

**2015 Drinking Water Report  
Richland Borough Water System**

We are pleased to present to you this year's Annual Drinking Water Report. This report is designed to inform you about the quality of water and services we deliver to you every day. Our constant goal is to provide you with a safe and 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. We are committed to ensuring the quality of your water. Our spring and wells draw from a combination of the Hardyston, Richland and Leithsville Aquifers. Our water supply consists of a spring-fed reservoir with three wells, Wells #2, #3, and #6, all of which are located in Millcreek Township. The water supply flows through a transmission line to a point where it is chlorinated and treated for corrosion control, and then distributed throughout the Borough. Our system employs two operators, Dwight Belleman and his assistant John Johnson.

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 Dwight Belleman at 717-866-5601. We want our valued customers to be informed about their water utility.

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 microbiological contaminants are available from the Safe Drinking Water Hotline (800-426-4791). Richland Borough routinely monitors for constituents in your drinking water according to Federal and State laws. This table shows the results of our monitoring for the period of January 1<sup>st</sup> to December 31<sup>st</sup>, 2015.

All drinking water may be reasonably expected to contain at least small amounts of some constituents. It's important to remember that the presence of these constituents does not necessarily pose a health risk.

In this 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 indicated that the contaminant is not present at a detectable level.

**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.

**Picocuries per liter (pCi/L)** – pico-curies per liter is a measure of the radioactivity in water.

**Action Level (AL)** – the concentration of a contaminant which, if exceeded, triggers treatment or other requirements 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 (MCL)** – The "Maximum Allowed" is the highest level of a contaminant that is allowed in drinking water. MCLs are set as close to the MCLG as feasi-

ble using the best available treatment technology.

**Maximum Contaminant Level Goal (MCLG)** – The "Goal" 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. The Borough strives to ensure that your drinking water meets or exceeds all Federal and State Requirements. We have learned through our monitoring and testing that some constituents have been detected. The data presented above is from the most recent testing done in accordance with the regulations.

All sources of drinking water are subject to potential contamination by constituents 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 health effects information can be obtained by calling the Environmental Protection Agency's Safe Drinking Water Hotline at 1-800-426-4791.

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 2 liters of water every day at the MCL level for a lifetime to have a one-in-a-million chance

**TEST RESULTS TABLE FOR CALENDAR YEAR 2015**

Parameter	MCL (ppm)	Highest Detected Level (ppm)	Date**	MCLG (ppm)	Violation?	No. of Samples Above Action Level	Source of Contaminant
Fluoride	4.0	<0.5	09/11/12	2.0	No	0	Erosion of natural Deposits
Barium	2.0	<0.4	09/11/12	2.0	No	0	Erosion of natural Deposits
Selenium	0.050	<0.01	09/11/12	0.050	No	0	Erosion of natural Deposits
Nitrate-Nitrogen	10.4	<1	02/04/15	10.4	No	0	Runoff from fertilizer use
Lead	AL = 0.015	0.001*	07/11/13	0.0	No	0	Corrosion of household plumbing and erosion of natural deposits
Copper	AL = 1.3	0.214*	07/11/13	1.3	No	0	Corrosion of household plumbing and erosion of natural deposits
Gross Alpha	15 pCi/L	8.21 pCi/L	06/01/15	0 pCi/L	No	0	Erosion of natural deposits

\* 90<sup>th</sup> percentile value

\*\* 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, though representative of the normal range of parameters, is not the exact level at any given time.

of having the described health effect.

**Nitrates:** As a precaution we always notify our customers, physicians and health care providers in this area if there is ever a higher than normal level of nitrates in the water supply. None occurred in 2015.

**Fluoride:** The Borough does not add fluoride to your drinking water. Accordingly, all of our customers should consult with their personal physicians to determine if other sources of fluoride supplements are warranted.

In our continuing efforts to maintain a safe and dependable water supply it may be necessary to make improvements in your water system.

The Borough has continued normal water testing this year to monitor contaminant levels. **There were no violations to report in 2015.**

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. Richland Borough 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 drinking water, testing methods and steps you can take to minimize exposure are available from the Safe Drinking Water Hotline or at <http://www.epa.gov/safewater/lead>.

A Source Water Assessment of our spring and well sources was completed in 2007 by PADEP. Overall, our sources have a moderate to high risk of significant contamination. The assessment has found that our sources are potentially most susceptible to contamination from agricultural activities. The two primary contaminant concerns are nitrates/nitrites (NN) and synthetic organic compounds (SOC). Of secondary concern is contamination from microbial pathogens (MP).

Summary reports of the Assessment are available on the PADEP website at [www.depweb.state.pa.us](http://www.depweb.state.pa.us) (Keyword: "source water"). Complete reports were distributed to municipalities, water suppliers, local planning agencies and PADEP offices. A copy of the complete report is available for review at the Richland Borough Office.

Please call our office if you have questions. Richland Borough works around the clock to provide top quality water to every tap. We ask that all of our customers help us to protect our water sources, which are the heart of our community, our way of life and our children's future.

Water System Owned and Operated by:

**RICHLAND BOROUGH  
WATER COMPANY**

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# YOUR DRINKING WATER

CALENDAR YEAR 2015

## RICHLAND BOROUGH LEBANON COUNTY, PA



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Report Prepared by:

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información muy importante  
sobre su agua potable.  
Tradúzcalo ó hable con alguien  
que lo entienda bien.*