

## 2023 Annual Drinking Water Quality Report

### EDINBORO WATER AUTHORITY

PWSID # 6250022

#### One Monitoring Violation in 2022

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.)

This report is designed to inform you about the water and services we deliver to you every day. Our 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. **I am pleased to report that our drinking water meets federal and state requirements.**

This report shows our water quality and what it means. If you have questions about this report or concerning your water utility, please contact Chris Motter at (814)734-1812 x. 146. We want you to be informed about your water supply. If you want to learn more, please attend any of the public Water Authority meetings, which are advertised and held quarterly at the Borough Building. Please call (814)734-1812 x.123 for times and dates if you are interested in attending.

**Our water source is a well field located on PennWest Edinboro University Campus. There are two wells that are between sixty and sixty-five feet in depth.**

In November 2011, the DEP approved the Borough's Source Water Protection Technical Assistance Program (SWPTAP). The Source Water Assessment found that the Borough's wells are potentially most susceptible to contamination from agriculture, geothermal wells, above and underground fuel tanks, and industry using any petroleum solvents or manmade degreasing solvents. Overall, the Edinboro Water Authority wells have a moderate risk of contamination. Summary reports of the Assessment are available at the Edinboro Borough Office or at the DEP in Meadville, PA at 230 Chestnut Street, phone number (814)332-6984.

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).

Edinboro Water Authority routinely monitors 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, **2022**. 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 Water Drinking Act. The date has been noted on the sampling results table.

#### Definitions:

- **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 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 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 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.

- **Action Level (AL):** The concentration of a contaminant which, if exceeded, triggers treatment or other requirements which a water system must follow.
- **ppm:** parts per million, or milligrams per liter (mg/L)
- **ppb:** parts per billion, or micrograms per liter (ug/L)
- **Treatment Technique (TT):** A required process intended to reduce the level of a contaminant in drinking water.
- **pCi/L:** picocuries per liter (a measure of radioactivity)

Entry Point Disinfectant Residual							
Contaminant	Minimum Disinfectant Residual	Lowest Level Detected	Range of Detections	Units	Sample Date	Violation Y/N	Sources of Contamination
Chlorine	0.40	0.45	0.45-1.07	ppm	8/8/2022	N	• Water additive used to control microbes

Contaminant (Unit of Measurement)	Violation Y/N	Level Detected (Sample Date)	Range Mg/l	MCL in CCR units	MCLG	Major Sources in Drinking Water
<b>Microbial Contaminants</b>						
Total Coliform Bacteria	N	0		MCL: 1 positive monthly sample (for systems that collect < 40 samples/ month)	N/A	• Naturally present in the environment
<b>Chemical Contaminants</b>						
Barium (IOC) (ppm)	N	<b>0.721</b> (8/10/2021)		2	2	• Discharge of drilling wastes • Discharge from metal refineries • Erosion of natural deposits
Fluoride (IOC) (ppm)	N	<b>0.62</b> (8/10/2021)		2 EPA's MCL for fluoride is 4 ppm. However, Pennsylvania has set a lower MCL to better protect human health.	2	• Erosion of natural deposits • Water additive which promotes strong teeth • Discharge from fertilizer & aluminum factories
Nitrate (ppm)	N	<b>0.79</b> (8/23/2022)		10	10	• Runoff from fertilizer use
<b>Lead and Copper</b>						
Lead (ppb) <sup>a</sup>	N	<b>2.87</b> (2022)		AL=15	0	• Corrosion of household plumbing systems
Copper (ppm) <sup>a</sup>	N	<b>0.07</b> (2022)		AL=1.3	1.3	
<b>Disinfection Byproducts (DBPs), Byproduct Precursors, and Disinfectant Residuals</b>						
Haloacetic Acid (ppb)	N	<b>3.3</b> (2022)		60	n/a	• Byproduct of drinking water disinfection
TTHMs [Total trihalomethanes] (ppb)	N	<b>12.1</b> (2021)		80	n/a	
Chlorine (ppm)	N		<b>0.45-1.07</b>	MRDL = 4	MRDLG = 4	• Water additive used to control microbes

(a) There was one (1) sample of the 20 taken above its respective action level. Lead and Copper testing is done every three (3) years. [The next tests are in July 2025](#)

\*\*\*You will notice that Trichloroethylene (TCE) was not included in our chart of test results. That is because we had no readings of TCE in any of our finished water samples that we take for VOCs (volatile organic compounds). TCE is still in our raw water, but the Air Stripping Tower removes it and any other VOCs before entry into the distribution system.\*\*\*

As you can see by the table, no MCL's or Treatment Techniques were exceeded. We are proud that your drinking water meets or exceeds all Federal and State requirements. We have learned through our monitoring and testing that some contaminants have been detected.

