

**STRASBURG BOROUGH AUTHORITY
ANNUAL CUSTOMER INFORMATION REPORT
JUNE 2010
PWSID 7360118**



Spanish (Español)

Este informe contiene información muy importante sobre la calidad de su agua beber.
Tradúscalo o hable con alguien que lo entienda bien.

Item 1: Water System Information

The Strasburg Borough Authority is pleased to present the eleventh issue of our Annual Customer Information Report. This report is designed to provide information about water quality and services delivered to you over the past year. Our constant goal is to provide a dependable supply of drinking water. We want you to understand the efforts we make to continually improve the water treatment process and protect our water resources. Last year we conducted over 350 water tests, and we are proud to report that the tap water met all EPA and state drinking water health standards. We did not violate a maximum contaminant level or any other water quality standard. We are committed to ensuring the quality of your water.

Strasburg's community water system was initiated in 1897. Water sources are the Fisher, King, and Rohrer Wells and the Old, New, and Mowrer Springs, located in Strasburg, Eden and Paradise Townships. The wells draw from the Conestoga Formation Aquifer. After the water comes out of the wells and springs, it is treated with ozone, chlorine, soda ash and polyphosphates. The reservoir is an inground 500,000 gallon covered reinforced concrete reservoir constructed in 1957. All sources flow to the reservoir and receive treatment upon discharge prior to entering the transmission main leading to the distribution system. The distribution system, totaling approximately 14 miles of pipe, consists of a network of ductile iron and cast iron pipe ranging in diameter from 4 to 12 inches. A total of 115 fire hydrants are placed throughout the system.

The Strasburg Borough Authority Water System Improvement Plan includes improving water mains and services, installation of new fire hydrants. Construction of a second storage facility, and modifications to the treatment facilities are currently underway. Last year the Authority replaced the 8" service line with a 12" line at the east end of town from the Borough/Township line to the Reservoir. Three certified water system operators are on staff. The Borough Authority meets the first and third Thursdays of each month at 9 a.m. in the Borough of Strasburg Office located at 145 Precision Avenue. For additional information concerning meetings or this report, please contact Lisa M. Boyd, Borough Manager, at 717-687-7732 or 717-687-7358. For additional information concerning the Borough's water system, please contact Paul Miller, Public Works Director, at the above numbers.

Item 2: Important Health Information

Inadequately treated water may contain disease-causing organisms. These organisms include bacteria, viruses, and parasites, which can cause symptoms such as nausea, cramps, diarrhea, and associated headaches. 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 immune system disorders, some elderly persons, and infants can be particularly at risk for 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.

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. Strasburg Borough Authority 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>.

All sources of drinking water are subject to potential contamination by constants that are naturally occurring or man-made. Those constituents can be microbes, organic or inorganic chemicals, or radioactive materials. All 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 the 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 at 800-426-4791, or online at www.epa.gov/OGWDW.

Item 3: Definitions

Nitrate: Nitrate in drinking water at levels above 10 ppm 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.

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. (MCLs 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 2 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 effects.)

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.

Action Level: The concentration of a contaminant which, if exceeded, triggers treatment or other requirements which a water system must follow.

ppb: parts per billion or micrograms per liter

ppm: parts per million or milligrams per liter

pCi/l: picocuries per liter (measure of radiation)

Item 4: Water Quality Data

The table listed on the following page lists all the drinking water contaminants that we detected during the 2009 calendar year. The presence of these contaminants in the water does not necessarily indicate that the water posed a health risk. Unless otherwise noted, the data presented in this table is from testing done January 1 - December 31, 2009. The state requires us to monitor for certain contaminants less than once per year because the concentrations of these contaminants are not expected to vary significantly from year to year. Some data, though representative of the water quality, is more than one year old.

We at the Borough of Strasburg work around the clock to provide top quality water to 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 the future of our children.

WATER QUALITY TABLE

Year Tested	Contaminant	Violation Y/N	Highest Level Detected	Unit Measurement	Range	MCLG	MCL	Source of Contamination
All Sources								
2009	Nitrate	N	10	ppm	0-10	10	10	Runoff from fertilizer use; leaching from septic tanks; sewage; erosion of natural deposits
2003	Alpha Radiation Emitters	N	1.35	pCi/l	One sample	0	15	Erosion of natural deposits
2003	Combined Uranium	N	.283	ppb	—	—	—	Erosion of natural deposits
2003	Combined Radium	N	1.29	pCi/l	—	—	30	Erosion of natural deposits
2007	Haloacetic Acids (Five)	N	0	ppb	0	0	60 ppb	Bi-product of chlorination
2007	Trihalo methanes	N	17	ppb	17	0	80 ppb	Bi-product of chlorination
2009	Chlorine	N	1.480	ppm	0.169-1.480	0	4.0	Water additive used to control microbes.

Year Tested	Contaminant	Violation Y/N	90%* Level Detected	Unit Measurement	# of Sites above AL	Action Level (AL)	MCLG	Source of Contamination
Residential Taps								
2007	Lead	N	3	ppb	0 out of 10 samples	15 ppb	0	Corrosion of household plumbing
2007	Copper	N	0.226	ppm	0 out of 10 samples	1.3 ppm	0	Corrosion of household plumbing

*90% of sample results are less than or equal to this value.

Microbial					
Contaminants	MCL	MCLG	Highest # or % of Positive Samples	Violation Y/N	Sources of Contamination
Total Coliform Bacteria	For systems that collect <40 samples/month: • More than 1 positive monthly sample For systems that collect ≥40 samples/month: • 5% of monthly samples are positive	0	2 out of 24 samples	Y	Naturally present in the environment.
Fecal Coliform Bacteria or <i>E. coli</i>		0	0	N	Human and animal fecal waste

Item 5: Violations

In July and September 2009, Coliforms were detected in the Borough water. To address this, as required by DEP, the Authority increased the amount of chlorine being put into the system.