ANNUAL DRINKING WATER QUALITY REPORT FOR 2019

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.)

Jim Thorpe Borough Water - WEST
PWSID 3130044

We are pleased to present to you this year's ANNUAL WATER QUALITY REPORT. This report is designed to inform you about the quality of the water you use and the services we provide to you every day. This report is to help you better understand the efforts we make to continually improve the water treatment process and protect our water resources. Our water source for the west side of Jim Thorpe is the Mauch Chunk Creek located along State Route 3012 (Lentz Trail) in the borough.

If you have any questions concerning your water please contact the borough office at 570-325-2181 Monday through Friday from 8:30 AM to 4:30 PM. We want our customers to be informed about their water quality. We are asking people to help protect our drinking water sources by calling the Water Department if they become aware of a problem. If you want to learn more about your water, please attend the regular monthly borough council meetings. They are held on the second Thursday of each month beginning at 6:30 PM.

The **Jim Thorpe Water Department** routinely monitors for constituents in the drinking water according to State and Federal laws. This report shows the results of our monitoring for the period of January 1st to December 31st, 2019. All drinking water, including bottled drinking water, may be reasonably expected to contain at least small amounts of some constituents. It is important to remember that the presence of these constituents does not necessarily pose a health risk. Certified operators along with a state of the art treatment facility, which was completed in January of 1999, help to ensure the quality of the water through filtration and other treatment processes prior to the water entering the distribution system. The water department monitors daily the water quality through various laboratory equipment. Water quality is also tested by and independent EPA and DEP certified laboratory. This laboratory is **Hawk Mtn. Labs Inc.** of Hazle Township, PA.

HEALTH INFORMATION

Some people may be more vulnerable to contaminants in drinking water than the general population. Immuno-compromised persons such as people who have undergone organ transplants, people with HIV / AIDS or other immune system disorders, some elderly and infants can be particularly at risks 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 1-800-426-4791.

On June 1st, 2001, Jim Thorpe joined a national program, the Partnership for Safe Water, which will help assure that our customers are better protected from microbial contaminants and are delivered even higher quality drinking water.

As a member of the Partnership, Jim Thorpe has committed to scrutinize our current water treatment practices, make improvements where necessary, have our water operations examined by independent experts, and report the findings to our customers. This new program was established in response to the challenges of preserving source water quality and protecting consumers from microbial contaminants such as Cryptosporidium.

A checklist of performance criteria was developed by the Partnership Steering Committee to assist us in surveying our water operations, maintenance and management. One overall goal of the Partnership for Safe Water is to help water suppliers enhance drinking water quality and treatment.

Once Jim Thorpe has completed our self-assessment, we will turn our findings over to an independent pool of water quality experts who will evaluate the data, compare them nationally and offer advice on how our water treatment can be enhanced.

A source water assessment of the Mauch Chunk Creek and Mauch Chunk Lake, which supplies water to the Jim Thorpe Water Filtration Plant, was completed in 2002 by the PA DEP. The assessment found that Mauch Chunk Creek intake is potentially most susceptible to road deicing materials, erosion from switchback trail and lake surface activities. Overall, the Mauch Chunk Creek watershed has little risk of significant contamination. Copies of the complete report are available at the Borough Office.

In July 2019, PA DEP preformed a Filter Plant Performance Evaluation. The treatment plant received a satisfactory rating. A satisfactory rating means that DEP department staff has identified operational, equipment, and/or performance problems that may affect the plant's ability to maintain optimized performance. Plant personnel appear willing and capable of improving overall filter plant performance. However, one or more of the treatment processes showed areas of weakness in operational, equipment, and/or performance that, if corrected, will improve filter plant performance and maintain the long-term reliability of the plant. Steps have already been taken to address or correct the problems encountered during the evaluation. Copies of the complete report are available through the Borough Office 670-325-2181.

EXPLANATION OF EXPECTED CONTAMINANTS

The sources of drinking water (both tap and bottled) include rivers, lakes, streams, ponds, reservoirs 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 WATERS 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 occurring naturally or the result of urban storm water runoff, industrial or domestic waste water discharges, oil and gas production, mining or farming.

Pesticides and herbicides, which may come from a variety of sources such as agriculture, storm water runoff, or 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, storm water runoff, and septic systems.

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

TERMS AND ABBREVIATIONS USED:

Maximum Contaminant Level (MCL). The maximum allowed is the highest level of a contaminant that is allowed in drinking water. MCL's are set as close to the MCLG's as feasible using the best available treatment technology.

Maximum Contaminant Level Goal (MCLG). The level of contaminant in drinking water which there is no known or expected risk to health. MCLG's 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 contamination.

Parts Per Million (PPM). One part per million corresponds to one minute in two years or a single penny in $10,000.00

Milligrams Per Liter (MGL).

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.

Parts Per Billion (PPB). One part per billion corresponds to one minute in 2,000 years or a single penny in $10,000,000.0

In house testing is done daily by our state certified water treatment plant operators in order to produce the safest and highest quality of potable water for our customers.

