COOPERSBURG MUNICIPAL AUTHORITY

(Public Water System ID No. 3390046)

Annual Drinking Water Quality Report

for Calendar Year 2008

Este informe contiene informacion muy importante sobre su agua beber. Traduzcalo o hable con alguien que lo entienda bien.

The Coopersburg Municipal Authority is herewith presenting this year's Annual Water Quality Report to its customers. This report is designed to inform you about the quality water and services we deliver to you every day. Our 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 system and to protect our water resources. We are committed to ensuring the quality of your water. Our water sources are two primary wells located 1½ miles north of the Borough in Springfield Township, Bucks County, and a back up well located south of the Borough near the Valley Manor Nursing Home.

The Coopersburg Municipal Authority is pleased to report that our drinking water is **safe** and **meets federal and state requirements**. There were **no violations** of federal or state standards during the calendar year 2008.

If you have any questions about this report or concerning your water utility, please contact:

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Coopersburg, PA 18036
(610) 282-3958

Below you will find many terms and abbreviations you might not be familiar with which are utilized in this report. To help you better understand these terms, we've provided the following definitions:

Non-Detects (ND) - laboratory analysis indicates that the constituent is not present.

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 - one part per billion corresponds to one minute in 2,000 years, or a single penny in $10,000,000.

Millirems per year (mrem/yr) - measure of radiation absorbed by the body.
Pico curies per Liter (pCi/L) - measure of radioactivity in water.

Nephelometric Turbidity Unit (NTU) - nephelometric turbidity unit is a measure of the clarity of water. Turbidity in excess of 5 NTUs is just noticeable to the average person.

Action Level (A.L.) - the concentration of a contaminant, which, if exceeded, triggers treatment or other requirements which a water system must follow.

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

Maximum Contaminant Level (MCL) - the "Maximum Allowed"(MCL) is the highest level of a contaminant 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. The MCLGs allow for a margin of safety.

Maximum Residual Disinfectant Level (MRDL): The highest level of a disinfectant allowed in the 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 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 contamination.

The Coopersburg Municipal Authority routinely monitors for constituents in your drinking water according to Federal and State laws. All sources of drinking water are subject to potential contamination by constituents that are both naturally occurring or manmade. 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 of these contaminants. The presence of contaminants does not necessarily indicate that the water poses a health risk.

For each regulated constituent that is detected or is above the Maximum Contaminant Level (MCL) or treatment technique (TT) violation or an action level exceedences (AL), the level detected, unit of measurement, the MCLG, the MCL and the likely source of contamination is REQUIRED to be reported. All results for contaminants below detection are not required to be listed.

The sources of drinking water (both tap water and bottled water) include rivers, lakes, 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 byproducts of industrial processes and petroleum productions, 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 was 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.

Two particular contaminants to be concerned about are **nitrates** and **lead**.

Nitrates in drinking water at levels above 10 ppm are a health risk for infants of less than six months of age. High nitrate levels in drinking water can cause blue baby syndrome. Nitrate levels may rise quickly for short periods of time because of rainfall or agricultural activity. If you are caring for an infant, and want more information, you should ask advice from your health care provider.

Infants and young children are typically more vulnerable to **lead** in drinking water than the general population. It is possible that lead levels at your home may be higher than at other homes in the community as a result of materials used in your home's plumbing system. If you are concerned about elevated lead levels in your home's drinking water, you may wish to have your water tested and, as a routine precaution, flush your tap for 30 seconds to 2 minutes before using tap water.

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.

We constantly monitor Coopersburg's water supply for various constituents, and we are happy to report that our system had **no violations in calendar year 2008**. We are proud that your drinking water meets or exceeds all Federal and State requirements and based on EPA standards, that your water **is safe**.

MCLs are set at very stringent levels. To understand the possible health effects described for many regulated constituents, 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.

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 sometimes have to increase the average amount of chlorine in the distribution system.

Nitrates: As a precaution, we will 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.

Some people may be more vulnerable to contaminants in drinking water than the general population. Immuno-comprised 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 (1-800-426-4791).

Please call our office if you have questions. We at the Coopersburg Municipal Authority work year round 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 childrens' future.

SUMMARY OF DETECTED REGULATED CONTAMINANTS FOR 2008

Contaminant (Unit of Measure)	MCL	MCLG	Range (Coopersburg Water)	Sample Date(s)	Violation Y/N	Likely Source of Contamination
Lead (ppb)	.015	0	0 to .006	7/25/2007	N	Corrosion of household plumbing and natural deposits
Copper (ppb)	1.3	1.3	.08 to 1.30	7/25/2007	N	Corrosion of household plumbing and natural deposits
Triahlo-methanes (ppb)	80	N/A	3.2 to 5.6	7/9/2007	N	By-product of chlorination
Alpha Emitters (pC/l)	15	0	1.18	2/13/2003	N	Erosion of natural resources