Annual Drinking Water Quality Report for 2015

Bally Borough Water System

PWSID # 3060002

ESTE INFORME CONTIENE INFORMACION MUY IMPORTANTE SOBRE SU AGUA POTABLE. TRADUZCALO O HABLO CON ALGUIEN QUE LO ENTIENDA BIEN. (This report contains very important information about your drinking water. Translate it , or speak with someone who understands it.)

WATER SYSTEM INFORMATION:

We're pleased to present to you this year's Annual Drinking Water Quality Report. This report is designed to inform you about the water quality 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. We are pleased to report that our drinking water met federal and state requirements for regulated contaminants for the year 2015. If you have any questions about this report or your water utility, please contact Nate Heffner, Water Superintendent, at the Borough Office at 610-845-2351, between the hours of 8:00 a.m. and 4:00 p.m. weekdays. We want our valued customers to be informed about their water utility. If you would like to learn more, please attend any of our regularly scheduled Borough Council meetings. They are held on the first Tuesday of each month at 7:00 p.m. in the Bally Borough Hall at 425 Chestnut Street.

SOURCES OF WATER:

The Borough of Bally water source had undergone some significant improvements in 2010. We have a new source ,Well 4, at the edge of the Borough along Wheeler Lane. This new water source replaced our old Well 3 which was contaminated with 1,4- Dioxane along with other contaminants that was cleaned through an air scouring tower. Through efforts of the Borough, along with DEP and EPA, the responsible party for this contaminant provided a new source of water for the Borough. Well 4 began providing water to Borough customers starting October, 2010. In 2014, the Borough replaced the well pump for Well 4 and we are currently looking for a location for a second well.

You can obtain a copy of the “Wellhead Water Protection Plan” from our office. This provides additional information on our water system, and provides other information such as potential sources of contamination.

MONITORING YOUR WATER:

Bally Borough routinely monitors for constituents 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, 2015 to December 31, 2015.

The state allows us to monitor for some contaminants less than once per year because the concentrations of the contaminants do not change frequently. Some data values are more than one year old. The date that corresponds to the data presented in the table is located in parenthesis below the detected level.

In order to maintain a dependable water supply, we sometimes need to make improvements that will benefit all of our customers. These improvements are often reflected as rate structure adjustments. Thank you for understanding.

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 **(µg/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) **-** a measure of radiation.

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 "Maximum Allowed" 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" 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.

Minimum Residual Disinfectant Level – The minimum level of residual disinfectant required at the entry point to the distribution system.

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 drinking water disinfectant below which there is no known or exposed risk to health. MCLGs do not reflect the benefits of the use of disinfectants to control microbial contamination.

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

DETECTED SAMPLE RESULTS

Chemical Contaminants

Contaminant (Unit of measurement)	Violation Y/N	Level Detected	Range	MCLG	MCL	Likely Source of Contamination
Nitrate (as Nitrogen) (ppm)	No	2.20	(a)	10	10	Runoff from fertilizer use; leaching from septic tanks, sewage; erosion of natural deposits.
Chlorine (ppm)	No	1.18	0.80-1.18	4	4	Water additive used to control microbes.

Entry Point Disinfectant Residual

Contaminant (Unit of measurement)	Violation Y/N	Lowest Level Detected	Range	Sample Date	Minimum Disinfectant Residual	Likely Source of Contamination
Chlorine (ppm)	No	0.91	0.91-1.33	2/10/15	0.40	Water additive used to control microbes.

Volatile Organic Contaminants						
Contaminant (Unit of measurement)	Violation Y/N	Level Detected	Range	MCLG	MCL	Likely Source of Contamination
TTHMs (Total Trihalomethanes) (ppb)	No	1.9	1.9-1.9	--	80	By-product of drinking water chlorination
Inorganic Contaminants						
Contaminant (Unit of measurement)	Violation Y/N	Level Detected	Range	MCLG	MCL	Likely Source of Contamination
Barium (ppm)	No	0.022 (11/2015)	(a)	2	2	Discharge of drilling wastes; discharge from metal refineries; erosion of natural deposits.
Fluoride (ppm)	No	0.13 (11/2015)	(a)	2	2	Erosion of natural deposits; water additive which promotes strong teeth; discharge from fertilizer and aluminum factories.
Microbiological Contaminants						
Contaminant	Violation Y/N	# Positive Monthly Samples		MCLG	MCL	Likely Source of Contamination
Total Coliform Bacteria	No	1 (3/2015)		0	> 1 positive monthly sample	Naturally present in the environment.
Radioactive Contaminants						
Contaminant (Unit of measurement)	Violation Y/N	Level Detected	Range	MCLG	MCL	Likely Source of Contamination
Combined Uranium (µg/l)	No	0.66 (2011)	0-0.66	0	30	Erosion of natural deposits.
Radium-228 (pCi/L)	No	1.13 (2011)	0-1.13	0	5	Erosion of natural deposits.

Lead and Copper

Contaminant	Action Level (AL)	MCLG	90th Percentile Value	Units	# of Sites Above AL of Total Sites	Violation Y/N	Likely Source of Contamination
Copper (2013)	1.3	1.3	0.2	ppm	0	N	Corrosion of household plumbing systems; erosion of natural deposits; leaching from wood preservatives.

Footnotes:
(a) Only one sample required.

What does this mean?

We have learned through our monitoring and testing that other constituents have been detected, however the levels detected were below maximum contamination levels.

EDUCATIONAL INFORMATION:

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 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.

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.

Bally's water supply comes from wells. As water travels over the land surface 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 stormwater run-off, oil and gas production, mining, or farming.
- Pesticides and herbicides, which may come from a variety of sources such as agriculture, stormwater run-off, or residential uses.
- Organic chemical contaminants, including synthetic and volatile organic chemicals, are by-products of industrial processes and petroleum production and can also come from gas stations, stormwater run-off or septic systems.
- Radioactive contaminants can be naturally occurring or be the result of oil and gas production or mining activities.

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 Bally Borough Water System 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're 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.

Please call our office at (610) 845-2351 if you have questions on this report or other water matters. We at the Bally Borough Water System 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.