

# 2019 ANNUAL DRINKING WATER QUALITY REPORT

For the

## Hampton/Opequon Water System Benner Township Water Authority

Public Water System ID #: 4140131

*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 The Spring Benner Walker Joint Authority at 814-355-4778. We want you to be informed about your water supply. If you want to learn more, please attend any of our regularly scheduled meetings of the Benner Township Water Authority. They are held on the third Tuesday of each month at 6:30PM in the Benner Township Municipal Building.

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

Your source of water is derived from two wells. One is located in the Hampton Hills Development and the second is located in the Opequon Hills Development. Both wells are drilled to the depth of 300 feet with a pumping capacity of 27 gallons per minute and 60 gallons per minute respectively. These wells are constructed in accordance with PA Department of Environmental Protection guidelines.

A *Source Water Assessment* of our source(s) was completed by the PA Department of Environmental Protection (Pa. DEP). Overall, our source has little risk of significant contamination. A summary report of the Assessment is available on the *Source Water Assessment & Protection Web* page at (<http://www.dep.state.pa.us/dep/deputate/watermgt/wc/Subjects/SrceProt/SourceAssessment/default.htm>). Complete reports were distributed to municipalities, water supplier, local planning agencies and PADEP offices. Copies of the complete report are available for review at the Pa. DEP North Central Regional Office, Records Management Unit at (570) 327-3636.

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, 2019. 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)

*ppm* = parts per million, or milligrams per liter (mg/L)

*pCi/L* = picocuries per liter (a measure of radioactivity)

*ppb* = parts per billion, or micrograms per liter (µg/L)

**DETECTED SAMPLE RESULTS:**

<b>Chemical Contaminants</b>								
<b>Contaminant</b>	<b>MCL in CCR Units</b>	<b>MCLG</b>	<b>Level Detected</b>	<b>Range of Detections</b>	<b>Units</b>	<b>Sample Date</b>	<b>Violation Y/N</b>	<b>Sources of Contamination</b>
Nitrate	10	10	2.71	-	ppm	07/03/19	No	Runoff from fertilizer use, leaching from septic tanks
Selenium	.05	.05	0.00406	-	ppm	05/03/18	No	Discharge from petroleum and metal refineries; Erosion of natural deposits; Discharge from mines
TTHM	80	NA	4.63	-	ppb	07/15/19	No	By products of drinking water chlorination.
Barium	2.0	2.0	0.145	-	ppm	05/03/18	No	Discharge of drilling wastes; Discharge from metal refineries; Erosion of natural deposits

**Nitrate:** Nitrate in drinking water at levels above 10 ppm is 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, you should ask for advice from your health care provider.

<b>Entry Point Disinfectant Residual</b>							
Contaminant	Minimum Disinfectant Residual	Lowest Level Detected	Range of Detections	Units	Sample Date	Violation Y/N	Sources of Contamination
Chlorine	0.50	0.81	0.81- 1.69	ppm	2019	N	Water additive used to control microbes.
<b>Disinfectant Residual (Distribution)</b>							
Contaminant	Maximum residual disinfectant level	MRDLG	Range Of Detection	Units	Sample Date	Violation Y/N	Sources of Contamination
Chlorine	4.0	4.0	0.90 - 1.51	ppm	2019	N	Water additive used to control microbes.

<b>Microbial</b>					
Contaminant	MCL	MCLG	Highest # or % of Positive Samples	Violation Y/N	Sources of Contamination
Total Coliform Bacteria	More than 1 positive monthly sample	0	0	No	Naturally present in the environment.
Fecal Coliform Bacteria or <i>E. coli</i>	0	0	0	No	Human and animal fecal waste.

<b>Lead and Copper</b>								
Contaminant	Action Level (AL)	MCLG	90 <sup>th</sup> Percentile Value	Units	# of Sites Above AL of Total Sites	Sample Date	Violation Y/N	Sources of Contamination
Lead	15	0	0.0	ppb	0 of 5	08/01/19	No	Corrosion of household plumbing
Copper	1.3	1.3	0.772	ppm	0 of 5	08/01/19	No	Corrosion of household plumbing

The results listed in the above table show that the Hampton/Opequon Water System has met all standards monitored in your drinking water.

### ***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. The Benner Township Water 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>.

### ***OTHER INFORMATION:***

The Benner Township Water Authority works very hard to provide the highest quality water to your home at the lowest possible cost to you. We ask that all customers help to protect your water supply by using household and yard chemicals properly, not disposing of these chemicals or other wastes or oils into the storm water drain system. Also refrain from the over use of lawn treatments or fertilizers that will percolate into the ground water aquifer. In May 2019 our Authority was acknowledged for successfully submitting and completing a Source Water Protection (SWP) Plan that was approved by the PA Department of Environmental Protection. This plan helps to identify sources of contamination in addition to determining the areas of contribution for our ground water sources. The SWP Plan can be viewed on our Authority's website at [www.bennerwater.com](http://www.bennerwater.com).