



2009 Water Quality Report Horsham Water and Sewer Authority

*Este informe contiene información muy importante sobre su agua de beber.
Tradúzcalo o hable con alguien que lo entienda bien.*

About Your Drinking Water

Horsham Water and Sewer Authority (public water supply ID # PA1460033) is pleased to provide you with important information about your drinking water in this 2009 Consumer Confidence Report. The report summarizes the quality of water provided in 2009 - including details about water sources, what the water at your tap contains, and how it compares to standards set by regulatory agencies. We are pleased to report that we were in compliance with all water quality regulations in 2009. Although the report lists only those regulated substances that were detected in your water, we test for more than what is reported. This report is only a summary of our testing during 2009. If you have any questions about the information in this report, please call 610.645.4248.

The Horsham Township Water Authority was established in 1954. The merger of the Horsham Township Water Authority and the Horsham Sewer Authority was completed in 1998, forming the Horsham Water and Sewer Authority. Since that time, we have upgraded services and the water supply system. Aqua Pennsylvania, Inc. (Aqua) was contracted to manage water operations for the Authority during 2009. Consistent with the contract, Aqua performed the mandatory water quality testing required by the Pennsylvania Department of Environmental Protection (DEP).

Sources of Supply

Most of the water for the Horsham system comes from groundwater supplies (wells). A small portion is derived from surface water. Sources of supply include 15 wells strategically located throughout Horsham Township and interconnections with other utilities, including Aqua's Main system (PWSID # 1460073). If you would like a copy of the Consumer Confidence Report for Aqua's Main system, please call 610.645.4248. The Pennsylvania Department of Environmental Protection (DEP) has completed source water assessments for the groundwater sources for this system. Information on source water assessments is available on the DEP Web site at www.depweb.state.pa.us (DEP keyword "source water"). Completed reports are distributed to municipalities, water suppliers, local planning agencies, and DEP offices. Copies of the reports are available for review at the DEP Southeast Regional Office, Records Management Unit (phone 484.250.5900).

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 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 storm 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, stormwater runoff, and residential uses.
- Organic chemical contaminants, including synthetic and volatile organics, 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. Radon is not regulated in drinking water. It is a radioactive gas that you can't see, taste or smell. Most radon enters homes directly from underground. Radon can be released into the air from tap water. Generally, tap water is a small source of radon in indoor air. The average concentration for radon during 2008 was 850 pCi/L. The range was ND - 2,500 pCi/L.

In order to ensure that tap water is safe to drink, EPA prescribes regulations that limit the amount of certain contaminants in water provided by public water systems. FDA 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 (EPA) Safe Drinking Water Hotline (800.426.4791).

The following table lists contaminants that were detected in your water system. The table provides the average of the sources used to supply the area, as well as minimum and maximum observed levels of regulated contaminants.

Horsham Water and Sewer Authority, PWSID # PA1460033

Contaminants	Average Detection	Range of Detections	MCL	MCLG	Sample Date	Violation Y/N	Major Sources in Drinking Water
Total Coliform Bacteria, #	0	NA	1	0	2009	N	Naturally present in the environment
Values above are for the number of positive samples per month. In 2009, a total of 317 samples were collected; none was positive for Total Coliform Bacteria.							
Arsenic, ppb	1	ND - 6	10	0	2009	N	Erosion of natural deposits
Barium, ppm	0.21	0.05 - 0.36	2	2	2009	N	
Chromium, ppb	6	5 - 6	100	100	2009	N	
Nickel, ppb	3	2 - 3	NA	NA	2009	N	
Nitrate, ppm	1.5	ND - 3.4	10	10	2009	N	Fertilizers; leaching from septic tanks, sewage; natural sources
Alpha emitters, pCi/L	5.9	1.4 - 9.6	15	0	2008	N	Erosion of natural deposits
Combined radium, pCi/L	0.96	ND - 1.95	5	0	2008	N	
Uranium, ppb	6.2	4.5 - 8.3	30	0	2008	N	
Chlorine, ppm	0.7	0.6 - 0.8	MRDL = 4	MRDLG = 4	2009	N	Water additive used to control microbes
Haloacetic acids, ppb	8	ND - 43	60	NA	2009	N	Byproducts of drinking water chlorination
Total Trihalomethanes, ppb	7	1 - 47	80	NA	2009	N	
1,1-Dichloroethylene, ppb	ND	ND - 2.8	7	7	2009	N	Chemical factories
Cis-1,2-Dichloroethylene, ppb	ND	ND - 0.6	70	70	2009	N	Metal degreasing sites and other factories
Trichloroethylene, ppb	ND	ND - 0.9	5	0	2009	N	
Tetrachloroethylene, ppb	ND	ND - 3.3	5	0	2009	N	Factories and dry cleaners

Lead and Copper	90th Percentile	Total Number of Samples	Samples Exceeding Action Level	Action Level	MCLG	Sample Date	Violation Y/N	Major Sources in Drinking Water
Copper, ppm	0.81	30	0	1.3	1.3	2007	N	Corrosion of household plumbing
Lead, ppb	3	30	0	15	0	2007	N	

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. Horsham Water & Sewer Authority 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>.

Notes:

Action Level (AL): The concentration of a contaminant which, if exceeded, triggers treatment or other requirements.

Arsenic: While your drinking water meets EPA's standard for arsenic, it does contain low levels of arsenic. EPA's standard balances the current understanding of arsenic's possible health effects against the cost of removing arsenic from drinking water. EPA continues to research the health effects of low levels of arsenic, which is a mineral known to cause cancer in humans at high concentrations and is linked to other health effects such as skin damage and circulatory problems.

Fluoride: Fluoride may help prevent tooth decay if administered properly to children, but can be harmful in excess. Customers served by the Horsham Water and Sewer Authority receive water from unfluoridated supplies. For more information about fluoride in your tap water, call Aqua at 610.645.4248. This information may be helpful to you, your pediatrician or your dentist in determining whether fluoride supplements or treatment are appropriate.

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. Some levels are based on a running annual average.