



COMMONWEALTH OF PENNSYLVANIA  
DEPARTMENT OF ENVIRONMENTAL PROTECTION  
BUREAU OF WATER STANDARDS AND FACILITY REGULATION

**2018 ANNUAL DRINKING WATER QUALITY REPORT**

**APPALACHIAN UTILITIES, INC.**

**PUBLIC WATER SUPPLY IDENTIFICATION NUMBER – 4180067**

This report contains very important information about your drinking water. Translate it, or speak with someone who understands it. (Este informe contiene información muy importante sobre su agua de beber. Tradúzcalo ó hable con alguien que lo entienda bien.)

**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 Kyle Gallagher at 570-769-7647.

**Sources of Water:**

Well Number 4 – Groundwater – Pine Creek Township, Clinton County, PA (entry point 104)

Well Number 5 – Groundwater – Pine Creek Township, Clinton County, PA (entry point 105)

Well Number 6 – Groundwater – Pine Creek Township, Clinton County, PA (entry point 105)

**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 Our Water:**

We routinely monitor for contaminants in our drinking water according to federal and state laws. The following tables show the results of our monitoring for the period of January 1, 2018 to December 31, 2018 and historical results as required. The PADEP allow us to monitor for some contaminants less than once per year because 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.

**Maximum Residual Disinfection Level (MRDL)** – The highest level of a disinfectant allowed in drinking water. There is convincing evidence that addition of disinfection is necessary for the control of microbial contaminants.

**Maximum Residual Disinfection 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.

**Non Detect (ND)** – A sample result that is below the laboratory detection limit.

Conversions and Relevant Units of Measurement:

Pic/L = Picocuries per liter (a measure of radioactivity)

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

ppm = parts per million, or milligrams per liter ( $\text{mg/L}$ )

## Detected Sample Results Tables:

### Chemical Results

Contaminant	MCL (ppm)	MCLG	Highest Level Detected	Range of Detections	Units	Sample Date	Violation (Y/N)	Sources of Contamination
Nitrate	10	10	3.35	0.29-3.35	ppm	11/7/18	N	Runoff from fertilizer; Leaching from septic tanks, sewage, Erosion of natural deposits.
Haloacetic Acids (HAAs)	60	n/a	0.001	ND-0.001	ppm	9/12/2018	N	By-product of drinking water disinfection.
Total Trihalomethanes (TTHMs)	80	n/a	0.012	ND-0.012	ppm	9/12/2018	N	By-product of drinking water chlorination.

### Lead and Copper

Contaminant	Action Level (AL)	MCLG	90th Percentile Value	Units	Sample Date	Violation (Y/N)	Sources of Contamination
Lead	0.015	0	0.003	ppm	9/9/2016	N	Corrosion of household plumbing and fittings.
Copper	1.3	1.3	1.06	ppm	9/9/2016	N	Corrosion of household plumbing and fittings.

The next Lead and Copper sampling event is scheduled for the third quarter of 2019.

### Entry Point Disinfectant Residual

Contaminant	MRDL (ppm)	Lowest Level Detected	Range of Detections	Units	Lowest Sample Date	Violation (Y/N)	Sources of Contamination
Chlorine	4	0.42	0.42-1.81	ppm	10/24/2018	N	Water additive used to control microbes.

## Radiological Sampling

Appalachian collected two samples for Combined Uranium on March 20, 2018. All sample results were reported as ND.

## Volatile Organic Compounds (VOCs) Sampling

Appalachian collected two samples for VOCs on February 23, 2018. All sample results were reported as ND.

Appalachian had no detections of Volatile Organic Compounds (VOCs), Inorganic Compounds (IOCs), or Synthetic Organic Compounds (SOCs).

## Educational Information:

The sources of drinking water in Pennsylvania (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 may 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 runoff, industrial or domestic wastewater discharge(s), 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 (SVOCs and VOCs), 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 potable water is safe to drink, the United States Environmental Protection Agency (EPA) and the Pennsylvania Department of Environmental Protection (DEP) prescribes regulations which limit the amount of certain contaminants in water provided by public water system. Food and Drug Administration (FDA) and the DEP regulations establish limits for contaminants in bottled water which must provide the same protection for public health.

- If present, elevated levels of lead can cause serious health problems, especially for pregnant women and young children. Lead in drinking water is typically from materials and components associated with service lines and home plumbing. Appalachian is responsible for providing high quality drinking water, but cannot control the variety of materials used in plumbing components in your home. 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 by a third party. 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 - [www.epa.gov/safewater/lead](http://www.epa.gov/safewater/lead)

**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 United State Environmental Protection Agency's Safe Drinking Water Hotline at 1-800-426-4791.**

### **Additional Notes and Comments:**

*It is important to note that Non Detect (ND) sample results are not required to be reported in this report but Appalachian strives to be transparent with our water sampling results.*

Appalachian has a continuous leak detection program in place for our water distribution system, we utilize professional leak detection equipment, employees with decades of leak detection experience and extensive knowledge of the water distribution system. We also utilize Pennsylvania Rural Water Association correlator leak detection equipment as needed during more challenging leak investigations. Appalachian appreciates comments and information from our customers and/or the public regarding potential water leaks. If you hear water running in your basement or see a location that has seemingly perpetual standing water please do not hesitate to contact us. We will respond as promptly as possible to investigate all possible water leaks.

Thank you for your time and have a nice day,

**Kyle M. Gallagher**  
*PADEP Certified Water Operator*



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