/A	1.2	1.2	9/1/21	No	Byproduct of drinking water disinfection

Lead and Copper						
Contaminant (Unit of measurement)	Action Level (AL)	MCLG	90th Percentile Value	# of Sites above AL of Total Sites	Violation Yes/No	Sources of Contamination
Lead (ppb)	15	0	2	1 out of 10 (2022)	No	Corrosion of household plumbing systems, erosion of natural deposits
Copper (ppm)	1.3	1.3	0.489	0 out of 10 (2022)	No	Corrosion of household plumbing systems: erosion of natural deposits

Entry Point Disinfectant Residual							
Contaminant	Minimum Disinfectant Residual	Lowest Level Detected	Range of Detections	Units	Sample Date	Violation Yes/No	Sources of Contamination
Chlorine	0.54	0.00	0.00 – 3.96	ppm	7/3/2022	Yes	Water additive to control microbes

VIOLATIONS:
Bessemer Borough had one violation in 2022. On July 3, 2022, the pump used to feed chlorine to the drinking water failed. Borough responded to the failure. The spare chlorine feed pump was placed into service, but it also failed. Due to the lack of maintaining the required chlorine residual the Borough issued a boil water advisory. Proper pump operation was restored on July 5, 2022, and the system was flushed to move chlorinated water into the distribution system. Subsequent testing revealed that no coliform bacteria were present in the drinking water and the boil water advisory was lifted.

The Borough maintains the needed repair parts and a number of spare chemical feed pumps to avoid this situation from re-occurring.

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 from human activity. Contaminants that may be present in source water include:

- Microbial contaminants, such as viruses and bacteria that 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 runoff, 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 byproducts of industrial process and petroleum production and mining activities.

- 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 that 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 at 1-800-426-4791.

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. Bessemer Borough 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.