



2023 ANNUAL DRINKING WATER QUALITY REPORT

PWSID #: 1090138 - Plumstead Township Durham Ridge Water System

Este informe contiene información importante acerca de su agua potable. Haga que alguien lo traduzca para usted, ó hable con alguien que lo entienda. (This report contains important information about your drinking water. Have someone translate it for you, or speak with someone who understands it.)

WATER SYSTEM INFORMATION:

This report shows our water quality, services and briefly describes testing information and results. The Durham Ridge Water System services Plumstead residents in the Durham Ridge, North Branch, Plumstead Chase and Garden Village developments. If you have any questions concerning this report or your water utility, please contact Alan Bleam, Director of Public Works for Plumstead Township at 215-766-0189.

We want you to be informed about your water supply. If you want to learn more, please attend any of our regularly scheduled Board of Supervisors meetings. The meetings are generally held the second Wednesday and the fourth Tuesday of the month beginning at 7:30 PM at the Plumstead Township Municipal Building, 5186 Stump Road, Pipersville, PA 18947. Please check the township website at www.plumstead.org or call 215-766-8914 to confirm dates and times of the meetings to be held.

SOURCE(S) OF WATER:

The public water supply serving your system relies on groundwater sources located in the Durham Ridge and North Branch developments. The wells are known as NB-1 and NB-2 in the North Branch Development, and DR-1 in the Durham Ridge Development. We are pleased to inform you that your water meets or exceeds all USEPA and PADEP drinking water standards. The standards set forth in the Safe Drinking Water Act uphold very stringent quality testing levels with regard to health effects. To understand the possible health effects described by many regulated constituents, a person would have to drink two liters of water every day at the Maximum Contaminant Level (MCL) for a lifetime to have a one-in-a-million chance of having the described health effect.

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 at 1-800-426-4791.

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, 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.

DEFINITIONS:

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 (MinRDL) - The minimum level of residual disinfectant required at the entry point to the distribution system.

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.

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

Mrem/year = millirems per year (a measure of radiation absorbed by the body)

pCi/L = picocuries per liter (a measure of radioactivity)

ppb = parts per billion, or micrograms per liter ($\mu\text{g/L}$)

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

ppq = parts per quadrillion, or picograms per liter

ppt = parts per trillion, or nanograms per liter

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	MRDL = 4	MRDL = 4	1.21	0.5 - 1.21	ppm	2023	N	Water additive used to control microbes.
Barium	2	2	0.3450	0.0251 - 0.3450	ppm	2018	N	Discharge of drilling wastes, discharge from metal refineries; erosion of natural deposits
Nitrate	10	10	1.02	0.0 - 1.02	ppm	2023	N	Runoff from fertilizer use, leaching from septic tanks, sewage, erosion from natural deposits
Arsenic	10 RAA**	N/A	12	0 - 12	ppb	2020	N	Erosion of natural deposits, runoff from orchards, runoff from glass and electronics production waste
Haloacetic Acid (HAA5)	60	N/A	1.02	N/A	ppb	2023	N	By-product of drinking water chlorination
Trihalomethanes	80	N/A	32.6	N/A	ppb	2023	N	By-product of drinking water chlorination
Radium 226	5	0	0.85	0.71 - 0.85	pCi/l	2021	N	Erosion of natural deposits
Radium 228	5	0	0.81	0.05 - 0.81	pCi/L	2021	N	Erosion of natural deposits
Combined Uranium	22.35	0	7.9	N/A	µg/L	2020	N	Erosion of natural deposits

*EPA's MCL for fluoride is 4 ppm. However, Pennsylvania has set a lower MCL to better protect human health. Plumstead Township does not add fluoride to the water source.

Running Annual Average - **average of sample analytical results for samples taken during the previous four calendar quarters.

Entry Point Disinfectant Residual							
Contaminant	Minimum Disinfectant Residual	Lowest Level Detected	Range of Detections	Units	Sample Date	Violation Y/N	Sources of Contamination
Chlorine EP101	0.40	0.05	0.05 – 1.55	Mg/l	04/24/23	N	Water additive used to control microbes.
Chlorine EP102	0.65	0.05	0.05 – 2.68	Mg/l	01/19/23	N	Water additive used to control microbes.

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	ppb	0 of 12	N	Corrosion of household plumbing
Copper (2022)	1.3	1.3	0.285	ppm	0 of 12	N	Corrosion of household plumbing

Microbial (related to <i>E. coli</i>)					
Contaminants	MCL	MCLG	Positive Sample(s)	Violation Y/N	Sources of Contamination
<i>E. coli</i>	Routine and repeat samples are total coliform-positive and either is <i>E. coli</i> -positive or system fails to take repeat samples following <i>E. coli</i> -positive routine sample or system fails to analyze total coliform-positive repeat sample for <i>E. coli</i> .	0	0	N	Human and animal fecal waste

Raw Source Water Microbial					
Contaminants	MCLG	Total # of Positive Samples	Dates	Violation Y/N	Sources of Contamination
<i>E. coli</i>	0	0	N/A	N	Human and animal fecal waste

ARSENIC:

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.

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, 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 prescribe 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 at 1-800-426-4791. You may also visit the EPA groundwater website at www.epa.gov/ground-water-and-drinking-water

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. Our Contracted State Licensed Water Works Operator 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>.

VIOLATION:

There were two violations in 2023 for failure to conduct or report EP disinfectant residual monitoring when EP is linked to a source with 4-log treatment.

OTHER INFORMATION:

Plumstead Township continually works to provide top quality water to every customer on the system every day. Please help protect this precious resource by disposing of waste properly and conserving usage at all times. Protecting our water resources, which are at the heart of our community, our way of life and our children's future, is a good thing to do!

In order to maintain a dependable and safe water supply we sometimes need to make improvements that will benefit all of our customers. These improvements are sometimes reflected as rate structure adjustments.

Thank you for your cooperation.