

Greater Johnstown Water Authority
2016 Annual Water Quality Report
Public Water Supply Identification No.
4110034

This report contains very important information about your drinking water. Translate it, or speak with someone who understands it.

Este informe contiene informacion muy importante sobre su agua beber. Traduzcalo o hable con alguien que lo entienda bien.

The Greater Johnstown Water Authority is pleased to present our annual Drinking Water Quality Report for 2016. This report provides information about our system, the quality of our water, and important related health information. The Greater Johnstown Water Authority's drinking water continues to meet and surpass all federal and state drinking water standards. Our goal is to provide you with safe and reliable drinking water.

We are interested in your thoughts about our 2016 Annual Water Quality Report. If you have any questions or comments about it, or any concerns about your drinking water, please contact Marty Ward at 533-4300 ext. 148 during regular business hours. We encourage public interest and participation in decisions affecting our community's drinking water. Regular monthly meetings occur on the second Thursday of the month at the Greater Johnstown Water Authority office located at 640 Franklin Street at 5:00 P.M. The public is welcome. You can also find out more about The Greater Johnstown Water Authority on the Internet at <http://www.gjwa.com>.

Important Health Information for People with Severely Weakened Immune Systems

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 EPA's Safe Drinking Water Hot Line. 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).

Protecting Your Water Sources

A Source Water Assessment of our sources was completed in the years 2002 to 2003 by the PA Department of Environmental Protection (PADEP). The Assessment has found that our sources are potentially most susceptible to accidents and spills along roadways, road de-icing, non-point source contamination from residences, agriculture, horses/livestock, and past mining practices. Overall, our sources have little to moderate risk of significant contamination. Summary reports of the Assessment are available by writing to the Greater Johnstown Water Authority, 242 Neil Street, Johnstown, PA 15904. They are also 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 Cambria District Office Records Management Unit at 814-472-1900.

**Where does your water come from?
How is it treated?**

The Greater Johnstown Water Authority is supplied by surface water from the North Fork Reservoir, Dalton Reservoir and Quemahoning Reservoir. These three reservoirs, located in northern

Somerset County in Conemaugh Township, supply water to the Riverside Water Treatment Plant at 242 Neil Street in South Riverside. The three sources can be used individually or blended together depending on the raw water quality and quantity. The benefits provided by the water treatment plant include: removing disease producing organisms, removing iron and manganese, removing suspended and colloidal matter, reducing corrosiveness, reducing color, and removing unpleasant taste and odor. Fluoride is also added to prevent cavities in children's teeth.

The three primary treatment processes are 1.) coagulation/flocculation where dirt particles are aggregated together, 2.) filtration where the aggregate dirt particles are removed, and 3.) disinfection where chlorine is added to inactivate bacteria. During 2016, an average of 7.9 million gallons of water per day was treated at the Riverside Treatment Plant. The plant is operated 24 hours a day by Resource Development and Management - Johnstown, LLC operators who are certified by the Pennsylvania Department of Environmental Protection.

Water Quality Table

These columns show the results of tests on our finished water.

Definitions

Parts per million (ppm) – One part per million corresponds to one minute in two years or a single penny in \$10,000.

Parts per billion (ppb) – One part per billion corresponds to one minute in 2,000 years or a single penny in \$10,000,000.

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 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. MCLG's allow for a margin of safety.

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

Nephelometric Turbidity Unit – Unit of measurement for the cloudiness of water.

Abbreviations

MCL = Maximum Contaminant Level

MCLG = Maximum Contaminant Level Goal

NTU = Nephelometric Turbidity Units

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

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

TT = Treatment Technique

AL = Action Level

n/a = not applicable

pci/L = Picocuries per liter

(a measure of radioactivity)

