

Doylestown Township Municipal Authority

425 Wells Road • Doylestown, PA 18901

Water Quality Report 2019

This Water Quality Report is available at

<https://www.doylestownpa.org/water-quality-reports/>

Doylestown Township Municipal Authority

PWS # 1090128

Water Quality Report

2019



**This report contains important information about your drinking water.
If you do not understand it, please have someone translate it to you.
Este informe contiene información muy importante sobre su agua beber.
Tradúzcalo ó hable con alguien que lo entienda bien.**


Dear Customer:

The Doylestown Township Municipal Authority (DTMA) owns and operates a public water system for the benefit of Doylestown Township residents. It also owns and operates the public water systems of the Cross Keys Place Shopping Center in Plumstead Township and the Fountainville Center in New Britain Township. This report is to apprise you of efforts to provide our customers with water that meets or exceeds water quality standards under the Safe Drinking Water Act (SDWA). It will be available to all customers on an annual basis no later than July of the ensuing year. The report contains information regarding the water system operation, water sources, treatment, and monitoring results for contaminant testing as required by permit under the Federal Safe Drinking Water Act, the Pennsylvania Department of Environmental Protection and the Delaware River Basin Commission.

The Authority routinely monitors for over seventy contaminants as required by permit under state and federal laws. The results of the water-monitoring program are presented in the attached report. The report will show results from the period January 1, 2019 through December 31, 2019. Should you have any questions regarding this report, please call Water Superintendent, Scott Miele at **215-348-9915** or email **Smiele@doylestownpa.org** or attend the Authority meeting on the third Thursday of the month beginning at 3:30 p.m.

All drinking water, including bottled water, may reasonably be expected to contain at least small amounts of some contaminants. It is important to remember that the presence of these contaminants do not necessarily pose a health risk. Locally, DTMA distributes groundwater pumped from 10 wells within Doylestown Township and may receive groundwater via an interconnection with Doylestown Borough (DBWD) and a blend of surface and groundwater via an interconnection with North Penn Water Authority(NPWA). For 2019, North Penn Water Authority provided 4.3% of source water distributed by DTMA and Doylestown Borough provided 4.0% of source water distributed by DTMA. The water provided by NPWA is a blend of surface and ground water.

All sources of drinking water are subject to potential contaminants that are naturally occurring or man-made. More information about contaminants and potential health effects can be obtained by calling the:



**Environmental Protection Agency
Safe Drinking Water Hotline**

1-800-426-4791

www.epa.gov/your-drinking-water

Or the

PA DEP

717-772-4018

www.depweb.state.pa.us



Important Health Information

Some people may be more vulnerable to contaminants in drinking water than the general population. Immuno-compromised persons with cancer, undergoing chemotherapy, persons who have undergone organ transplants, people with the 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 from microbial contaminants are available from the SAFE DRINKING WATER HOTLINE **(800) 426-4791** or by visiting the EPA web site at **www.epa.gov/your-drinking-water**.

PFOA and PFOS (PFAS) chemical compounds have been in the national and local news the last few years. In 2016, the EPA determined the maximum amount of PFOA and PFOS in drinking water should be 70 parts per trillion. This Health Advisory Level (HAL) was set by the EPA after reviewing the available data and health effects of PFAS. A HAL is not an enforceable regulation. It is guidance for water utilities to follow based upon available science. The EPA, PADEP, and lawmakers continue to analyze health data and may be proposing enforceable, maximum contaminant level (MCL) regulations in the future.

PFOA and PFOS have been detected in the DTMA wells at very low levels. PFAS has also been detected in private wells in Doylestown Township. For more information on the presence of these chemical compounds in the local water supply please visit the PADEP website for the Easton Road PFC Site. DTMA is monitoring the current regulatory environment and evaluating potential treatment options if necessary. If there are any questions please call the office at **(215) 348-9915**.

While your drinking water meets EPA's standards for arsenic, it does contain low levels of arsenic. EPA's standard balances the current understanding of arsenic's possible health effects against the costs of removing arsenic from drinking water. EPA continues to research the health effects of low levels of arsenic which is a mineral known to cause cancer in humans at high concentrations and is linked to other health effects such as skin damage and circulatory problems.

