

# **HOUTZDALE MUNICIPAL AUTHORITY**

## **2018 DRINKING WATER QUALITY REPORT**

### **Board of Directors**

**Bernie Kephart – Chairman, Kevin Phillips -Vice Chairman, Jim Love - Secretay-Treasurer**  
Chris Kitko, Bill Hayward, Tim Stine , Tim Huber

### **Employees**

**Manager - John Gallagher**

Kevin Phillips, Paul Leskovansky, Marie McHugh, Gordon Beers, Nathan Jones, Bob Baker, Sherry Gratton-Lloyd

**This report contains important information about your drinking water**

**Este informe contiene informacion muy impotante sobre su agua berber traduzcalo o hable con alguien que to entienda bien**

**The Houtzdale Municipal Authority is pleased to present your Water Quality Report for 2018. This report is designed to inform you about the quality of the water delivered to you in 2018.**

**Our goal is to provide you with a safe and dependable supply of drinking water which meets and exceeds all Pennsylvania Department of Environmental Protection and United States Environmental Protection Agency quality requirements. To achieve this goal we continuously monitor water quality and we diligently safeguard our water supplies. Once again, we are proud to report your tap water met all federal and state drinking water standards.**

Our drinking water sources include the surface waters of the Moshannon Creek and the Mountain Branch. These stream sources are blended with any of four groundwater wells drawing from the Elliot Park-Burgoon sandstone aquifer. Together these supply up to 2.1 million gallons of water each day to the drinking water filtration facility. A full assessment of our source waters is available for review at the water treatment facility laboratory on Kirk Street.

The Houtzdale Municipal Authority routinely monitors for contaminants in your drinking water according to state and federal laws. The table on the next page of this document lists the results of our monitoring for the period of January 1st 2018 through December, 31st 2018. All drinking water, including bottled water, is reasonably expected to contain at least small amounts of some contaminants. It is important to know that the presence of contaminants does not necessarily pose a health risk. More information about contaminants and their potential health effects may be obtained by calling the EPA's Safe Drinking Water Hotline at (1-800-426-4791). Some people may be more vulnerable to contaminants in drinking water than the general public. 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 for infections. These people should seek advice from their health care providers.

## **BOARD MEETINGS**

If you would like to learn more about the Municipal Authority, please plan to attend any of our regularly scheduled board meetings. They are held at our Kirk Street office on the third Tuesday of each month at 4:00 P.M. unless otherwise advertised in the Clearfield Progress.

# 2018 DRINKING WATER LABORATORY RESULTS PWS ID# 6170023

Contaminant unit of measurement (sample date)	Violation Y/N	Level Detected	HMA Range	MCLG	MCL	Likely source	Potential health effects
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## MICROBIOLOGICAL CONTAMINANTS

Disinfectant Residual (ppm) (continuously monitored)	N	0.62 - 2.0	0.62 - 1.96	>0.20 <4.0	4.0	Chlorine is continuously fed as a primary disinfectant	Some people who drink water containing chlorine well in excess of the MCL could experience irritating effects to their eyes and nose and can experience stomach discomfort.
Distribution System Bacteria	N	Not Detected	0	0	0	Naturally occurring or from contamination by sewerage or livestock operations runoff	Coliform bacteria are used as an indicator of the presence of the potentially harmful fecal coliform E. Coli. The presence of E. Coli may indicate potential contamination that can cause diarrhea, nausea, cramps, or other symptoms.

## TURBIDITY

Turbidity Data (NTU) (continuously monitored)	N	0.166 (a)	100% (b) 0.011 - 0.162	0	0.3 (b)	Soil runoff of suspended and colloidal particles	Turbidity has no known detrimental health effects.
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## RADIO ACTIVE CONTAMINANTS

Radium 226 + 228 (pCi/L) (8/20/14)	N	0.94	0.16 - 0.78	0	5	Erosion of natural deposits	Some people who drink water with radioactive contaminants in excess of the MCL may over time develop an increased cancer risk.
Gross Alpha (pCi/L) (8/20/14)	N	0.78	0.78	0	15	Erosion of natural deposits	

## INORGANIC CONTAMINANTS

Copper (ppm) (06/14/16)	N	0.111 (d,e)	0.000 - 0.150	0	AL=1.3	Corrosion of household plumbing systems; erosion of natural deposits	Copper is an essential nutrient, but some people who are exposed to copper in excess of the action level could experience gastrointestinal distress. Prolonged exposure above the action level could lead to liver or kidney damage. Persons with Wilson's disease should consult their doctor.
Lead (ppb) (06/14/16)	N	0.0 (d,e)	0 - 5.4	0	AL=15	Corrosion of household plumbing systems; erosion of natural deposits	Infants and children exposed to lead above the action level could experience developmental delays. With prolonged exposure above the action level, adults could experience kidney problems or high blood pressure.

