

# GREENVILLE WATER AUTHORITY

## 2015 ANNUAL DRINKING WATER QUALITY REPORT

PWSID #: 6430037

Website: <http://www.gmwa.info>

*Este informe contiene información muy importante sobre su agua de beber. Tradúzcalo ó hable con alguien que lo entienda bien.* (This report contains very important information about your drinking water. Translate it, 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 Greenville Water Authority, Carol Paul, Manager, at 724 588-4340.

We want you to be informed about your water supply. If you want to learn more, please attend any of our regularly scheduled meetings on the second Wednesday of every month at 44 Clinton Street, Greenville PA 16125 at 5:30 PM.

### ***OUR SOURCE OF WATER IS THE SHENANGO RIVER:***

The water flows naturally from our water source to a raw chamber in the plant through four intake screens.

A Source Water Assessment of our source was completed by the PA Department of Environmental Protection (PADEP) in 2003. The Assessment has found that our source is potentially most susceptible to road de-icing materials, accidental spills along roads and leaks in underground storage tanks. Overall, our source has little risk of significant contamination. Summary reports of the Assessment are available by writing to Greenville Water Authority, 44 Clinton Street, Greenville, PA 16125 and will be available on the PADEP website at [www.depweb.state.pa.us](http://www.depweb.state.pa.us) (Keyword: "source water"). Complete reports were distributed to municipalities, water suppliers, local planning agencies and PADEP offices. Copies of the complete report are available for review at the PADEP Meadville Regional Office, Records Management Unit at (814) 332-6899.

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 at (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, 2015. 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 AND ABBREVIATIONS:***

**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.

**Minimum Residual Disinfectant Level** - The minimum level of residual disinfectant required at the entry point to the distribution system.

**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.

**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)

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

**ppb** = parts per billion

**mg/L** = milligrams per liter

**ug/L** = micrograms per liter.

$\leq$  = less than

$\geq$  = greater than

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

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

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

**NTU** = nephelometric turbidity units (measure of water's cloudiness)

**N/A** = not applicable.

**ND** = not detected

## DETECTED SAMPLE RESULTS:

<b>Chemical Contaminants</b>								
Contaminant	MCL in CCR units	MCLG	Level Detected	Range of Detections	Units	Sample Date	Violation Y/N	Sources of Contamination
Chlorine (distribution)	4	MRDLG 4	2.4	0.8-2.4	ppm	3/2015	N	Water additive to control microbes.
Fluoride	2*	4	0.94	0.94	ppm	7/15/15	N	Water additive which promotes strong teeth.
HAA5	60	N/A	31.5 (a)	14.4-31.5	ppb	Quarterly	N	By-product of disinfection.
TTHM	80	N/A	51.3 (a)	46.7-51.3	ppb	Quarterly	N	By-product of chlorination.
Nitrate	10	10	0.60	0.60	ppm	7/15/15	N	Runoff from fertilizer use.
Combined Radium	5	0	2.01	pCi/L	11/02/11	11/2011	N	Erosion of natural deposits.

\*EPA's MCL for fluoride is 4 ppm. However, Pennsylvania has set a lower MCL to better protect human health.

(a) Yearly Running Average

<b>Entry Point Disinfectant Residual</b>							
Contaminant	MinRDL	Lowest Level Detected	Range of Detections	Units	Sample Date	Violation Y/N	Sources of Contamination
Chlorine	0.2	0.72	0.72-3.3	ppm	8/31/15	N	Water additive used to control microbes.

<b>Total Organic Carbon (TOC)</b>					
Contaminant	Range of % Removal Required	Range of % Removal Achieved	Number of Quarters Out of Compliance	Violation Y/N	Sources of Contamination
TOC	25.0 - 45.0	0 - 63.3	0	N	Naturally present in the environment

<b>Lead and Copper – 20 sites were tested</b>							
Contaminant	Action Level (AL)	MCLG	90 <sup>th</sup> Percentile Value	Units	# of Sites Above AL of Total Sites	Violation Y/N	Sources of Contamination
Lead	15	0	0 9/2013	ppb	2	N	Corrosion of household plumbing.
Copper	1.3	1.3	0.24 9/2013	ppm	0	N	Corrosion of household Plumbing.

<b>Microbial</b>					
<b>Contaminants</b>	<b>MCL</b>	<b>MCLG</b>	<b>Highest # or % of Positive Samples</b>	<b>Violation Y/N</b>	<b>Sources of Contamination</b>
Total Coliform Bacteria	10 Samples Per Month	0	0	N	Naturally present in the environment.
Fecal Coliform Bacteria or <i>E. coli</i>	10 Samples Per Month	0	0	N	Human and animal fecal waste.

<b>Turbidity</b>						
<b>Contaminant</b>	<b>MCL</b>	<b>MCLG</b>	<b>Level Detected</b>	<b>Sample Date</b>	<b>Violation Y/N</b>	<b>Source of Contamination</b>
Turbidity	TT=1 NTU for a single measurement	N/A	0.16 NTU	12/2015	N	Soil runoff
	TT= at least 95% of monthly samples $\leq$ 0.3 NTU		98.98 %	12/2015	N	

### ***OTHER VIOLATIONS:***

The Greenville Water Authority had a violation for failure to monitor for nitrite in 2015. A sample was collected and submitted to the certified laboratory, however, due to laboratory quality control issues, the sample was not reported to DEP. The Authority did not realize this error until it was too late to collect another sample. There have been no detections for nitrite since at least 2010.

### ***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 Greenville 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> or on the Authority website at [www.gmwa.info](http://www.gmwa.info). Greenville Water Authority will mail information about reducing lead exposure directly to our customers. Simply call the office at 724 588-4340 and request the information.

## ***OTHER INFORMATION:***

### **What is Not in Your Water?**

In addition to the substances shown in this report, the Greenville Water Authority tests your water for many other substances which were NOT detected in your water. These tests are routinely conducted according to regulations and procedures outlined in state and federal regulations for safe drinking water.

### **Certified Operators!**

The Greenville Water Authority employs nine operators certified through the Pennsylvania Department of Environmental Protection for both treatment and distribution. Per PA DEP regulations, continuous education is required to maintain certification.

## ***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 storm water 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 storm water 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 storm water 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).

## ***EMERGENCY NOTIFICATION:***

Due to changing regulations from the US Environmental Protection Agency and the Pennsylvania Department of Environmental Protection Agency you are encouraged to go to the Authority's website at <http://www.gmwa.info> and enter your contact information by clicking on the SWIFT911 box towards the bottom of the home page for required notifications.