## **Violations:**

The Borough of Edinboro had one monitoring violation in 2022. Water samples were taken by the Borough of Edinboro on Dec 20, 2022 and sent to Microbac Laboratories for asbestos testing. The testing was then outsourced to RJ Lee Group of Pittsburgh and the result passed on Jan 20 2023. The test results were submitted to the DEP on Jan 23, 2023, which was past the Jan. 10, 2023 due date.

### **HEALTH EFFECTS LANGUAGE:**

**Coliform Bacteria:** 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.

**Barium:** Some people who drink water containing barium above the MCL over many years could experience an increase in their blood pressure.

**Fluoride:** At low levels, fluoride can help prevent cavities, but children drinking water containing more than 2 milligrams per liter (mg/L) of fluoride may develop cosmetic discoloration of their permanent teeth (dental fluorosis). Dental fluorosis, in its moderate or severe forms, may result in a brown staining and or pitting of the permanent teeth. This problem occurs only in developing teeth before they erupt from the gums. Drinking water containing more than 4 mg/L of fluoride (the U.S. Environmental Protection Agency's drinking water standard) can increase your risk of developing bone disease. **\*\*\* in 2022 The Borough of Edinboro Water Authority decided to cease the addition of fluoride into the drinking water system. Naturally occurring fluoride is found in the Borough's water source at an average of 0.3ppm. Additional fluoride is no longer added to the water supply, but the naturally occurring fluoride remains.\*\*\***

**Nitrate:** Infants below the age of six months who drink water containing nitrate above the MCL could become seriously ill and, if untreated, may die. Symptoms include shortness of breath and blue baby syndrome.

**Trichloroethylene:** Some people who drink water containing trichloroethylene above the MCL over many years could experience problems with their liver and may have an increased risk of getting cancer.

**Lead:** Infants and young children who drink water containing lead above the action level could experience delays in their physical or mental development. Children could show slight deficits in attention span and learning abilities. Adults who drink this water over many years could develop kidney problems and high blood pressure.

**Copper:** Copper is an essential nutrient, but some people who drink water containing copper above the action level over a relatively short amount of time could experience gastrointestinal distress. Some people who drink water containing copper in excess of the action level over many years could suffer liver or kidney damage. People with Wilsons Disease should consult their personal doctor.

**Haloacetic Acid:** Some people who drink water containing haloacetic acid exceeding the MCL over many years may have an increased risk of getting cancer.

**TTHMs [Total trihalomethanes]:** Some people who drink water containing trihalomethanes exceeding the MCL over many years may experience problems with their liver, kidneys, or central nervous systems, and may have an increased risk of getting cancer.

**Chlorine:** Some people who use water containing chlorine levels well above the MRDL could experience irritating effects to their eyes and nose. Some people who drink water containing chlorine well-above the MRDL could experience stomach discomfort.

### **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. The Edinboro Water Authority 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 (800-426-4791) or at <http://www.epa.gov/safewater/lead>.

## Drinking Water Sources:

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 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 byproducts of industrial process and petroleum production, and can also come from gas stations, urban stormwater runoff, and septic systems.
- Radioactive contaminants, which can be naturally occurring or the result of oil & gas production and mining activities.

In order to assure 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.

All sources of drinking water are subject to potential contaminants that are naturally occurring or man-made. 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.

**Total Coliform:** The Total Coliform Rule requires water systems to meet a stricter limit for coliform bacteria. Coliform bacteria are usually harmless, but their presence in water can be an indication of disease-causing bacteria. When coliform bacteria are found, special follow-up tests are done to determine if harmful bacteria are present in the water supply. If this limit is exceeded, the water supplier *must* notify the public by newspaper, television, or radio. To comply with the stricter regulation, we have increased the average amount of chlorine in the distribution system.

**Nitrates:** As a precaution we *always* notify physicians and health care providers in this area if there is ever a higher-than-normal level of nitrates in the water supply.

**Lead:** Lead in drinking water is rarely the sole cause of lead poisoning, but it can add to a person's total lead exposure. All potential sources of lead in the household should be identified and removed, replaced, or reduced.

Thank you for allowing us to continue providing your family with clean, quality water this year. To maintain a dependable water supply, we sometimes need to make improvements that will benefit all our customers. These improvements are sometimes reflected as rate structure adjustments. Thank you for understanding.

This year the water department will be exercising and replacing main valves. An agreement was made with Washington Township to supply water to township residents adjacent to Borough water mains. We ran a 2" plastic line to Borough Line on Industrial drive. We tar and chipped Dundon Rd. to the 2-million-gallon tank with various storm sewers and ditches.

Security for water systems has become very important since 9/11. We are doing everything we can to ensure your drinking water is safe. Be alert if you notice unusual activity or suspicious persons in or around fire hydrants, wells, the air stripping tower, and the large storage tanks; and please notify the Edinboro Police Department at **(814)734-1712**.

Please call our office if you have any questions or input about this report.

We at the Edinboro Water 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.

Consumer Confidence Report prepared by Chris Motter, Water Department Superintendent.

If you have any questions, please call (814)734-1812 ext. 146 between 7:00 A.M. and 3:00 P.M.