

**ESTE INFORME CONTIENE INFORMACION MUY IMPORTANTE SOBRE SU AGUA DE BEBER.
TRADUZCALO O HABLE CON ALGUIEN QUE LO ENTIENDA BIEN.**

**(This report contains very important information about your drinking water.
Translate it or speak to someone who understands it.)**

**The North Fayette County
Municipal Authority
PWSID: 5260019**

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 the water and services we deliver to you every day. Our constant goal is to provide you with a dependable supply of high-quality drinking water. We want you to understand the efforts we make to continually improve the water treatment process and protect our water resources.

Source of Water

Our water source is surface water from the *Youghiogheny River*. The water is treated at our Filtration Plant located just south of Connellsville along the river. To identify potential sources of contamination to our water supply, we actively participated with the Pennsylvania Department of Environmental Protection (PADEP) to complete a *Source Water Assessment and Protection Program*. The Assessment has found that our source is potentially most susceptible to contamination from agricultural runoff, industrial and railroad activities, and mine acid runoff. Overall, our source has an elevated risk of significant contamination. This report has been distributed to municipalities, water suppliers, local planning agencies and PADEP offices. Copies of the complete report are available for review at the PADEP Southwest Regional Office, Records Management Unit at 412-442-4000. A summary report of the Assessment is available on the *Source Water Protection web page* at:

<http://www.dep.state.pa.us/dep/deputate/watermgt/wc/Subjects/SrceProt/SourceAssessment/default.htm>.

Monitoring Your Water:

North Fayette County Municipal Authority (NFCMA) routinely monitors contaminants in your drinking water according to Federal and State Laws. To ensure that tap water is safe to drink, the Environmental Protection Agency (EPA) and the PADEP prescribe regulations that limit the number of certain contaminants in water provided by public water systems. Food and Drug Administration (FDA) and PADEP regulations establish limits for contaminants in bottled water which must provide the same protection for public health. The table in this report shows the results of our monitoring for the period of January 1st to December 31st, 2024. The State allows us to monitor some contaminants less than once per year because the concentration of these contaminants do not change frequently. Some of the data may be from prior years in accordance with the Safe Drinking Water Act. The date in the sample results table will be noted if it is from a prior year.

Per- and polyfluoroalkyl substances (PFAS) are toxic chemicals that have been in the news for the last several years due to their harmful health impacts and widespread contamination of drinking water sources across the country. New regulations promulgated by EPA in 2024 require that we test for PFAS every quarter and once every three years for DEP. In the PFAS testing that has already been completed, NFCMA has met all regulated standards. (Results will be provided upon request).

Testing for the **Fifth Unregulated Contaminant Monitoring Rule (UCMR5)** took place between the 2nd Qtr. of 2023 and the 3rd Qtr. Of 2024. NFCMA has sampled for a series of PFAS and Lithium. The purpose of monitoring these contaminants is to help EPA decide whether they should be regulated. (Results will be provided upon request).

In 2024, NFCMA, also conducted monitoring for various Synthetic Organic Chemicals, Volatile Organic Chemicals, and Inorganic Chemicals. No detects were found in all samples collected other than those listed in the Test Results Table below.

Educational Information:

All sources of drinking water are subject to potential contaminants that are naturally occurring, or manmade. Those contaminants can be microbes, organic or inorganic chemicals, or radioactive materials. Drinking water, including bottled drinking water, may be expected to contain at least small amounts of some contaminants. These sources of drinking water (both tap 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.

Some people may be more vulnerable to contaminants in drinking water than the general population. Immuno-compromised people such as those with cancer undergoing chemotherapy, or 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).

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 runoff, 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 runoff, and residential uses.

Organic chemical contaminants, including synthetic and volatile organic chemicals, which are byproducts of industrial processes and petroleum production and mining activities.

Radioactive contaminants, which can be naturally occurring or be the result of oil and gas production and mining activities.

Per- and polyfluoroalkyl substances, (PFAS) are chemicals that resist grease, oil, water, and heat. They were first used in the 1940's and are now in hundreds of products including stain- and water-resistant fabrics and carpeting, cleaning products, paints, and fire-fighting foams.

Unregulated Contaminants, are contaminants that don't yet have a drinking water standard set by EPA.

We have learned through our monitoring and testing that some contaminants have been detected. It's important to remember that the presence of these constituents does not necessarily pose a health risk. This report shows our water quality and what it means. More information about contaminants and potential health effects can be obtained by calling the Environmental Protection Agency's Safe Drinking Water Hotline at 1-800-426-4791.

Maximum Contaminant Level's or 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 two 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.

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. We tested for lead and copper between the months of June and September 2022 to ensure that the water in your homes is safe to consume. All results were well below the regulated MCL (see table below). NFCMA 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>.

Conclusion:

We constantly monitor various contaminants in the water supply to meet all regulatory requirements. As you can see from the table in this report, our system had no water quality violations, and we are pleased to report that our water meets Federal and State regulations, but to continue to maintain our water supply we sometimes need to make improvements that will benefit all our customers. The cost of these improvements are sometimes reflected in rate structure adjustments. Thank you for your understanding as we continually strive to improve our ability to provide you with safe, clean, and dependable drinking water.

