



SAEGERTOWN BOROUGH  
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May 2013

Dear Saegertown Borough Water Customer,

Enclosed you will find your annual Consumer Confidence Report (CCR) for the Saegertown Borough Water System.

Once again you will see that our water has passed very stringent testing, and that we continue to provide you with safe, quality drinking water.

While we were required to report a violation this past year, subsequent tests have shown that the result was probably a testing error by the lab contracted to do the testing.

We are required to make a copy of this report available to all our water customers. If you find it confusing (we do too!) feel free to stop by the Borough Office with any questions. Hard copies of the report are available at the Borough Office to any customer that requests one.

Sincerely,

Charles T. Lawrence, Jr.  
Borough Manager

Jeff Miller  
Water Operator

## 2012 ANNUAL DRINKING WATER QUALITY REPORT

PWSID #: 6200043 NAME: Saegertown Borough

*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.)

### **WATER SYSTEM INFORMATION:**

This report shows our water quality and what it means. If you have any questions about this report or concerning your water utility, please contact Jeff Miller or Chuck Lawrence at 814-763-4600. We want you to be informed about your water supply. If you want to learn more, please attend any of our regularly scheduled meetings. They are held the 2<sup>nd</sup> Monday of each month at 6:30 p.m. at the Borough Building. Please call ahead.

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

Our water source(s) is/are: (Name-Type-Location)

Multiple wells located in Saegertown Borough and Hayfield Township.

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 microbial contaminants are available from the *Safe Drinking Water Hotline* (800-426-4791).

### **MONITORING YOUR WATER:**

We routinely monitor 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, 2012. 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 Drinking Water Act. The date has been noted on the sampling results table.

### **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 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 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)

*ppq* = parts per quadrillion, or picograms per liter

*ppt* = parts per trillion, or nanograms per liter

**DETECTED SAMPLE RESULTS:**

<b>Chemical Contaminants</b>								
Contaminant	MCL in CCR Units	MCLG	Level Detected	Range of Detections	Units	Sample Date	Violation Y/N	Sources of Contamination
Arsenic (IOC)	10	0	5	3-5	ppb	9/05/2012	N	Erosion of natural deposits; Runoff from orchards; Runoff from glass and electronics production wastes
Barium (IOC)	2	2	0.405	0.017-0.405	ppm	9/05/2012	N	Discharge of drilling wastes; discharge from metal refineries; erosion of natural deposits
Fluoride (IOC)	2	2	0.131	0.119-0.131	ppm	9/05/2012	N	Erosion of natural deposits; Water additive which promotes strong teeth; Discharge from fertilizer and aluminum factories
Nitrate	10	10	2.1	0.2 - 2.1	ppm	9/05/2012	N	Runoff from fertilizer use; Leaching from septic tanks, sewage; Erosion of natural deposits
DI (2-Ethylhexyl) Phthalate	6	0	0.9	0 – 0.9	ppb	3/13/12 to 10/10/12	N	Discharge from rubber and chemical factories
Haloacetic Acids (Five)	60	n/a	2	0 - 2	ppb	9/13/11	N	By-product of drinking water disinfection
Trihalomethanes	80	N/A	18	1.6 – 18	ppb	9/13/11	N	By-products of drinking water chlorination
Chlorine (Distribution)	MRDL= 4	MRDLG =4	1.87	0.93 – 1.87	ppm	Twice/monthly	N	Water additive used to control microbes
Radium-228	5	0	1.18	1.18	Pci/L	10/10/2012	N	Erosion of natural deposits

\*EPA's MCL for fluoride is 4 ppm. However, Pennsylvania has set a lower MCL to better protect human health.

**Entry Point Disinfectant Residual**

Contaminant (Entry Point ID)	Minimum Disinfectant Residual	Lowest Level Detected	Range of Detections	Units	Sample Date	Violation Y/N	Sources of Contamination
Chlorine (Entry Point 100)	0.50	0.5	0.5-1.36	ppm	11/30/2012	N	Water additive used to control microbes.
Chlorine (Entry Point 101)	0.70	0.7	0.7-1.5	ppm	11/14/2012	N	Water additive used to control microbes.
Chlorine (Entry Point 102)	0.40	0.4	0.4-2.18	ppm	11/15/2012	N	Water additive used to control microbes.
Chlorine (Entry Point 103)	0.60	0.61	0.61-2.2	ppm	11/22/2012	N	Water additive used to control microbes.
Chlorine (Entry Point 104)	0.40	0.4	0.4-1.44	ppm	4/21/2012	N	Water additive used to control microbes.
Chlorine (Entry Point 105)	0.40	0.01	0.01-1.49	ppm	8/22/2012	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	Violation Y/N	Sources of Contamination
Lead	15	0	5	ppb	0	N	Corrosion of household plumbing.
Copper	1.3	1.3	0.11	ppm	0	N	Corrosion of household plumbing.

**Microbial**

Contaminants	MCL	MCLG	Highest # or % of Positive Samples	Violation Y/N	Sources of Contamination
Total Coliform Bacteria	For systems that collect <40 samples/month: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• More than 1 positive monthly sample</li> </ul> For systems that collect ≥ 40 samples/month: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• 5% of monthly samples are positive</li> </ul>	0	0	N	Naturally present in the environment.
Fecal Coliform Bacteria or <i>E. coli</i>	0	0	0	N	Human and animal fecal waste.

**Raw Source Water Microbial**

Contaminants	MCLG	Total # of Positive Samples	Dates	Violation Y/N	Sources of Contamination
<i>E. coli</i>	0	0	0	N	Human and animal fecal waste.

**OTHER VIOLATIONS:** *Saegertown Borough collected all required water samples in a timely manner. However, the contracted lab neglected to report our Groundwater test results for Regulated (VOC's) on 1/1/2012 and our PCBS (SOC) test results on 4/1/2012.*

**GROUNDWATER RULE:** *An automatic violation was generated for entry point 103. The chlorine required was below the minimum for more than 4 hours. A public notice was issued for the violation. (2/13-14/2012)*

**EDUCATIONAL INFORMATION:**

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 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.

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.

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 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* (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. Saegertown Borough 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>.

**OTHER INFORMATION:**

Last year, as in years past, your tap water met all EPA and state drinking water health standards. Saegertown Borough vigilantly safeguards its water supplies.

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***We at THE SAEGERTOWN BOROUGH 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.***