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. DTMA 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 of at **www.epa.gov/your-drinking-water**.

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Important Health Information (Continued)

Nitrate in drinking water at levels above 10 ppm is a health risk for infants of less than 6 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 advice from your health care provider.

In order to insure that tap water is safe to drink, EPA prescribes regulations which limit the amount of certain contaminants in water provided by public water systems. FDA regulations establish limits for contaminants in bottled water, which must provide the same level of protection to the public's health. The State allows us to monitor for some contaminants less than once per year. This is because the concentrations do not change frequently. Some of our data, though representative, are more than one year old.

As water travels over the surface of land or through the ground, it dissolves naturally occurring minerals. In addition, water can pick substances resulting from the presence of animal or human activity.

Substances That May Be Present in Source Water

- **Microbial contaminants**, such as viruses and bacteria which may come from sewage treatment plants, septic systems, agriculture/livestock operations and wildlife.
- **Pesticides and herbicides**, which may come from a variety of sources such as agriculture, urban storm water runoff and residential use.
- **Radioactive contaminants**, which can be naturally occurring or the result of oil and gas production and mining activities.
- **Organic chemical contaminants**, including synthetic or volatile organic chemicals, which are byproducts of industrial processes, petroleum production or mining activities.
- **Inorganic contaminants**, such as salts and metals, which can be naturally occurring or result from urban runoff, industrial or domestic wastewater discharges, oil and gas production, mining or farming.

Table Definitions

Parts per million (ppm) or milligrams per liter (mg/L)	One part per million corresponds to a single penny in \$10,000.
Parts per billion (ppb) or micrograms per liter (ug/L)	One part per billion corresponds to a single penny in \$10,000,000.
Parts per trillion (ppt)	One part per trillion corresponds to a single penny in \$10,000,000,000
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 required process intended to reduce the level of a contaminant in drinking water.

Table Definitions (Continued)

Maximum Contaminant Level (MCL)	The highest level of a contaminant that is allowed in drinking water. MCL's are set close to the MCLG's 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. 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. MRDLG's do not reflect the benefits of the use of disinfectants to control microbial contaminant.
Picocurie per liter (pCi/L)	A measure of radioactivity in water.
Mrem/year	Millirems per year (a measure of radiation absorbed by the body).
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 bacterial 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.



Source Water Assessment

Source Water Assessment of our sources was completed by the PA Department of Environmental Protection (PA DEP). The assessment has found that our sources is potentially most susceptible to agricultural activities and transportation corridors (spills, road salt) and residential activities. Overall, our sources have little to high risk of significant contamination. A summary report of the Assessment is available on the Source Water Assessment & Protection web page at: <http://www.dep.state.pa.us/deputate/water/wc/Subjects/SrceProt/SourceAssessment/default.htm>. Complete reports were distributed to municipalities, water supplier, local planning agencies and PADEP offices. Copies of the complete report are available for review at the PA DEP Southeast Regional Office Records Management Unit at **484-250-5900**.

- PWS # 1090128

Table of Contaminants

Contaminant	MCL	MCLG	Highest Level Detected	Range of Detections	Units	Sample Date	Violation Y/N	Sources of Contamination
INORGANIC CONTAMINANTS (IOC)								
Arsenic	10	0	5.6	5.2-5.6	ppb	2018	No	Erosion of natural deposits. Runoff from orchards; Runoff from glass & electronics waste.
Barium	2	2	0.801	0.48-0.801	ppm	2018	No	Discharge of drilling wastes; Discharge from metal refineries; Erosion of natural deposits.
Fluoride	2	2	0.106	0-0.106	ppm	2018	No	Erosion of natural deposits.
Free Chlorine Distribution	4	4	0.63	0.47-0.63	ppm	2019	No	Water additive used to control microbes.
Nitrates	10	10	3.33	0.95-3.26	ppm	2019	No	Runoff from fertilizer use; Leaching from septic tanks; Erosion of natural deposits.