If you have any questions about this report or your water quality, please contact our Operations Manager, Rusty Covington, at 724-628-5710 from 8:00 a.m. to 2:00 p.m. For emergencies after normal business hours, please call 724-628-5710 ext.2. We want our customers to be informed so if you want to learn more, please attend any of our regularly scheduled board meetings. They are held on the fourth Tuesday of each month at 6:00p.m. at our Business Office, which is located at 1634 University Drive (Rt. 119) in Dunbar.

We at the North Fayette County Municipal Authority work around the clock to provide top quality water for 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.

Definitions:

In the following 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.

Not Applicable (N/A) - Information not applicable or required.

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 (µg/L) - One part per billion corresponds to one minute in 2,000 years, or a single penny in \$10,000,000.

Nephelometric Turbidity Unit (NTU) - Nephelometric turbidity unit is a measure of the clarity of water. Turbidity in excess of 5 NTU's 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 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.

picrocuries per liter (pCi/L) - A measure of radioactivity.

TEST RESULTS

Microbiological Contaminants

Contaminant (Unit of measurement)	Violation Y/N	Level Detected	Range	MCL	MCLG	Likely Source of Contamination
Turbidity (NTU)	No	0.05 4/1/24	N/A	TT = 1 NTU for a single measurent	0	Soil runoff
		100%		TT = at least 95% of monthly samples ≤0.30 NTU		
Total Coliform Bacteria	No	0 Positive (0 %)	N/A	>5% Positive Samples	0	Naturally present in the environment
Total Organic Carbon [TOC] (% Removed)	No	Range 34% - 42%	See Note	Required Removal 35%	N/A	Naturally present in the environment

Note: Adequate removal of TOC may be necessary to control unwanted formation of chlorination by-products. Naturally occurring organic matter present in the source water can react with the disinfectants used at the treatment plant to form these by-products.

Trihalomethanes and Haloacetic Acids

Contaminant (Unit of measurement)	Violation Y/N	Highest Level Detected	Range	MCL	MCLG	Likely Source of Contamination
TTHM [Total Trihalomethanes] (ppb)	No	54.6 See Note	25.6 - 73.5	80	N/A	By-product of drinking water chlorination
HAA5 [Total Haloacetic Acids] (ppb)	No	34.3 See Note	26.2 – 38.2	60	N/A	By-product of drinking water chlorination

Note: Level Detected is based on the **Maximum Locational Running Annual Average (LRAA)** which is the arithmetic average of analytical results for samples taken at a specific monitoring location during the previous four calendar quarters.

Lead and Copper

Contaminant (Unit of measurement)	Violation Y/N	90 th Percentile Value	# of Sites above AL (30 Total Sites)	Action Level	MCLG	Likely Source of Contamination
Lead (ppb)	No	<1.0 See Note	0 See Note	15.0	15.0	Corrosion of household plumbing systems; erosion of natural deposits; leaching from wood preservatives
Copper (ppm)	No	0.02 See Note	0 See Note	1.3	1.3	Corrosion of household plumbing systems, erosion of natural deposits

Note: 90th Percentile Values are based on 30 required samples. In 2019, we collected samples at our 30 required sites.

Inorganic Contaminants

Contaminant (Unit of measurement)	Violation Y/N	High Level Detected	Range	MCL	MCLG	Likely Source of Contamination
Chlorine (ppm) Entry Point	No	2.80 7/2/2024	1.64 - 2.80 Note: a	Min RDL: 0.20 Max RDL: 4	MRDLG 4	Water additive used to control microbes
Chlorine (ppm) Distribution System	No	1.67 Note: c	1.24 - 1.67 Note: c	MRDL 4	MRDLG 4	Water additive used to control microbes
Fluoride (ppm)	No	0.57 Note: e 1.13 Note: f	0.57 - 1.13 Note: h	2	2	Erosion of natural deposits; water additive which promotes strong teeth; discharge from fertilizer and aluminum factories
Nitrate (as Nitrogen) (ppm)	No	0.52	Note: i	10	10	Runoff from fertilizer use; leaching from septic tanks, sewage; erosion of natural deposits

Radiological Contaminants

Contaminant (Unit of measurement)	Violation Y/N	Level Detected	Range	MCL	MCLG	Likely Source of Contamination
Gross Alpha (pCi/L)	No	2.0	Note: d	15	0	Erosion of natural deposits
Radium 226 (pCi/L)	No	0.0937	Note: g	5	0	Erosion of natural deposits
Radium 228 (pCi/L)	No	0.435	Note: g	5	0	Erosion of natural deposits
Combined Uranium (ug/L)	No	0.014	Note: g	0.03	0	Erosion of natural deposits

Table Notes:

- a) Based on Continuous Monitoring
- b) Maximum Quarterly Running Annual Average
- c) Based on Monthly Averages
- d) 1 Sample taken in 2021
- e) Low Entry Point Value from Daily Tests
- f) High Entry Point Value from Daily Tests
- g) 1 Sample Taken in 2023
- h) Based on value from Daily Tests
- i) 1 sample taken in 2024