

COOPERSBURG MUNICIPAL AUTHORITY
(Public Water System ID No. 3390046)
Annual Drinking Water Quality Report
for
Calendar Year 2020

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.)

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 resources are two primary wells located 1 ½ 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 back up well was not used to supply drinking water to the distribution system in 2020.

The Coopersburg Municipal Authority is pleased to report that our drinking water is **safe** and **meets Federal and State requirements**. Regulations require that the Annual Drinking Water Quality Report be delivered to the customers and the Department of Environmental Protection (DEP) by July 1st of each year.

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

Lawrence Carl
Director of Public Works
5 North Main Street
Coopersburg, PA 18036
(610) 282-3307

If you want to learn more about the water system, please feel free to attend an Authority meeting, which is usually held the first Tuesday of each month at 7:00 PM in Borough Hall. Call ahead (610-282-3307) to see if there were any changes to the date or time.

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

Non-Detects (ND) – laboratory analysis indicates 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 the water.

Entry Point Disinfectant Residual							
Contaminant	Minimum Disinfectant Residual	Lowest Level Indicated	Range of Detections	Units	Sample Date	Violation Y/N	Source of Contamination
Chlorine (101)	0.5	0.5	.5 – 1.21	mg/l	2020	N	Water additive used to control microbes

Lead and Copper								
Contaminant	Action Level (AL)	MCLG	90 th Percentile Value	Units	# Sites Above AL of Total Sites	Sample Date	Violation Y/N	Source of Contamination
Lead	15	0	.008	ppb	0 out of 10	2019	N	Corrosion of household plumbing and natural deposits
Copper	1.3	1.2	1	ppm	0 out of 10	2019	N	Corrosion of household plumbing and natural deposits

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 and 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 exceedances (AL), the level detected, unit of measurement, 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 surfaces such as agriculture, urban stormwater, and residential uses.
- **Organic chemical contaminants**, including synthetic and volatile organic chemicals, which are byproducts 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 assure that tap water is safe to drink, the Environmental Protection Agency (EPA) and Department of Environmental Protection (DEP) prescribe 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 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. 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 in the 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. 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 because of materials used in your home's plumbing system. 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. Coopersburg Municipal Authority is responsible for providing high quality drinking water; but, it 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>.

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 water quality violations in calendar year 2017; however, there was a reporting violation which occurred. Last year, a 'draft' copy of the report was submitted to DEP prior to the July 1st deadline; however, the Coopersburg Municipal Authority was notified of a violation because DEP did not receive the 'final' report. The 'final' report was submitted to DEP on July 6, 2017. We are proud that your drinking water **meets or exceeds** all Federal and State water quality requirements and based on EPA standards, that your water **is safe**.

MCL's are set to 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 must increase the average amount of chlorine in the distribution system.

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 from their health care advisors about drinking water. 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 tap water to every tap. We ask that all our customers help us protect our water resources, which are the heart of our community, our way of life and our children's future.

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