

# *Mahanoy Township Authority*

## *2015 Drinking Water Quality Report*

PWSID # 3540011

Este informe contiene informacion muy importante sobre su agua beber. Traduzcalo o hable con alguien que lo entienda bien.

This report contains information about your drinking water. Translate it or speak with someone who understands it.

### **General Information**

We're pleased to present to you this year's Annual Drinking Water Quality Report. This report is designed to inform you about the quality of water and services we deliver to you every day. Our constant goal is to provide you with a dependable supply of drinking water. We want you to understand the efforts we make to continually improve the water treatment process and protect our water resources. We are committed to ensuring the quality of your water. Our water sources are the three Mahanoy and the two Wastehouse Reservoirs located 1½ miles north of Mahanoy City and the Lofty Reservoir located 7 miles east of Brandonville.

We want to keep you informed about the excellent water and services we have delivered to you over the past year. We're pleased to report that our drinking water meets and/or exceeds federal and state requirements.

### **Substances Expected in Drinking Water**

The Mahanoy Township Authority routinely monitors for constituents in your drinking water according to Federal and State laws. This table shows the results of our monitoring for the period of January 1<sup>st</sup> to December 31<sup>st</sup>, 2015. All drinking water, including bottled drinking water, may be reasonably expected to contain at least small amounts of some constituents. It's important to remember that the presence of these constituents does not necessarily pose a health risk.

In this table you will find many terms and abbreviations you might not be familiar with. To help you better understand these terms we've provided the following definitions:

*Non-Detects (ND)* - laboratory analysis indicates that the contaminant is not present at a detectable level.

*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.

*Parts per trillion (ppt) or Nanograms per liter (nanograms/l)* - one part per trillion corresponds to one minute in 2,000,000 years, or a single penny in \$10,000,000,000.

*Nephelometric Turbidity Unit (NTU)* - nephelometric turbidity unit is a measure of the clarity of water. Turbidity in excess of 5 NTU is just noticeable to the average person.

*Action Level – (AL)* the concentration of a contaminant which, if exceeded, triggers treatment or other requirements which a water system must follow.

*Treatment Technique (TT)* - A treatment technique is a required process intended to reduce the level of a contaminant in drinking water.

*Maximum Contaminant Level* - The "Maximum Allowed" (MCL) is 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* - The "Goal" (MCLG) is 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 disinfectant allowed in drinking water. There is convincing evidence that addition of a disinfectant is necessary to control 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 contamination.

<b>TEST RESULTS</b>						
<b>Microbiological Contaminants</b>						
Contaminant (Unit of measurement)	Violation Y/N	Level Detected	Range	MCLG	MCL	Likely Source of Contamination
Total Coliform Bacteria	N		a	0	presence of coliform bacteria in 5% of monthly samples	Naturally present in the environment
Turbidity (ntu)	N		b	N/A	TT	Soil runoff
<b>Inorganic Contaminants</b>						
Contaminant (Unit of measurement)	Violation Y/N	Level Detected	Range	MCLG	MCL	Likely Source of Contamination
Copper (ppm)	N	.025	c	1.3	AL=1.3	Corrosion of household plumbing systems; erosion of natural deposits; leaching from wood preservatives
Lead (ppb)	N	Less than 1	c	0	AL=15	Corrosion of household plumbing systems, erosion of natural deposits
<b>Disinfectants</b>						
Disinfectant (Unit of measurement)	Violation Y/N	Level Detected	Range	MRDL	MRDLG	Likely Source of Contamination
Chlorine (ppm)	N	1.1	1.1 1.5	4	4	Entry Point: Water additive used to control microbes.
Chlorine (ppm)	N	1.1	0.7 1.4	4	4	Distribution Residual; Water additive used to control microbes.

Footnotes: (a) two total coliform samples are analyzed weekly.(b) 100% of turbidity samples met the turbidity limits.  
(c) None of the 20 samples we collected exceeded the action levels.

### Contacts and Meetings

If you have any questions about this report or concerning your water utility, please contact our General Manager at (570) 773-0650. We want our valued customers to be informed about their water utility. If you want to learn more, please attend any of our regularly scheduled meetings. They are held on the third Wednesday of each month at 6:00 PM at the Mahanoy Township Authority Office.

### Educational Information

All sources of drinking water are subject to potential contamination by constants that are naturally occurring or man made. 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 contaminants. The presence of contaminants does not necessarily indicate that the water poses a health risk. More information about contaminants and potential health effects can be obtained by calling the Environmental Protection Agency Safe Drinking Water Hotline at 1-800-426-4791. MCL's are set at very stringent levels for health effects. 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.

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 microbiological contaminants are available from the Safe Drinking Water Hotline (800-426-4791). Please call our office if you have questions.

### Capital Improvements to Our Water Distribution System

The Mahanoy Township Authority (MTA) has completed a major improvement project to upgrade the water distribution system throughout the service area. The majority of the distribution system was originally installed in the early 1900's. This waterline upgrade project, completed in the spring of 2008, included replacement of approximately 4 miles of 6-inch, 8-inch and 10-inch diameter ductile iron pipe. These improvements improved water quality, system pressures, and fire protection, as well as, eliminated dead ends, eliminated lines prone to freezing, and replaced shared services.

We have received a \$1.66 million CFA Grant and an \$833,000 PENNVEST Loan for the Lofty Reservoir Reconstruction Project. The Lofty Reservoir is going under construction April 2016 and the completion date is June 2017. We received a \$450,000 PENNVEST Loan for Meter Upgrade Project

which started April 2016 and completion date for project is June 2017.

In our continuing efforts to maintain a safe and dependable water supply it may be necessary to make improvements in your water system. The costs of these improvements may be reflected in the rate structure. Rate adjustments may be necessary in order to address these improvements. Thank you for allowing us to continue providing your family with clean, quality water this year.

Water bills can be paid by credit card for a nominal convenience fee or online by visiting our website at [www.mahanoywater.com](http://www.mahanoywater.com).

#### **Noteworthy Events**

The year began with a very cold winter and dry spell, followed by a wetter than normal June, and a normally dry summer.

#### **Management's Message to Customers**

We at the Mahanoy Township Authority 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.