Pennsylvania Department of Environmental Protection

COMMONWEALTH OF PENNSYLVANIA
DEPARTMENT OF ENVIRONMENTAL PROTECTION
BUREAU OF SAFE DRINKING WATER

2024 ANNUAL DRINKING WATER QUALITY REPORT

PWSID #: 7280014 Greencastle Area, Franklin County, Water Authority (GAFCWA)

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 Emilee Little at (717) 597-7143. 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 Monday of each month at 5:30 PM at Borough Hall, 60 North Washington St., Greencastle, PA, 17225.

SOURCE(S) OF WATER:

The GAFCWA water sources are located throughout Greencastle at Moss Spring on Grant Street, the Eshelman-Spangler Springs at Long Lane, Ebberts Spring at Molly Pitcher Highway South, Well 1 and 2 at Long Lane, and Well 4 at Leitersburg Street.

A Source Water Assessment of our source(s) was completed by the PA Department of Environmental Protection (Pa. DEP). The Assessment has found that GAFCWA sources are potentially most susceptible to road deicing materials, accidental spills along roads, manure byproducts, printing inks and dyes, cleaning solutions, and leaks in underground storage tanks. Overall, our water sources have moderate risk of significant contamination. A summary report of the Assessment is available on the Source Water Assessment Summary Reports eLibrary web page: Source Water Assessment Folder. Complete reports were distributed to municipalities, water supplier, local planning agencies and Pa. DEP offices. Copies of the complete report are available for review at the Pa. DEP South Central Regional Office, Regional Office, Records Management Unit at (717) 705-4732.

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, 2024. 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)

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

ppb = parts per billion, or micrograms per liter (µg/L)

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 (ng/

DETECTED SAMPLE RESULTS:

Chemical Contaminants								
Contaminant	**MCL in CCR Units**	**MCLG**	**Level Detected**	**Range of Detections**	**Units**	**Sample Date**	**Violation Y/N**	**Sources of Contamination**
Barium	2	2	.062	.059 - .062	ppm	2024	N	Discharge of drilling wastes, discharge from metal refineries and erosion of natural deposits
Nitrate	10	10	5.24	4.66 - 5.24	ppm	2024	N	Runoff from fertilizer use, leaching from septic tanks sewage, and erosion of natural deposits
TTHM's	80	NA	65.0	18.7 - 65.0	ppb	2024	N	By-products of drinking water disinfection.
HAA5	60	NA	10.4	7.3 – 10.4	ppb	2024	N	By-products of drinking water disinfection.
Chlorine	MRDL= 4	MRDLG = 4	1.38	.53 - 1.69	ppm	2024	N	Water additive used to control microbes.
Combined Radium	5	0	1.58	-	pCi/l	2020	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.

Entry Point Disinfectant Residual							
Contaminant	**Minimum Disinfectant Residual**	**Lowest Level Detected**	**Range of Detections**	**Units**	**Sample Date**	**Violation Y/N**	**Sources of Contamination**
Chlorine	.2	1.39	1.39 – 1.74	ppm	2024	N	Water additive used to control microbes.

Lead and Copper								
Contaminant	**Action Level (AL)**	**MCLG**	**90th Percentile Value**	**Range of tap sampling results**	**Units**	**# of Sites Above AL of Total Sites**	**Violation Y/N**	**Sources of Contamination**
Lead	15	0	10.2	.5 – 35.1	ppb	1 out of 20	N	Corrosion of household plumbing.
Copper	1.3	1.3	.244	.013 - .80	ppm	0 out of 20	N	Corrosion of household plumbing.

Turbidity						
Contaminant	**MCL**	**MCLG**	**Level Detected**	**Sample Date**	**Violation Y/N**	**Source of Contamination**
Turbidity	TT=1 NTU for a single measurement	0	.069	08/20/2024	N	Soil runoff
	TT= at least 95% of monthly samples≤0.3 NTU		100%	2024	N	

Total Organic Carbon (TOC)					
Contaminant	**Range of % Removal Required**	**Range of percent removal achieved**	**Number of quarters out of compliance**	**Violation Y/N**	**Sources of Contamination**
TOC	*ACC	*ACC	0	N	Naturally present in the environment

Alternative Compliance Criteria, used to determine compliance

DETECTED CONTAMINANTS HEALTH EFFECTS LANGUAGE AND CORRECTIVE ACTIONS:

Nitrate in drinking water at levels above 10ppm is a health risk for infants of less than six months of age. High nitrate levels in drinking water can cause Blue Baby Syndrome. Nitrate levels may rise quickly for short periods of time because of rainfall or agricultural activity. If you are caring for an infant, you should ask for advice from your health care provider. The treatment process used at GAFCWA removes nitrates to well below the MCL of 10.

OTHER VIOLATIONS:

We had a late reporting violation. The Lab reported 1 of 2, 2024 Arsenic samples late to DEP, the 2nd sample was reported on 1/30/2025.

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

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. GAFCWA is responsible for providing high quality drinking water and it removing lead pipes, but cannot control the variety of materials used in plumbing components in your home. You share the responsibility for protecting yourself and your family from the lead in your home plumbing. You can take responsibility by identifying and removing lead materials within your home plumbing and taking steps to reduce your family's risk. Before drinking tap water, flush your pipes for several minutes by running your tap, taking a shower, doing laundry or a load of dishes. You can also use a filter certified by an American National Standards Institute accredited certifier to reduce lead in drinking water. If you are concerned about lead in your water and wish to have your water tested, contact [Greencastle Area, Franklin County, Water Authority, 60 N. Washington St. Greencastle Pa. 17225]. Information on lead in drinking water, testing methods, and steps you can take to minimize exposure is available at *http://www.epa.gov/safewater/lead.*

OTHER INFORMATION:

GAFCWA prepared a service line inventory of our system that includes the type of materials contained in each service line in our distribution system. This inventory can be accessed online at https://arroconsulting.sharefile.com/public/share/web-s937e542764f84bc8a468c58979c7dd87 or by contacting our office at 717-597-7143.

We had no detections of Volatile Organic Compounds or per- and polyfluoroalkyl (PFAS).

GAFCWA was required by the EPA to take part in the Fifth Unregulated Contaminant Monitoring Rule (UCMR5). UCMR5 targeted 29 pep- and polyfluoroalkyl (PFAS) compounds and 1 metal, lithium. We took samples for 4 calendar quarters, all samples were below the detection limit.

The GAFCWA is committed to providing responsible stewardship and safe drinking water for all customers at the most economical cost. Providing, preserving and protecting water resources through consistent testing, management of resources, funding of infrastructure improvements, and exemplary customer service are key objectives for the GAFCWA and it Authority Board.