MRDL = Maximum Residual Disinfectant Level

MRDLG = Maximum Residual Disinfectant Goal

Chemical Contaminant	MCL In CCR Units	MCLG	Highest Level Detected	Range of Detections	Units	Violation Y/N	Sources of Contamination
Fluoride 5/24/2016	2	2	1.35	0.40-1.35	ppm	N	Water additive which promotes strong teeth
Barium 3/2/16	2	2	0.040	N/A	ppm	N	Discharge of drilling waste, from metal refineries and erosion of natural deposits
Total Trihalomethanes (TTHM's) 2016	80	N/A	51.8	13.7-91.7 ¹	ppb	N	By-product of drinking water chlorination
Nitrate/Nitrites 5/5/16	10	10	0.0	N/A	ppm	N	Runoff from fertilizer use, leaching from septic tanks, sewage, erosion of natural deposits
Haloacetic Acids (HAAS's) 2016	60	N/A	55.8	13.0—62.0 ¹	ppb	N	By product of drinking water chlorination
Chlorine FEB 2016 (distribution)	MRDL=4	MRDLG=4	1.18	0.73-1.18	ppm	N	Water additive to control microbes
Entry point Disinfectant residual	Min. disinfectant res.	Lowest level detected	Range of Detections	Units	Sample Date	Violation Y/N	Sources of Contamination
Chlorine 2016	0.2	0.65	0.65-1.66	ppm	8/23/16	N	Water additive to control microbes.
Lead and copper	Action Level (AL)	MCLG	90th Percentile Value	Units	# of Sites Above AL of Total Sites	Violation Of TT Y/N	Sources of Contamination
Lead ² 2016	15	0	5.0	ppb	0	N	Corrosion of household plumbing
Copper 2016	1.3	1.3	0.148	ppm	0	N	Corrosion of household plumbing
Turbidity	MCL		MCLG	Level Detected	Sample Date	Violation Y/N	Source of Contamination
Turbidity ³ 2016	TT=1 NTU for a single measurement		0	0.23 NTU	12/7/16	N	Soil runoff
	TT= at least 95% of monthly samples ≤ 0.3 NTU						
Microbial 2016	MCL		MCLG	Highest # or % of positive samples		Violation Y/N	Source of contamination
Total coliform bacteria	For systems that collect > 40 samples/mth		0	0		N	Naturally present in the environment
Fecal Coliform bacteria or E. coli	0		0	0		N	Human and animal fecal waste

¹This number is the highest running average over a four-quarter sampling period.

²Lead: 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 GJWA 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 secs. To 2 mins. 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>.

³Turbidity: A measure of the cloudiness of the water. We monitor it because turbidity is a good indicator of the effectiveness of our filtration system. Federal regulations have set a Treatment Technique (TT) limit of 0.30 NTU in 95%

Water Quality and Health Related Information

The sources of drinking water (both tap water and bottled water) include 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:

* Microbial contaminants, such as viruses and bacteria, which may come from septic systems, agricultural livestock operations, and wildlife.

* 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.

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

* Radioactive contaminants, which can be naturally-occurring or be the result of oil and gas production and mining activities.

*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.

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. Food and Drug Administration regulations establish limits for contaminants in bottled water which must provide the same protection for public health.

of samples. Our maximum turbidity reading was 0.21 NTU.

⁴In 2016, 100% of turbidity samples met the turbidity limits.

IMPORTANT NUMBERS

The Greater Johnstown Water Authority and RDM Johnstown, LLC, its manager, are ready to respond to your calls Monday to Friday from 8:00 a.m. to 4:30 p.m. Emergency calls are answered around the clock at 533-4300. The following numbers are listed for your convenience:

RDM Resident Manager

Mike Kerr- - - - - 533-4300 ext. 119

Customer Services:

Billing Questions- - - - - 533-4300

Transfers / Moves- - - - - 533-4300

Collection Department- - - 533-4300

Meter Readings- - - - - 533-4300

Dirty Water Complaints- - - 533-4300

Laboratory- - - - - 533-4300 ext. 148

Riverside Treatment Plant- -533-4300 ext. 147

Water Trivia

Did you know?

A. A small drip from a faucet can waste as much as 75 litres of water a day.

B. Bottled water can be up to 1000 times more expensive than tap water and it may not be as safe.

C. The total amount of water in the body of an average adult is 37 litres.

Read more: <http://www.lenntech.com/water-trivia-facts.htm#ixzz4ebZYQX00>

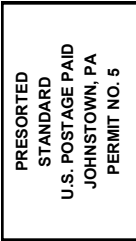
WHERE YOUR WATER COMES FROM

2016 Update

A new and effective collection policy was put in place, and security cameras were installed at the office complex. In order to keep in step with the ever-expanding information age, a major overhaul was made to the Greater Johnstown Water Authority's website enabling users to access all pertinent water-related information on their tablet, PC or even their cell phone. These renovations will be up and running early in 2017. Take a look at gjwa.com.

An innovative decision was made this year as the GJWA signed an agreement with Appalachian Forest Consultants for a Forest Management Plan for the Saltlick Reservoir Tract. This agreement gives the Authority a 10-year forest management strategy that will remove lower-grade trees and shrubs, and good quality trees will be given additional space in which to grow and thrive, sustaining timber sales in the future. Initial clearing work will begin in early 2017, and the GJWA will begin to realize revenue from the pulpwood sale where none was recognized before.

A significant investment was made at the Saltlick Treatment Plant as a new filter module was purchased and installed at a cost of \$95,000 to enable the plant to continue to maintain its integral contribution to Johnstown's water system. Substantial water line relocations and/or replacements were made on Dupont Street and Cooper Avenue, and a collaborative effort with the City of Johnstown's on-going sewer replacement project saw a sizeable water main replacement project on Tennessee Avenue in the West End come to fruition with cost sharing that benefited both parties. The GJWA was also reimbursed for 75% of the job costs by PenDOT on the utility relocation project on Cooper Avenue, the Menoher Boulevard project and the St. Clair Run Culvert project realizing major capital improvements for a 25% investment.



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