VOLATILE CONTAMINANTS (VOC)								
Tetrachloroethylene	5	5	1.5	0-1.4	ppb	2019	No	Discharge from factories and dry cleaners.

RADIOLOGICAL CONTAMINANTS								
Gross Alpha	15	0	7.86	3.33-7.86	pCi/L	2017	No	Erosion of natural deposits.
Combined Uranium	30	0	5.50	4.16-5.50	pCi/L	2017	No	Erosion of natural deposits.
Radium 226	5	0	2.44	1.18-2.44	pCi/L	2017	No	Erosion of natural deposits.
Radium 228	5	0	1.18	1.07-1.18	pCi/L	2017	No	Erosion of natural deposits.

Contaminant	Action Level (AL)	MCLG	90 th Percentile	Units	# of Sites Above AL	Sample Date	Violation Y/N	Sources of Contamination
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LEAD & COPPER - TESTED AT CUSTOMERS' TAPS								
Lead	15	0	0.0026	ppb	0 out of 20	2019	No	Corrosion of household plumbing system.
Copper	1.3	1.3	0.75	ppm	0 out of 20	2019	No	Corrosion of household plumbing system.

Contaminant	MCL	Minimum Disinfectant Residual	Lowest Level Detected	Range of Detections	Units	Sample Date	Violation Y/N	Sources of Contamination
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DISINFECTION BYPRODUCTS & DISINFECTION RESIDUALS								
Free Chlorine Entry Points	4 ppm	0.4	0.61	0.69-1.49	ppm	2019	No	Water additive used to control microbes.

Contaminant	MCL	MCLG	Highest Level Detected	Range of Detections	Sample Date	Violation Y/N	Sources of Contamination
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DISINFECTION BYPRODUCTS & DISINFECTION RESIDUALS							
Total Trihalomethanes (TTHMs)	80 ppb	N/A	15.4	N/A	2019	No	By-product of drinking water disinfection.
Haloacetic Acids (HAAs)	60 ppb	N/A	3.0	N/A	2019	No	By-product of drinking water disinfection.

Perfluorinated Compounds (PFCs) — There are some contaminants for which the Environmental Protection Agency (EPA) develops health advisories (HA) but, has not yet established regulatory limits for compliance by public water supplies. The HA provide technical information on health effects. Perfluorooctanoic acid (PFOA) and perfluorooctansulfonic acid (PFOS) are included in those contaminants that have no regulatory limit but are associated with a HA. Currently, PFOA & PFOS have a combined HA level of 70 parts per trillion (ppt). These chemicals are among a family of manmade chemicals that have been used for decades as ingredients to make products that resist heat, oil, stains, grease and water, are used in foam products for firefighting. For the 2019 year, Doylestown Twp. sampled for PFOA & PFOS at our North, Central and South water systems.

Contaminant	HAL (Combined)	Level Detected	Water System - North/Central/South	Units	Sample Date
PFOA & PFOS AT WELLS					
PFOS	70 ppt	7	North	ppt	2019
PFOA		9	North		
PFOS	70 ppt	17	Central	ppt	2019
PFOA		18	Central		
PFOS	70 ppt	6	South	ppt	2019
PFOA		9	South		

Below is a list of VOLATILE CONTAMINANTS sampled for and return results of "NON-DETECT"
 1,1,2-TRICHLOROETHANE, CHLOROBENZENE, BENZENE, TOLUENE, ETHYLBENZENE, STYRENE, 1,2,4-TRICHLOROBENZE, cis-1,2-DICHLOROETHYLENE, XYLENES (TOTAL), DICHLOROMETHANE, o-DICHLOROBENZENE, PARA-DICHLOROBENZENE, VINYL CHLORIDE, 1,1-DICHLOROETHYLENE, trans-1,2-DICHLOROETHYLENE, 1,2-DICHLOROETHANE, 1,1,1-TRICHLOROETHANE, CARBON TETRACHLORIDE, 1,2-DICHLOROPROPANE, TRICHLOROETHYLENE.