

# ANNUAL WATER QUALITY REPORT

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**West Manchester Township Authority  
Shiloh Water System  
PWSID NO. 7670101**

**2009**

## **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 John Horvatinovic at 717-764-3624. 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 on the last Wednesday of the month at 8:00 pm at the Authority office, 2115 Log Cabin Rd., York, PA 17408

## **SOURCE(S) OF WATER:**

The Authority operates nine (9) wells which are all located within West Manchester Township. Each well is disinfected by hypochlorination. Fluoride is added as per American Dental Association standards. System pressure is maintained by three storage tanks with a combined capacity of 2,880,000 gallons.

## **DEFINITIONS**

In 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 (ug/l)* - 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* – the concentration of a contaminant which, 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 which there is no known or expected risk to health. MCLGs allow for a margin of safety.

## **MONITORING YOUR WATER**

The Authority 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 1 to December 31, 2009. 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 data has been noted on the sampling results table as follows:

**DETECTED SAMPLE RESULTS**

Contaminant-year	Violation Y/N	Level Detected	Units of Measure	Range	MCLG	MCL	Sources of Contamination
Arsenic-2009*	N	8.0	ppb	0 – 8.0	N/A	10	Runoff from orchards, glass and electronics
Barium-2009	N	0.60	ppm	0.093 – 0.60	2	2	Erosion of natural deposits
Fluoride-2009	N	0.61	ppm	0.53 – 0.61	2	2	Additive which promotes strong teeth
Halocetic Acid-2009	N	3.0	ppb	1.0 – 3.0	N/A	60	By-product of drinking water chlorination
Nitrate-2009*	N	3.26	ppm	0.93 – 3.26	10	10	Fertilizer use, septic tanks
Total Trihalomethanes 2009	N	13.3	ppb	2.1 – 13.3	n/a	80	By-product of drinking water chlorination
Uranium-2009	N	4.57	ppb	4.13 – 4.57	0	30	Erosion of natural deposits
Gross alpha-2009	N	8.9	pCi/l	3.31 – 8.9	0	15	Erosion of natural deposits
Combined Radium 2009	N	1.16	pCi/l	0 – 1.16	0	5	Erosion of natural deposits
Chlorine-2009	N	0.57	ppm	0.34 – 0.57	N/A	4	Disinfection
Contaminant	Violation Y/N	# of Positive Samples/Month		MCL	MCLG	Sources of Contamination	
Total Coliform Bacteria	N	1 positive sample taken in December		1 monthly sample is positive	0	Naturally present in the environment.	
Contaminant	Violation Y/N	# of Positive Samples/Year		MCL		MCLG	Sources of Contamination
Fecal Coliform Bacteria Or E-coli	Not Present			Routine and repeat samples are coliform positive and one is also fecal coliform or E.coli positive		0	Human and animal fecal waste
Contaminant	Violation	Level Detected	Unit of Measurement	# of Sites Above AL	Action Level (AL)	MCLG	Source of Contamination
Lead - 2007	N	0	ppb	0	15 ppb	0	Corrosion of household plumbing
Copper - 2007	N	.47	ppm	0	1.3 ppm	0	Corrosion of household plumbing

**VIOLATIONS**

The fourth quarter radiological tests for Well 9 were missed but quarterly monitoring will continue in 2010. Please see the enclosed notice for more information. The 2008 Consumer Confidence Report was mailed on time but submitted to DEP after July 1<sup>st</sup>, 2009.

**\*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 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 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 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. MCL's are set at very stringent levels for health effects. A person would have to drink 2 liters of water every day at the MCL level for a lifetime to have a one-in-a-million chance of having the described health effect.

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

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).

**All inquiries may be addressed to the Authority office at:**

**West Manchester Township Authority  
2115 Log Cabin Rd.  
York, PA 17408**