


Este informe contiene informacion importante acerca de su agua potable. Haga que alguien lo traduzca para usted, o hable con alguien que lo entienda.

Easton Suburban Water Authority (ESWA) is pleased to provide this Water Quality Report to meet Consumer Confidence Reporting requirements mandated by the Safe Drinking Water Act (SDWA). The purpose of this report is to provide all system customers with important information regarding the quality of their drinking water.

ESWA remains firmly committed to providing our customers with safe, high quality drinking water at all times. Any questions regarding our operation may be directed to 610-258-7181.

During the 2008 reporting year, ESWA conducted thousands of laboratory tests for drinking water contaminants. We are pleased to report that there were no contaminants detected above mandated regulatory limits. In addition to results of laboratory testing, this report also includes details regarding the source of our drinking water and how it compares to Environmental Protection Agency (EPA) and state standards. For more information about the drinking water, please call the Authority at 610-258-7181 or fax 610-258-7780.

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The Board of Directors of the Easton Suburban Water Authority meets on the 2nd Monday of each month at 3 p.m. at the Authority office located at 3700 Hartley Ave., Palmer Twp., Easton, PA.

Please feel free to attend and participate in these meetings.



**Easton Suburban
Water Authority**
3700 Hartley Ave.
Easton, PA 18045

www.eswater.net



Water Quality Report 2008 PWS ID# 3480050



WHERE DOES YOUR WATER COME FROM?

The water source for Easton Suburban Water Authority is the Delaware River. The water treatment plant is a 12MGD treatment facility originally built in 1932. Major improvements and plant upgrades were completed in 1981 and are continuing presently to meet new Surface Water Treatment Regulations.

Under Section 1453 of the U.S. Environmental Protection Agency's 1996 Safe Drinking Water Act, states must evaluate all drinking water sources that serve public systems and provide a mechanism for development of local protection programs. In accordance with the Pennsylvania Department of Environmental Protection's Source Water Assessment and Protection Program (SWAP), a source water assessment has been completed and Easton's water treatment plant has been evaluated. The potential sources of contamination for this section of this surface water include both point and non-point sources of pollution. The Delaware River Basin Commission, USGS and USEPA are resources for information on levels of flow, water quality, and planning issues for the Delaware River and its basin. SWAP programs of both Pennsylvania and New Jersey affect the surface water source for the Easton Water Treatment Plant. The complete assessment is available for public review at the regional DEP office. With proper credentials and purpose, anyone can request a file review of the report. Any questions regarding this program or assessment should be addressed to DEP Central Office 717-772-4014.

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 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 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 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.

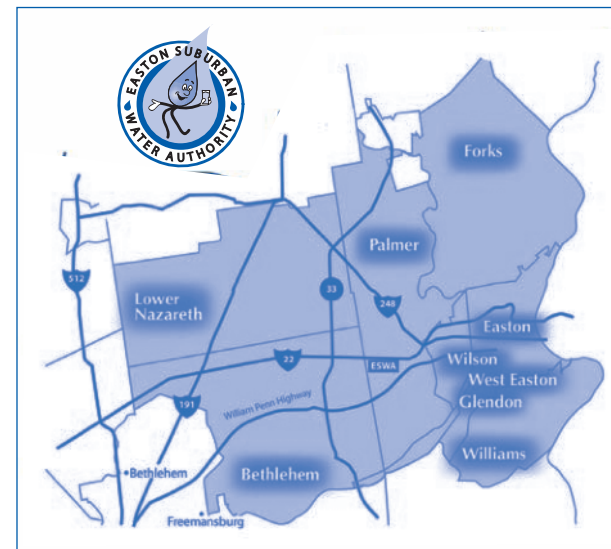
Drinking water, including bottled water, may reasonably be expected to contain at least small amounts of some contaminants. The presence of contaminants does not necessarily indicate that water poses a health risk. More information about contaminants and potential health effects can be obtained by calling the EPA's Safe Drinking Water Hotline at 800-426-4791.

SPECIAL WARNING:

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.