## DISINFECTION BYPRODUCTS

TTHM (total Trihalomethanes) (ppb) (07/13/2018)	N	23.0 (Group sum R.A.A)	<1.0 - 19.0 (Individual)	N/A	80.0	By-product of drinking water chlorination	Some people who drink water containing TTHMs and HAA5s in excess of the MCL may over time develop problems with their kidneys, liver or central nervous system and may have an increased risk of getting cancer.
HAA5 (Haloacetic acids) (ppb) (07/13/2018)	N	48 (Group sum R.A.A)	<1.0 - 17.0 (Individual)	N/A	60.0	By-product of drinking water chlorination	

## FOOTNOTES:

- (a) Highest value detected in 2018 (95% of monthly samples must be less than 0.3 NTU)      (b) The lowest monthly percentage of samples meeting the turbidity limits specified by the DEP regulations.
- (d) These are 90th percentile results. No sample exceeded the action level for lead or copper concentrations of these contaminants do not change frequently.      (e) The state allows us to monitor for some contaminants less often because the

The Houtzdale Municipal Authority had no drinking water quality violations in 2018.

## TERMS USED IN THIS REPORT

- (AL) Action Level** -The concentration of a contaminant which, if exceeded, triggers treatment or other requirements which a water system must follow.
- Disinfectant**- The chemical or process that is used to kill or inactivate pathogens that may be present in the water.
- (MRDL) Maximum Disinfectant Residual Level**- The maximum level of disinfectant allowed in drinking water. There is convincing evidence that addition of a disinfectant is necessary for control of microbial contaminants.
- (MRDLG) Maximum Disinfectant Residual Level Goal**- 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.
- (pCi/L) Pico curies per liter** -A measure of radioactivity in the water.
- HMA Range**-Full range of values detected including the minimum and maximum values
- Turbidity**-A measure of the clarity of water
- (MCL) Maximum Contaminant Level** -The maximum level of a contaminant allowed in drinking water. MCLs are set as close to MCLGs as feasible using the best available treatment technology.
- (MCLG) Maximum Contaminant Level Goal** -The level of contamination in drinking water below which there is no known or expected risk to health. MCLGs allow for a margin of safety.
- (NTU) Nephelometric Turbidity Unit** -A measure of the clarity of the water. Turbidity in excess of 5 NTU is just noticeable to the average person.
- (ppb) or (ug/l) Parts per billion or Micrograms per liter**- One part per billion and one microgram per liter corresponds to one minute in two thousand years, or a single penny in \$10,000,000.00
- (ppm) or (mg/l) Parts per million or Milligrams per liter** - One part per million and one milligram per liter corresponds to one minute in two years, or a single penny in \$10,000.00
- (RAA) Running Annual Average** - Mathematical average of analytical data in which four quarterly results are continuously averaged.

## HEALTH INFORMATION

In order to ensure that tap water is drinkable, the EPA has set limits through regulations for certain contaminants in drinking water provided by public water systems. The Maximum Contaminant Levels (MCLs) are set at very low levels because of the potential adverse health effects to the general public.

### **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 Houtzdale Municipal Authority is responsible for providing safe, high quality drinking water to your tap, but we cannot control the variety of materials used in home plumbing components. When your water has been sitting for several hours, you can minimize the potential for lead exposure by flushing your tap for up to two minutes before using your tap 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 <https://www.epa.gov/ground-water-and-drinking-water/basic-information-about-lead-drinking-water>

### **ADDITIONAL INFORMATION**

**In addition to the contaminants listed in this report, many others are tested for but are not present at detectable levels. If you would like further information about the testing or sampling of your drinking water, please contact the filtration facility operator during regular business hours: Monday through Friday 7:00A.M. to 3:30P.M. at 814-378-8131.**

**AFTER HOURS EMERGENCY CONTACT: 1-800-843-5028**

**More information is available from the Safe Drinking Water Hotline (800-426-4791) and at <http://www.drinkingwater.state.pa.us/ccr/Index.html>**

## **SPECIAL NOTES FOR 2019**

### **HELP US IDENTIFY LEAKS:**

The authority employees work diligently to find and repair leaks in the system. Please, if you think your plumbing is leaking, investigate it and fix it. Fixing a leaky faucet or leaking toilet can pay for itself in less than one billing cycle! If you see evidence of or suspect leaking water anywhere in the system please call the HMA office (378-8131) and report it. Our high quality drinking water sources are finite, please help us preserve and conserve them.

### **BE SAFE:**

The authority received a \$22,222,400 loan to replace 185,000 linear feet of waterline, replace 1,200 service lines and meter pits to address water loss and to ensure reliability of the system. Those improvements will begin this summer. As we upgrade our drinking water system please be aware, Authority employees and contractors will be working near roadways in many parts of the system. Please slow down and remain alert while driving through work zones. It could save a life.