

# West View Water Authority (PWSID 5020043)

## 2016 Annual Drinking Water Quality Report

The West View Water Authority is committed to providing residents with a safe and reliable supply of high-quality drinking water. The water produced by the Authority continues to meet strict state and federal standards for both appearance and safety. This annual "Consumer Confidence Report," required by the Safe Drinking Water Act (SDWA), tells you where your water comes from, what our tests show about it, and other things you should know about drinking water.

Public participation in decisions about our drinking water is encouraged at our Board Meetings held the third Wednesday of each month. Please check your local news media for dates and times, or call (412) 931-3292 for more information. Water Quality Data for water systems in Allegheny County can be found on the Internet at <http://www.drinkingwater.state.pa.us/>

**Este informe contiene información importante acerca de su agua potable. Haga que alguien lo traduzca para usted, ó hable con alguien que lo entienda.** (This report contains important information about your drinking water. Have someone translate it for you, or speak with someone who understands it.)

### Our Water Source

The West View water treatment plant is located on the tip of Neville Island along the shore of the Ohio River. Our source water is surface water obtained from our intake structure in the Ohio River. A *Source Water Assessment* of our source was completed by the PA Department of Environmental Protection (Pa. DEP). The Assessment has found that our water source is potentially most susceptible to transportation corridors, bridges, boating, marinas, barge traffic, auto repair shops, truck terminals, utility substations, residential developments, combined sewer overflows, road deicing, and salt storage. Overall, our source has high risk of significant contamination. A summary report of the Assessment is available on the *Source Water Assessment Summary Reports* eLibrary web page at: <http://www.elibrary.dep.state.pa.us/dsweb/View/Collection-10045>. Complete reports were distributed to municipalities, water suppliers, local planning agencies and PADEP offices. Copies of the complete report are available for review at the Pa. DEP Southwest Regional Office, Records Management Unit at (412) 442-4000.

### Health Information

To ensure that tap water is safe to drink, EPA prescribes limits on the amount of certain contaminants in water provided by public water systems. FDA regulations establish limits for contaminants in bottled water.

All sources of drinking water are subject to potential contaminants that are naturally occurring or manmade. Those contaminants can be microbes, organic or inorganic chemicals, or radioactive materials. 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 Environmental Protection Agency's Safe Drinking Water Hotline (800-426-4791).**

The sources of drinking water (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 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 include:

(A) Microbial contaminants, such as viruses and bacteria, which may come from sewage treatment plants, septic systems, agricultural livestock operations, and wildlife.

(B) Inorganic contaminants, such as salts and metals, which can be naturally occurring or result from urban stormwater runoff, industrial or domestic wastewater discharges, oil and gas production, mining, or farming.

(C) Pesticides and herbicides, which may come from a variety of sources such as agriculture, stormwater runoff, and residential uses.

(D) Organic chemical contaminants, including synthetic and volatile organics, which are byproducts of industrial processes, mining activities and petroleum production, and can also come from gas stations, urban stormwater runoff and septic systems.

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

In order to ensure that tap water is safe to drink, EPA and DEP prescribes regulations which limit the amount of certain contaminants in water provided by public water systems. FDA and DEP regulations establish limits for contaminants in bottled water, which must provide the same protection for public health.

**Nitrates:** As a precaution, we always notify physicians and health care providers in this area if there is ever a higher than normal level of nitrates in the water supply.

**Lead:** 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. The West View Water 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>.

**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).**

### **What Do the Following Tables Mean?**

The tables in this report show the results of our water-quality analyses for January 1 to December 31, 2016. Every regulated contaminant that we detected in the water, even in the most minute traces, is listed here. The table contains the name of each substance, the highest level allowed by regulation (MCL), the ideal goals for public health, the amount detected, the usual sources of such contamination, footnotes explaining our findings, and a key to units of measurement. 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, are more than one year old. Although we ran many tests, only the listed substances were found. They are all below the MCL required. We are pleased to report that your drinking water meets or exceeds all Federal and State requirements. The following definitions are important:

**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 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 contaminants.

**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.

#### Key To Tables

NTU = Nephelometric Turbidity Units (measure of water clarity)

N/A = Not Applicable

ppb = parts per billion, or micrograms per liter (µg/l)

ppm = parts per million, or milligrams per liter (mg/l)

MinRDL = minimum level of residual disinfectant required at the entry point to the distribution system

Contaminant	Date Tested	Unit	MCL	MCLG	Detected Level/Range	Major Sources	Violation
<b>Inorganic</b>							
Barium	2/1/16	ppm	2	2	0.036	Discharge of drilling wastes; Discharge from metal refineries; Erosion of natural deposits	NO
Fluoride*	2/1/16	ppm	2	2	0.7	Erosion of natural deposits; Water additive for dental health, Discharge from fertilizer and aluminum factories	NO
Nickel	2/1/16	ppb	100	100	1.7	Manufacturing by-product, runoff from fertilizer use	NO
Nitrate	7/20/16	ppm	10	10	0.7	Runoff from fertilizer use; Leaching from septic tanks, sewage; Erosion of natural deposits	NO
Nitrite	7/20/16	ppm	1	1	0	Runoff from fertilizer use; Leaching from septic tanks, sewage; Erosion of natural deposits	NO

\*EPA's MCL for fluoride is 4 ppm. However, Pennsylvania has set a lower MCL to better protect human health.

