



2008 Annual Drinking Water Quality Report

PWS ID #3060041



The Borough of Kutztown & The Kutztown Municipal Authority

We're pleased to present to you this year's **2008 Annual Drinking Water Quality Report**

ESTE INFORME CONTIENE INFORMACION MUY IMPORTANTE SOBRE SU AGUA POTABLE. TRADUZCALO O HABLE CON ALGUIEN QUE LO ENTIENDA BIEN.

This report is designed to inform you about the quality water and services we deliver to you every day. 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. Our water source consists of four wells located on Borough Property.

The Borough of Kutztown and the Kutztown Municipal Authority are pleased to report that our drinking water meets federal and state requirements.

If you have any questions about this report or concerning your water utility, please contact Walter Hess, Water and Wastewater Superintendent, at 610-683-3202. 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 Water/Wastewater committee meetings. They are held on the fourth Tuesday of the Month, 7:30PM at 45 Railroad Street, Kutztown.

The Borough and its Municipal Authority routinely monitor for constituents in your drinking water according to Federal and State laws. The enclosed test table shows the results of our monitoring for the period of January 1 to December 31, 2008. The state does allow us to monitor for some constituents less than once per year because the concentrations of these constituents do not change frequently. Some of our data is from prior years in accordance with the Safe Drinking Water Act. All drinking water, including bottled drinking water, may be reasonably expected to contain at least small amounts of some constituents. It's important to remember that the presence of these constituents does not necessarily pose a health risk.

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).

In this 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:

Non-Detects (ND) - laboratory analysis indicates that the contaminant is not present at a detectable level.

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.

Nephelometric Turbidity Unit (NTU) – nephelometric turbidity unit is a measure of the clarity of water. Turbidity in excess of 5 NTU is noticeable to the average person.

Millirems per year (mrem/yr) - measure of radiation absorbed by the body.

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

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

Maximum Contaminant Level (MCL) - 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 (MCLG) - The “Goal”(MCLG) is 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 that is 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.

| Contaminant (Unit of Measurement) | Violation Y/N | Level Detected | Range | MCL in CCR units | MCLG | Major Sources in Drinking Water |
|--------------------------------------|---------------|----------------|---|--|------|--|
| Microbiological Contaminants | | | | | | |
| Total Coliform Bacteria | N | 1 | | MCL: (Systems that collect < 40 samples/month) 1 positive monthly sample | 0 | |
| Turbidity (NTU)* | N | .5 | .010 - .500 | TT | NA | Soil Runoff |
| Radioactive Contaminants | | | | | | |
| Alpha emitters (pCi/l) | N | 1.8 | 0-1.8 | 15 | 0 | Erosion of natural deposits |
| Radium 226 | N | 0.2 | 0.1-0.2 | NA | NA | |
| Radium 228 | N | 0.2 2003 | 0- 0.2 | NA | NA | |
| Lead and Copper Rule | | | | | | |
| Copper (ppm) | N | .170 2007 | 0.00-0.659 Number of sites above action level 0 of 20 | AL=1.3 | 1.3 | Corrosion of household plumbing systems; Erosion of natural deposits; Leaching from wood preservatives |
| Lead (ppb) | N | 8 2007 | 0-43 Number of samples above action level 1 of 20 | AL=15 | 0 | Corrosion of household plumbing systems; Erosion of natural deposits |
| Inorganic Contaminants | | | | | | |
| Nitrate (ppm)** | N | 9.6 | 4.7 – 9.6 | 10 | 10 | Runoff from fertilizer use; Leaching from septic tanks, sewage; Erosion of natural deposits |
| Disinfection Byproducts | | | | | | |
| Haloacetic Acids (HAA5) | N | 7.34 | 0-60 | 60 | NA | By-Product of Drinking Water Disinfection |
| TTHM (Total trihalomethanes) (ppb) | N | 14 | 0-14 | 80 | NA | By-Product of Drinking Water Disinfection |
| Performance Monitoring | | | | | | |
| Chlorine Residual (ppm) | N | ..50 | .40-.60 | 4 | 4 | Water additive used to control microbes |

* The Highest detected Turbidity was .0565 NTU. The Treatment Technique level is to not exceed 1.0 NTU

**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.

VIOLATIONS
IMPORTANT INFORMATION ABOUT YOUR DRINKING WATER

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Monitoring Requirements Not Met for Kutztown Borough

Our water system violated drinking water standards over the past year. Even though this was not an emergency, as our customers, you have a right to know what happened and what we did to correct this situation.

We are required to monitor your drinking water for specific contaminants on a regular basis. Results of regular monitoring are an indicator of whether or not our drinking water meets health standards. In July, August, September, and October 2008 we did not complete all monitoring or testing for Total Organic Carbon (TOC) and Alkalinity and therefore cannot be sure of the quality of our drinking water during that time.

What should I do?

There is nothing you need to do at this time.

The table below lists the contaminant(s) we did not properly test for during the last year, how often we are supposed to sample for this contaminant and how many samples we are supposed to take, how many samples we took, when samples should have been taken, and the date on which follow-up samples were (or will be) taken.

| Contaminant | Required sampling frequency | Number of samples taken | When all samples should have been taken | When samples were or will be taken |
|--------------------|------------------------------------|--------------------------------|--|---|
| TOC | 1 monthly sample | 0 | July, August, September, and October 2008 | November 2008 |
| Alkalinity | 1 monthly sample | 0 | | November 2008 |

What happened? What was done?

The Kutztown Water Filtration Plant was reclassified from “other” to conventional filtration. Due to the reclassification some samples were not taken. However, the mistake was discovered and samples were taken. This mistake did not pose a health risk.

For more information, please contact Walter Hess at 610-683-3202.

Please share this information with all the other people who drink this water, especially those who may not have received this notice directly.

This notice is being sent to you by Kutztown Borough.

What does this mean?

We're proud that your drinking water meets or exceeds all Federal and State requirements. We have learned through our monitoring and testing that some constituents have been detected.

All sources of drinking water are subject to potential contaminants that are naturally occurring or man made. Those contaminants can be microbes, organic or inorganic chemicals, or radioactive materials. 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.

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 storm water 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 storm water runoff, and residential uses.
- Radioactive contaminants, which are naturally occurring.
- Organic chemical contaminants, including synthetic and volatile organic chemicals, which are byproducts of industrial process and petroleum 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.

Please call our office if you have questions.

We at The Borough of Kutztown and The Kutztown Municipal Authority work around the clock to provide top quality water to every tap. We ask that all our customers help us protect our water sources, which are the heart of our community, our way of life and our children's future.

Thank You For Your Continued Support.

Walter Hess

Water/Wastewater Superintendent