



2017

# 2017 Annual Drinking Water Quality Report

Consumer Confidence Report

**BALLY BOROUGH WATER SYSTEM**

425 Chestnut Street, P.O. Box 217, Bally, PA 19503

We are 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 safe and dependable supply of drinking water. We want you to understand the efforts we make to continually improve the water treatment process and to protect our water resources. We are committed to ensuring the quality of your water.

## 2017 ANNUAL DRINKING WATER QUALITY REPORT

PWSID #: 3060002

NAME: Bally Borough Water System

*Este informe contiene información muy importante sobre su agua potable. Tradúzcalo ó hable 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 are pleased to report that our drinking water met federal and state requirements for regulated contaminants for the year 2017. If you have any questions about this report or concerning your water utility, please contact Ms. Wendy Mutter, Borough Secretary, at (610) 845-2351. We want you to be informed about your water supply. 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.

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

The Borough of Bally water is provided from groundwater Well 4. This well started providing water to Borough customers in October, 2010. This well replaced Well 3, which was contaminated with 1,4-Dioxane along with other contaminants used to clean an air scouring tower. Through the efforts of the Borough, along with DEP and EPA, the responsible party paid for construction of Well 4. The Borough is currently in the process of permitting a new well, which will be used as a backup for Well 4.

### **MONITORING YOUR WATER:**

Bally Borough routinely monitors for constituents 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, 2017. 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 data values are more than one year old. For those samples, the date has been noted on the sampling results table.

In the following table, you will find many terms and abbreviations that you may not be familiar with. To help you better understand, we have provided the following definitions.

### **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 "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.

*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.

*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)

### DETECTED SAMPLE RESULTS:

<b>Disinfection Byproducts</b>								
Contaminant	MCL	MCLG	Highest Level Detected	Range of Detections	Units	Sample Date	Violation Y/N	Sources of Contamination
Bromodichloromethane	(b)	0	0.69	(a)	ppb	2017	N	Byproduct of drinking water disinfection
Chlorodibromomethane	(b)	n/a	0.51	(a)	ppb	2017	N	Byproduct of drinking water disinfection
Trihalomethanes (TTHM)	80	n/a	1.2	(a)	ppb	2017	N	Byproduct of drinking water disinfection
Chlorine	4 MRDL	4 MRDLG	1.04	0.67-1.04	ppm	2017	N	Water additive used to control microbes
<b>Inorganic Chemicals</b>								
Nitrate	10	10	2.6	(a)	ppm	2017	N	Runoff from fertilizer, leaching from septic tanks, sewage, erosion of natural deposits
Barium	2	2	0.022	(a)	ppm	2015(c)	N	Discharge of drilling wastes; discharge from metal refineries; erosion of natural deposits
Fluoride	2	2	0.13	(a)	ppm	2015(c)	N	Erosion of natural deposits; water additive which promotes strong teeth; discharge from fertilizer and aluminum factories

(a) Only one sample required

(b) No MCLs established and/or no Treatment Techniques were exceeded

(c) The PADEP allows us to monitor for some contaminants less than once per year because these contaminants do not change frequently. Items not sampled in 2017 are noted with the last year of sampling.

See page 4 for list of contaminants that were tested and undetected.

<b>Entry Point Disinfectant Residual</b>							
Contaminant	Min. Required Disinfectant Residual	Lowest Level Detected	Range of Detections	Units	Sample Date	Violation Y/N	Sources of Contamination
Chlorine	0.20	0.74	0.74 to 1.38	ppm	6/12/2017 11/8/2017	N	Water additive used to control microbes

Lead and Copper								
Contaminant	Action Level (AL)	MCLG	90 <sup>th</sup> Percentile Value	Units	# of Sites Above AL of Total Sites	Sample Date	Violation Y/N	Sources of Contamination
Copper	1.3	1.3	0.23	ppm	0	2016	N	Corrosion of household plumbing
Lead	15	0	0	ppb	0	2016	N	Corrosion of household plumbing

### Undetected Contaminants Tested for by Bally Borough Water System

**Volatile Organic Chemicals (2017)**

1,1,1-Trichloroethane  
 1,1,2-Trichloroethane  
 1,1-Dichloroethylene  
 1,2,4-Trichlorobenzene  
 1,2-Dichloroethane  
 1,2-Dichloropropane  
 Benzene  
 Carbon tetrachloride  
 Chlorobenzene  
 cis-1,2-Dichloroethylene  
 Dichloromethane  
 Ethylbenzene  
 Para-Dichlorobenzene  
 o-Dichlorobenzene  
 Styrene  
 Tetrachloroethylene  
  
 Toluene  
 trans-1,2-Dichloroethylene  
 Trichloroethylene  
 Vinyl chloride  
 Xylenes (Total)

**Synthetic Organic Chemicals (2017)**

1,2-Dibromo, 3-Chloroprop  
 2,3,7,8-TCDD (Dioxin)  
 2,4-D  
 2,4,5-TP Silvex  
 Alachlor  
 Atrazine  
 Benzo(A)Pyrene  
 Carbofuran  
 Chlordane  
 Dalapon  
 Di (2-Ethylhexyl) Adipate  
 Di (2-Ethylhexyl) Phthalate  
 Dinoseb  
 Diquat  
 Endothall  
 Endrin  
  
 Ethylene Dibromide  
 Glyphosate  
 Heptachlor  
 Heptachlor Epoxide  
 Hexachlorobenzene

**Synthetic Organic Chemicals (2017)  
cont'd...**

Hexachlorocyclopentadiene  
 Lindane  
 Methoxychlor  
 Oxymal (Vydate)  
 PCB's  
 Pentachlorophenol  
 Piclorem  
 Simazine  
 Toxaphene

**Microbiological Contaminants**

Total coliforms

**Inorganic Chemicals**

Nitrite

**Disinfection By-Products**

Chloroform (THM)  
 Bromoform (THM)  
 Haloacetic Acid (HAA5)

**Note:** All contaminants are not sampled every year. Those contaminants which were not sampled in 2017 are noted with the last year of sampling in the tables above.

**DETECTED CONTAMINANTS HEALTH EFFECTS LANGUAGE AND CORRECTIVE ACTIONS:**

No violations of MCL or MRDL in the reporting year.

**OTHER VIOLATIONS:**

In 2017 there was one minor violation. A total coliform sample was taken timely, but the report was not filed timely with DEP.

## **EDUCATIONAL INFORMATION:**

All drinking water, including bottled water, may reasonably be expected to contain at least small amounts of contaminants. The presence of contaminants does not necessarily indicate that the water poses a health risk. 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. 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 comes from a groundwater well. 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.

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).

## **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 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 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>.

## **Contact Information**

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 working 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.