Contaminant	Date Tested	Unit	MCL	MCLG	Detected Level/Range	Major Sources	Violation
<b>Synthetic Organic</b>							
Di(2-ethylhexyl) phthalate	2016	ppb	6	0	<0.6	Discharge from rubber and chemical factories	NO

Contaminant	Date Tested	Unit	MCL	MCLG	Highest Detect	Lowest Percentage	Date	Major Sources	Violation
<b>Turbidity</b>	2016	NTU	TT <sup>1</sup>	0	0.078	100 %	9/16	Soil Runoff	NO

Contaminant	Date Tested	Unit	% Removal Required	% Removal Achieved	# of Quarters out of Compliance	Violation
<b>Total Organic Carbon</b>	2016	% Removed	25 - 35 %	36 - 71 %	0	NO

Inorganics	Date Tested	Unit	AL	MCLG	90 <sup>th</sup> Percentile Value	Sites Above AL	Major Sources	Violation
Lead	Jun - Jul 2016	ppb	15	0	11.6	4 of 54	Corrosion of household plumbing systems; Erosion of natural deposits	NO
Copper	Jun - Jul 2016	ppm	1.3	1.3	0.09	0 of 54	Corrosion of household plumbing systems; Erosion of natural deposits	NO

Disinfection Byproducts	Date Tested	Unit	MCL	MCLG	Highest Running Average	Range	Major Sources	Violation
TTHMs [Total Trihalomethanes]	Year 2016	ppb	80	N/A	44.0	20.3 – 60.6	By-product of drinking water chlorination	NO
HAAs [Total Haloacetic Acids]	Year 2016	ppb	60	N/A	11.9	6.2 - 27.7	By-product of drinking water chlorination	NO

Disinfectants	Date Tested	Unit	MinRDL	Lowest Detect	Range	Major Sources	Violation
Chlorine (Entry Point)	Year 2016	ppm	0.2	1.11	1.11 - 1.96	Water additive used to control microbes	NO
Chloramines (Entry Point @ Spray Reservoir)	Jun - Nov 2016	ppm	0.2	0.92	0.92 - 2.01	Water additive used to control microbes	NO

<sup>1</sup>TT = 1 NTU for a single measurement and TT = 95% of monthly samples <0.3 NTU

Disinfectants	Date Tested	Unit	MRDL	MRDLG	Highest Monthly Average	Range of Monthly Average	Major Sources	Violation
Chlorine (Distribution/ Zone A)	Year 2016	ppm	4	4	1.38	0.70 - 1.38	Water additive used to control microbes	NO
Chloramines (Distribution / Zone B)	Jun - Nov 2016	ppm	4	4	1.04	0.74 - 1.04	Water additive used to control microbes	NO

**Unregulated Contaminant Monitoring Rule (UMCR):**

Unregulated contaminants are those for which the EPA has not established drinking water standards. The purpose of unregulated contaminant monitoring is to assist EPA in determining the occurrence of unregulated contaminants in drinking water and whether future regulation is warranted. In addition to testing we are required to perform, our water system voluntarily tests for hundreds of additional substances and microscopic organisms to make certain our water is safe and of high quality. If you are interested in a more detailed report or have any questions about the West View Water Authority and our water quality, contact Gary Hasek, West View Water Authority Chemist at (412) 931-3292.

Unregulated Contaminant	Date Tested	Unit	Detection Limit	Average	Range	Major Sources	Violation
Strontium	Year 2015	ppb	0.3	110	110	Naturally-occurring element; used in making CRT televisions.	NO
Chromium, Hexavalent	Year 2016	ppb	0.03	0.05	0.04 - 0.06	Naturally-occurring element; used in making steel and other alloys.	NO
Bromide	Year 2016	ppb	10	46	21 - 93	Naturally-occurring element; used in hydraulic fracturing to extract natural gas from shale.	NO

**Additional Testing:**

Volatile Organic Compounds (VOCs): No VOCs were detected during the 2016 reporting year.

Radiological Analysis: Radiological Analysis was conducted during the 2011 reporting year, resulting in non-detects for all parameters.

For more information, please contact **Gary Hasek** at **(412) 931-3292**.

*Please share this information with all the other people who drink this water, especially those who may not have received this notice directly (for example, people in apartments, nursing homes, schools and businesses). You can do this by posting this notice in a public place or distributing copies by hand or mail.*