

## 2021 ANNUAL DRINKING WATER QUALITY REPORT

PWSID #: 1090058

NAME: Riegelsville Water Company

*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 John Scully at (267) 372-8227. 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 third (3<sup>rd</sup>) Wednesday of every month immediately following the 7 pm Community Affairs meeting.

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

Source ID 009 - Well 1, Source ID 010 - Well 2, Source ID 011 - Well 3. A *Source Water Assessment* of our source(s) was completed by the PA Department of Environmental Protection (Pa. DEP). The Assessment has found that our source(s) of are potentially most susceptible to agricultural activities, Tier II sites, low density development, high density development, and major road activities. Overall, our sources have little risk of significant contamination. A summary report of the Assessment is available on the *Source Water Assessment Summary Reports eLibrary web page*: [www.elibrary.dep.state.pa.us/dsweb/View/Collection-10045](http://www.elibrary.dep.state.pa.us/dsweb/View/Collection-10045). 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 Southeast Regional Office, Records Management Unit at (484) 250-5900.

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, 2021. 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.

**Level 1 Assessment** – A Level 1 assessment is a study of the water system to identify potential problems and determine (if possible) why total coliform bacteria have been found in our water system.

**Level 2 Assessment** – A Level 2 assessment is a very detailed study of the water system to identify potential problems and determine (if possible) why an *E. coli* MCL violation has occurred and/or why total coliform bacteria have been found in our water system on multiple occasions.

**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)

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

**ppb** = parts per billion, or micrograms per liter ( $\mu\text{g}/\text{L}$ )

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

### **DETECTED SAMPLE RESULTS:**

<b>Entry Point Disinfectant Residual</b>							
<b>Contaminant</b>	<b>Minimum Disinfectant Residual</b>	<b>Lowest 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>
Chlorine-Entry Point 101	0.4	.76	0.76 – 2.01	ppm	2021	N	Water additive used to control microbes.
Chlorine – Entry Point 102	0.5	.61	0.61 – 1.97	Ppm	2021	N	Water additive used to control microbes.

<b>Lead and Copper</b>							
<b>Contaminant</b>	<b>Action Level (AL)</b>	<b>MCLG</b>	<b>90<sup>th</sup> Percentile Value</b>	<b>Units</b>	<b># of Sites Above AL of Total Sites</b>	<b>Violation Y/N</b>	<b>Sources of Contamination</b>
Lead	15	0	13.00	ppb	1 out of 10	N	Corrosion of household plumbing.
Copper	1.3	1.3	0.248	ppm	0 out of 10	N	Corrosion of household plumbing.

<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>
Chlorine	MRDL= 4	MRDLG =4	0.96	0.70 – 0.96	ppm	2021	N	Water additive used to control microbes.
Nitrate	10	10	4.58	1.13 – 4.58	ppm	2021	N	Runoff from fertilizer use; Leaching from septic tanks, sewage; Erosion of natural deposits
TTHM	80	N/A	6.22	6.22 – 6.22	ppb	2021	N	By-product of drinking water chlorination
Combined Radium 226-228	5	0	.405	.405 - .55	pCi/l	2021	N	Erosion of natural deposits

## **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. Riegelsville Water Company 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:**

**What is added to the water supply?** As a public water supplier, we add very small amounts of a chemicals called chlorine and sodium hypochlorite to our water. The Pennsylvania Department of Environmental protection (PADEP) requires that the water be disinfected prior to delivery. Chlorine and sodium hypochlorite kills any germs or bacteria that might be present in the water mains as the water is delivered to our customers. The water as it comes from the ground is generally free of harmful bacteria.

**Lead information:** Although there was a sample that exceeded the action level, it was not a violation because the 90<sup>th</sup> percentile value was still below the action level.

Riegelsville Water Company **DOES NOT** add Fluoride to its water supply.

**If you would like this report in electronic format in the future please email:  
riegelsville@gmail.com with “Add me to the CCR list” in the subject line.**

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## SAVE WATER

**50-75 gallons:** Amount of water an average person uses in a day. Here's how to use less.



### STOP LEAKS

- **192 gallons a month:** wasted by a dripping faucet
- **30-500 gallons a day:** loss from leaking toilet
- **970 gallons a day:** potential loss from leaking pool plumbing



### UPGRADE

- **12 gallons per load:** used by old dishwasher
- **6 gallons per load:** new dishwasher
- **3.6 gallons per flush:** old toilet
- **1.6 gallons per flush:** new toilet
- **41 gallons per load:** top-loading clothes washer
- **23 gallons per load:** front-loading clothes washer



### CHANGE HABITS

- **3 gallons per day:** saved if you turn off the tap while brushing your teeth
- **5 gallons:** saved by cutting a shower short by two minutes
- **17 gallons:** saved if shower is off except for getting wet and rinsing
- **150 gallons:** saved each time someone sweeps instead of hoses sidewalks and driveways
- **40-80 gallons:** used by washing car at home if the hose runs the whole time
- **12 gallons:** used for a self-service car wash
- **45 gallons:** commercial car wash



### PAY ATTENTION

- 40 gallons a day:** saved if landscaping irrigation is adjusted for weather
- 25 gallons a day:** saved if watering is done before 8 a.m.
- 16 gallons a day:** benefit of fixing broken sprinklers, adjusting spray to avoid waste, repairing leaks
- 33 percent:** average water savings if lawn is replaced with drought-adapted plants

Note: Savings are approximate, based on average consumers and households

SOURCES: CALIFORNIA URBAN WATER CONSERVATION COUNCIL; METROPOLITAN WATER DISTRICT OF SOUTHERN CALIFORNIA; ARIZONA DEPT. OF WATER RESOURCES; INTERNATIONAL CARWASH ASSN.

BECKY HAGEMAN/THE PRESS-ENTERPRISE