Special Consideration Regarding Children, Pregnant Women, Nursing Mothers and Others:

Children may be more susceptible than adults to contaminants that may be present in drinking water due to lower body weight. For this reason, reproductive or developmental effects are used for calculating a drinking water standard if these effects occur at lower levels than other health effects of concern. If there is insufficient toxicity information for a chemical (for example, lack of data on reproductive or developmental effects), an extra uncertainty factor may be incorporated into the calculation of the drinking water standard, thus making the standard more stringent to account for additional uncertainties regarding these effects. In cases of lead and nitrate concentrations, effects on infants and children are the health endpoints upon which the standards are based.



Easton Suburban Water Authority

is committed to providing quality water and value-added services to our customers at an affordable rate. We will ensure our efforts by implementing sound business practices, maintaining a well trained professional workforce, utilizing advanced technologies and meeting the needs and choices of our customers. If you have any questions or concerns about the quality of your water or the service we provide, please contact us at **610-258-7181**.

You can also visit us online at www.eswater.net.

UNREGULATED CONTAMINANTS

Monitoring for the List 1 and 2 Unregulated Contaminants was conducted as required by the EPA in 2006. No detections of any unregulated contaminant were made. Unregulated contaminants are those for which the EPA has not established drinking water standards. The purpose of unregulated contaminant monitoring is to assist the EPA in determining the occurrence of unregulated contaminants in drinking water and whether future regulation is warranted.

SYNTHETIC ORGANIC COMPOUNDS

Tests were performed during the 2003-2006 compliance period for Synthetic Organic Compounds. No synthetic Organic Compounds were detected in the treated water supply. The state allows us to monitor for some contaminants less than once per year because the concentrations of these contaminants do not change frequently.

Contaminants	MCLG or MRDLG	MCL, TT or MRDL	Your Water	Range Low	High	Sample Date	Violation	Typical Source
Disinfectants & Disinfection By-Products								
<i>There is convincing evidence that addition of a disinfectant is necessary for control of microbial contaminants. The Water Treatment Plant adds Chlorine for disinfection.</i>								
<i>*Samples were taken quarterly during 2007. The results represent the highest detected quarter. No samples exceeded the MCL.</i>								
Chlorine (ppm)	4	4	1.7	1.0	1.7	2008	No	Water additive used to control microbes.
*Haloacetic Acids (HAA5) (ppb)	NA	60	41.3	17.2	41.3	2008	No	By-product of drinking water chlorination
*Total Trihalomethanes (TTHMs) (ppb)	NA	80	75	29.7	75	2008	No	By-product of drinking water disinfection

Inorganic Contaminants

Fluoride (ppm)	4	2	1.7	0.5	1.7	2008	No	Erosion of natural deposits; water additive which promotes strong teeth; discharge from fertilizer and aluminum factories
Nitrate (measured as Nitrogen) (ppm)	10	10	<1.0	<i>The analytical result was well below the levels of concern for Nitrate.</i>		2008	No	Runoff from fertilizer use; leaching from septic tanks, sewage; erosion of natural deposits

Microbiological Contaminants

Easton Suburban Water Authority analyzes over 90 samples per month. Regulation calls for reporting of the highest monthly number of positive samples for total coliform. No samples can test positive for fecal coliform or E. Coli bacteria.

Fecal coliform/ E. coli (positive samples)	0	0	0	NA	NA	2008	No	Human and animal fecal waste.
Total Coliform (% positive samples/month)	0	5	1	NA	NA	2008	No	Naturally present in the environment.
Total Organic Carbon (TOC)	0	TT=removal ratio \geq 1.0	1.24	NA	NA	2008	No	Naturally present in the environment.

Contaminants	MCLG	AL	Your Water	Sample Date	# Samples Exceeding AL	Exceeds AL	Typical Source
Inorganic Contaminants							
Copper – action level at consumer taps (ppm)	1.3	1.3	0.21	2007 <i>Samples required every 3 years.</i>	<i>For copper, zero (0) out of 30 samples exceeded the AL; 0.47 ppm was the highest single value detected.</i>	No	Corrosion of household plumbing systems; erosion of natural deposits.
Lead – action level at consumer taps (ppb)	0	15	1.1	2007 <i>Samples required every 3 years.</i>	<i>For lead, one (1) out of 30 samples exceeded the AL; 119 ppb was the highest single value detected.</i>	No	Corrosion of household plumbing systems; erosion of natural deposits.

