

## 2021 ANNUAL DRINKING WATER QUALITY REPORT

### Miles Township Water Authority East

PWSID #: 4140089

*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 and what it means. If you have any questions about this report or concerning your water utility, please contact the Miles Township Water Authority East. We want you to be informed about your water supply. If you want to learn more, please attend any of our regularly scheduled meetings. They are held the 3<sup>rd</sup> Monday of every month at 7:00 pm at the Miles Township Building or call 814-349-5574.

**SOURCE OF WATER:** Our water source is the Smullton Well, Rebersburg Well, well #3, and spring #1.

A *Source Water Assessment* of our sources was completed by the PA Department of Environmental Protection (Pa. DEP). A summary report of the Assessment is available on the *Source Water Assessment & Protection web* page at: (<http://www.dep.state.pa.us/dep/deputate/watermtg/wc/Subjects/SrceProt/SourceAssessment/default.htm>).

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 Pa. DEP North Central\_Regional Office, Records Management Unit at (570) 327-3636.

Some people may be more vulnerable to contaminants in drinking water than the general population. Immunocompromised 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).

#### **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, 2021. 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.

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

**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.

**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 (µg/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

<b>Chemical Contaminants</b>								
<b>Contaminant</b>	<b>MCL</b>	<b>MCLG</b>	<b>Highest Level Detected</b>	<b>Range of Detections</b>	<b>Units</b>	<b>Sample Date</b>	<b>Violation Y/N</b>	<b>Sources of Contamination</b>
(HAA5's) Haloacetic Acids	60	N/A	15.80	3.77-15.80	ppb	9/9/21	N	By-Product of drinking water disinfection
TTHMs (Total Trihalomethanes)	80	N/A	14.50	5.44-14.50	ppb	9/9/21	N	By-Product of drinking water chlorination
Chlorine (Distribution)	MRDL = 4	MRDLG = 4	1.15 (January)	0.87-1.15	ppm	2021	N	Water additive used to control microbes

<b>Entry Point Disinfectant Residual</b>							
<b>Contaminant</b>	<b>Minimum Disinfectant Residual</b>	<b>Lowest Level Detected</b>	<b>Range of Detections</b>	<b>Units</b>	<b>Lowest Sample Date</b>	<b>Violation Y/N</b>	<b>Sources of Contamination</b>
Chlorine (2021)	0.20	0.44	0.44-1.50	ppm	10/26/21	N	Water additive used to control microbes.

<b>Lead and Copper</b>							
<b>Contaminant</b>	<b>Action Level (AL)</b>	<b>MCLG</b>	<b>90<sup>th</sup> Percentile Value</b>	<b>Units</b>	<b># of Sites Above AL of Total Sites</b>	<b>Violation Y/N</b>	<b>Sources of Contamination</b>
Lead (2019)	15	0	0.97	ppb	0 out of 5	N	Corrosion of household plumbing systems; Erosion of natural deposits
Copper (2019)	1.3	1.3	0.084	ppm	0 out of 5	N	Corrosion of household plumbing systems; Erosion of natural deposits; Leaching from wood preservatives

### **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. Miles Township Water Authority East 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>.

<b>Turbidity</b>						
<b>Contaminant</b>	<b>MCL</b>	<b>MCLG</b>	<b>Highest Level Detected</b>	<b>Sample Date</b>	<b>Violation Y/N</b>	<b>Source of Contamination</b>
Turbidity	TT=1 NTU for a single measurement	0	Filter 1-0.22 Filter 2- 0.06	10/26/21 7/26/21	N	Soil runoff.
	TT= at least 95% of monthly samples $\leq$ 0.30 NTU		100%	2021	N	

<b>Microbial (related to Assessments/Corrective Actions regarding TC positive results)</b>					
<b>Contaminants</b>	<b>TT</b>	<b>MCLG</b>	<b>Assessments/ Corrective Actions</b>	<b>Violation Y/N</b>	<b>Sources of Contamination</b>
Total Coliform Bacteria	Any system that has failed to complete all the required assessments or correct all identified sanitary defects, is in violation of the treatment technique requirement	N/A	We had 2 positive Total Coliform samples in 2021. The TT was not violated but we failed to complete the required check samples by the due date resulting in violations and causing the required assessments to be done.	Y	Naturally present in the environment.

Coliforms are bacteria that are naturally present in the environment and are used as an indicator that other potentially harmful, bacteria may be present or that a potential pathway exists through which contamination may enter the drinking water distribution system. We found coliforms indicating the need to look for potential problems in water treatment or distribution. When this occurs, we are required to conduct assessments to identify problems and to correct any problems that were found during these assessments

**Violations:**

During the past year we were required to conduct 1 Level assessment and 1 Level 2 assessment. Both assessments were completed. In addition, we were required to take 2 corrective actions which were reviewing our Revised Total Coliform Rule Sampling Plan and check sample procedures and we completed both of these actions. During the past year we failed to conduct all of the required assessments by the required due date resulting in violations. We also failed to monitor for Nitrite and Nitrate in 2021. Public Notification regarding these violations is enclosed at the end of this report

Miles Township Water Authority East attempts to always provide the safest and most cost- e f f e c t i v e water supply to its customers. Inadequately treated water may contain disease-causing organisms. These organisms, which include bacteria, viruses, and other pathogens, may be harmful. The water supply is filtered and disinfected and meets or exceeds all state and federal safe drinking water standards. No MCL or treatment technique violations were detected in 2021.

**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.
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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 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* (800-426-4791).

## IMPORTANT INFORMATION ABOUT YOUR DRINKING WATER FAILURE TO MONITOR

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ALGUIEN LO TRADUZCA PARA USTED, O HABLE CON ALGUIEN QUE LO ENTIENDA.

### Monitoring Requirements Not Met for Miles Township Water Authority East

Our water system violated drinking water standards over the past year. Even though these were not emergencies, as our customers, you have a right to know what happened and what we did to correct these situations.

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. During 2021 we failed to monitor for Nitrite and Nitrate 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 contaminants we did not properly test for during the last year, how often we are supposed to sample for Nitrite and Nitrate 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 will be taken.

Contaminant	Required sampling frequency	Number of samples taken	When all samples should have been taken	When samples will be taken
Nitrite	Annually	0	3 <sup>rd</sup> Quarter of 2021	3 <sup>rd</sup> Quarter of 2022
Nitrate	Annually	0	3 <sup>rd</sup> Quarter of 2021	3 <sup>rd</sup> Quarter of 2022

#### What happened? What was done?

During 2021 we failed to monitor for Nitrite and Nitrate . The samples will be taken in the 3<sup>rd</sup> quarter of 2022.

For more information, please contact Miles Township Water Authority East at 814-349-5574.

Please share this information with all the other people who drink this water, especially those who may not have received this notice directly (for example, people in apartments, nursing homes, schools, and businesses). You can do this by posting this notice in a public place or distributing copies by hand or mail.

This notice is being sent to you from Miles Township Water Authority East.