We're proud that your drinking water meets or exceeds all Federal and State requirements. The table below lists all drinking water contaminants that were detected during the 2019 calendar year. The presence of these contaminants does not indicate the water poses a health risk.

The results noted are those tests which detected any numerical result. **The Jim Thorpe Water Department** conducts water quality tests every year as explained below.

SAMPLE	DETECT	MCL
Barium (IOC)	0.00794	2.0
21 VOC's	<0.50	
Nitrate as N	0	10.0
Nitrite as N	0	1.0
Total Trihalomethanes		
1st Quarter	0.028	0.08
2nd Quarter	0.024	0.08
3rd Quarter	0.058	0.08
4th Quarter	0.050	0.08
Total Haloacetic Acids		
1st Quarter	0.036	0.06
2nd Quarter	0.028	0.06
3rd Quarter	0.026	0.06
4th Quarter	0.026	0.06
TOC (raw) – 1.9 RAA	TOC (treated) – 1.2 RAA	
% of removal required-35		
% of removal achieved-AVG. – 37%		
Lead – 90th Percentile	0.004	AL – 0.015
Copper – 90th Percentile	0.068	AL – 1.3

In order to insure that the tap water is safe to drink, EPA prescribes regulations which limit the amounts of certain contaminants in water provided by public systems. Food and Drug Administration 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 these contaminants does not necessarily indicate that the water poses a health risk. More information about contaminants and potential health effects can be obtained by calling the EPA's Safe Drinking Water Hotline at 1-800-426-4791.

Typical Sources of Detected Substances:

Barium: Sources of barium are oil, gas drilling, painting, and industrial uses. The health effects are cancer.
Copper: Corrosion of household plumbing.
Haloacetic Acids: By-product of water chlorination.
Lead: Corrosion of household plumbing.
Nitrate: Fertilizer runoff; Leaching from septic tanks.
Total Organic Carbon: Naturally present in the environment.
Total Trihalomethanes: By-product of water chlorination.
Turbidity: Measure of water's cloudiness, caused by soil runoff.
Inorganic Compounds: Also known as IOC's are mostly salts and metals many of which occur naturally.

Synthetic organic Compounds: Also known as SOC's. Likely sources of contamination, agricultural insect and weed control chemicals.

Volatile Organic Compounds: Also known as VOC's generally are by-products of industrial / chemical / and petroleum factories.

Turbidity: A measure of cloudiness of the water. We monitor this because it is a good indicator of the effectiveness of our filtration system.

Coliform Bacteria: A naturally occurring non-disease causing bacteria used as an indicator for testing purposes.

We had no Coliform Detects during testing in the 2019 calendar year

LEAD

Lead sampling in our drinking water began in September of 1993. While lead was detected above the action level, it was below the maximum contaminant level. Since then, the water department has begun corrosion control treatment. Lead in drinking water is rarely the sole cause of lead poisoning, but it can add to a person's total lead exposure. Infants and young children are typically more vulnerable to lead in drinking water than the general population. It is possible that the lead levels in your home may be higher than at other homes as a result of the materials used in your home's plumbing. If you are concerned about the lead levels in your homes drinking water, flush the cold water tap for 30 seconds to two minutes before drinking the water or have your water tested. Additional information about lead is available from the Safe Drinking Water Hotline at 1-800-426-4791.

During 2019 there were 8 violation notices issued by PA-DEP for Reports Received Late. We were unaware of new regulations that went into effect on August 19, 2019. All testing was completed at the scheduled times but not reported. Reports were submitted and enforcement action was changed to Compliance Achieved.

CONSUMER WATER TIPS

Conserving water can save you money by reducing your water bill Following are some tips to that end:

1. Instead of pre-rinsing dishes, try one of the new dishwasher detergents in your dishwasher that can break up stuck on foods and run the dishwasher with full loads only.
2. Many leaks found in homes result from the flapper valve in the toilet tank not sealing properly. Try adding a small amount of blue food coloring to your tank water, let it sit overnight, and check the bowl contents in the morning. If the bowl water is blue, you have a leaking flapper.
3. Try cutting your shower time by 5 or 10 minutes
4. Install low flow shower heads and faucets (2-3 gal./min.) in your home
5. Replace washers or the "O" rings (in cartridge type) faucets if they constantly drip when shut off.
6. Water your lawn or garden in the early morning or late evening. Why let the afternoon sun evaporate the water sprayed.
7. Use mulch around plants and shrubs to hold moisture longer.

Jim Thorpe Water Department has entered into an agreement with the SwiftReach Network, Inc. to manage our Public Notification Rule, as required by PA-DEP. This will enable us to get in contact with our customers in a quick and efficient way in emergency public notification situations. **Please keep us informed of your current phone number and/or address changes by calling 570-325-3025 or email secretary@jtborough.org**

If you have any questions regarding this report, please call the Water Treatment Plant at 570-325-2631

Jim Thorpe Borough
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Jim Thorpe, PA 18229