Parameter	Recommended Limits** or Range		Your Water	Violation	Typical Source
Additional Monitoring					
Alkalinity			46 ppm	No	** Secondary Drinking Water Standards refer to recommended limits on compounds that might pose a nuisance to the customer. These compounds affect aesthetic quality (appearance, taste and odor) but do not pose a health risk.
Aluminum		0.2 ppm	<0.1 ppm	No	
Calcium			15.7 ppm	No	
Chloride		250 ppm	18.7 ppm	No	
Color		15 Color Units	<5 Color Units	No	
Corrosivity		-1 Langelier Index to +1 Langelier Index	-1.57	No	
Foaming Agents (ABS/LAS)		500 ppb	<0.05 ppb	No	
Hardness		50 ppm to 250 ppm	54 ppm	No	
Iron		300 ppb	<0.05 ppb	No	
Manganese		50 ppb	<0.010 ppb	No	
Odor		3 Threshold Odor Number (TON)	2	No	
pH		6.0 to 8.5	7.15	No	
Sulfate		250 ppm	23.1 ppm	No	
Total Dissolved Solids		500 ppm	124 ppm	No	
Zinc		5 ppm	0.31 ppm	No	

Parameter	MCLG	MCL, TT or MRD	Maximum Detected	Range Detected Low	High	Typical Source
Turbidity						
<i>Turbidity is a measure of the cloudiness of the water. Turbidity is monitored because it is a good indicator of water quality. High turbidity can hinder the effectiveness of disinfectants. Samples are monitored continuously at the Water Treatment Plant.</i>						
Turbidity (NTU)	0	TT=1 TT \geq 95% of monthly samples <0.3 NTU	0.13 100%	0.04	0.13	Soil run off.
Radionuclides						
<i>Samples taken by the City of Easton in the 2005-2013 monitoring period.</i>						
Alpha Emitters	15 pCi/l	15 pCi/l	<2.45 pCi/l	NA	NA	Erosion of natural deposits.
Combined Radium	5 pCi/l	5 pCi/l	0.03 pCi/l	NA	NA	Erosion of natural deposits.

LEGEND

AL	Action Level	The concentration of a contaminant which, if exceeded, triggers treatment or other requirements that a water system must follow.
MCL	Maximum Contaminant Level	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.
MCLG	Maximum Contaminant Level Goal	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.
NTU	Nephelometric Turbidity Units	A measure of water clarity.
pCi/l	Picoruries per liter	A measure of radioactivity.
ppm	Parts per million or milligrams per liter (mg/L)	One part per million equals about: 1 minute in 2 years or one inch in 16 miles
ppb	Parts per billion or micrograms per liter (ug/L)	One part per billion equals about: 1 second in 32 years or 1 inch in 16,000 miles
TT	Treatment Technique	A required process intended to reduce the level of contaminant in drinking water.
MRDL	Maximum Residual Disinfectant Level	Highest level of disinfectant allowed in drinking water. There is convincing evidence that additional disinfectant is necessary for control of microbial contaminants.
MRDLG	Maximum Residual Disinfectant Level Goal	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 contamination.

CRYPTOSPORIDIUM TESTING

Cryptosporidium is a microbial organism found in rivers and streams throughout the United States. We performed monitoring for Cryptosporidium from July 2005 until July 2007 on our source water. Two samples per month were collected, and in this two year period, four samples out of the forty-eight collected indicated the presence of these organisms. Current test methods do not allow us to determine if the organisms are dead or if they are capable of causing disease. Our treatment processes include filtration that will remove Cryptosporidium, but this does not guarantee that 100% of the organisms will be removed.

Cryptosporidium must be ingested to cause disease, and it may be spread by means other than drinking water. Ingestion of Cryptosporidium may cause an abdominal infection with symptoms including nausea, diarrhea and abdominal cramps. Most healthy individuals can overcome the disease within a few weeks. However, immuno-compromised people are at greater risk of developing life-threatening illness. We encourage immuno-compromised individuals to consult their doctor regarding appropriate precautions to take to avoid infection.