



Spanish (Español)

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

Is my water safe?

Your tap water met all U.S. Environmental Protection Agency (EPA) and state drinking water health standards. The Borough of Kennett Square vigilantly safeguards its water supplies and once again we are proud to report that our system has not violated a maximum contaminant level or any other water quality standard. If you have a specific concern or question regarding this report, water conservation or water quality, you may contact Joe Scalise during normal business hours at 610-444-6020. If you would like to contact Chester Water Authority please call their customer service Department at 1-800-793-2323.

Do I need to take special precautions?

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/Centers for Disease Control (CDC) guidelines on appropriate means to lessen the risk of infection by Cryptosporidium and other microbial contaminants are available from the Safe Water Drinking Hotline (800-426-4791).

Where does my water come from?

The water you drink comes from two (2) sources. Groundwater from the Borough's well located on North Walnut Street in East Marlborough Township which produces approximately 20% of your water and surface water from an interconnection with Chester Water Authority (CWA) which supplements the remainder from their Octoraro Treatment Plant. This report represents the water quality of both water sources.

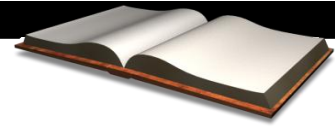
Is fluoride in my water?

The Borough does not add fluoride to the potable water system however Chester Water Authority does add fluoride and there is a small amount of fluoride naturally contained in the water from our well. Therefore, depending on where you are located in the distribution system, your water will have varying fluoride levels and the amount may vary depending on the day. Properties located in the southeast portion of the Borough will normally have the greatest levels of fluoride present in their water and properties in the northeast section of the Borough and along North Walnut Road in Kennett and East Marlborough Townships should have the lowest levels of fluoridated water.

Educational Information:

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 (EPA) 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, in some cases, radioactive material, and can pick up substances resulting from the presence of animals or from human activity. Microbial contaminants, such as viruses and bacteria that may come from sewage treatment plants, septic systems, agricultural livestock operations, and wildlife. 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. Pesticides and herbicides, which may come from a variety of sources such as agriculture, urban stormwater runoff, and 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, urban stormwater runoff, and septic systems. 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 prescribes regulations that limit the amount of certain contaminants in water provided by public water systems. Food and Drug Administration (FDA) regulations establish limits for contaminants in bottled water which must provide the same protection for public health.

Important Drinking Water Definitions:



MCLG: Maximum Contaminant Level Goal: 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.

N/A: Not applicable

MCL: Maximum Contaminant Level: 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.

ND: Not detected

MRDLG: Maximum residual disinfection level goal. 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.

NTU (Nephelometric turbidity unit): a measure of water clarity.

MRDL: Maximum residual disinfectant level. There is convincing evidence that addition of a disinfectant is necessary for control of microbial contaminants.

ppm (parts per million): or one milligrams per liter (mg/L), or one in a million.

ppb (parts per billion): or one micrograms per liter (µg/L), or one in a billion.

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

TT: Treatment Technique

The table below lists all of the drinking water contaminants that we detected during the time frame indicated. The presence of contaminants in the water does not necessarily indicate that the water poses a health risk. The data presented in this table represents results from the combination of water supplied by both Chester Water Authority and the Borough of Kennett Square. The State allows us to monitor for certain contaminants less than once per year because the concentrations of these contaminants do not change frequently.

Borough of Kennett Square (BKS) Regulated Substances Detected (2009)							
Substance	Testing Period	MCL	MCLG	BKS Average	BKS Values	Unit	Source of Substance
Fluoride	01/2009 - 12/2009	2	2	0.13	0.13	ppm	Water additive that promotes strong teeth
Nitrate	01/2009 - 12/2009	10	10	4.39	3.73 - 5.34	ppm	Source water contaminant from fertilizer use
Nitrate in drinking water above 10 ppm is a health risk for infants 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 because of rainfall or agricultural activity. If you are caring for an infant, you should ask for advice from your health care provider.							
Total Trihalomethanes (TTHM)	01/2009 - 12/2009	an average of 80	N/A	43.13	*17.93 - 69.50	ppb	By-product of drinking water chlorination
Haloacetic Acids (HAA5)	01/2009 - 12/2009	an average of 60	N/A	21.68	*3.05 - 28.15	ppb	By-product of drinking water chlorination
Chlorine	01/2009 - 12/2009	MRDL = 4	MRDLG = 4	0.52	0.17 - 0.87	ppm	water additive used to control microbes

*TTHM/HAA5 monitoring was conducted as part of a distribution system evaluation to identify additional sampling locations for a new regulation that takes affect in 2012. Range of values is based on 2009 quarterly averages.

BKS Other Substances Detected (2009)				
Substance	Testing Period	BKS Average	BKS Values	Unit
phosphorous, total	01/2009 - 12/2009	0.51	0.49 - 0.54	ppb

BKS SUBSTANCES NOT DETECTED
20 Regulated Volatile Organic Compounds (VOC's) 2009
Arsenic 2009
Total Coliform 2009
Regulated Synthetic Organic Compounds (SOC's) 2005
Atrazine 2007

BKS Regulated Substances Detected (July to August 2007)							
Substance	MCL	MCLG	90th Percentile Value	Unit	# Sites Above AL	Violation of TT Y/N	Source of Substance
Lead	AL = 15	0	5.0	ppb	0 of 20	N	Home water pipes
Copper	AL = 1.3	1.3	0.320	ppm	0 of 20	N	Home water pipes

Chester Water Authority (CWA) Regulated Substances Detected (2009)							
Substance	Testing Period	MCL	MCLG	CWA Average	CWA Values Detected	Unit	Source of Substance
Turbidity	01/2009 - 12/2009	TT	TT	0.03	0.01 - 0.09	NTU	Source water contaminant from soil runoff
In 2009, no single turbidity result exceeded 1 NTU and 100% of all turbidity results were less than 0.3 NTU, achieving the treatment technique requirement for turbidity removal. As a member of the Partnership for Safe Drinking Water, our treatment goal is to achieve 0.1 NTU or less. We monitor turbidity because it is a good indicator of the effectiveness of our filtrations system.							
Fluoride	01/2009 - 12/2009	2	2	0.78	<0.50 - 1.19	ppm	Water additive that promotes strong teeth
Nitrate	01/2009 - 12/2009	10	10	6.1	3.1 - 9.0	ppm	Source water contaminant from fertilizer use
Nitrate in drinking water above 10 ppm is a health risk for infants 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 because of rainfall or agricultural activity. If you are caring for an infant, you should ask for advice from your health care provider.							
Total Organic Compound	01/2009 - 12/2009	TT	TT	2.1	1.6 - 3.1	ppm	Naturally present in the environment
Chloramines	01/2009 - 12/2009	MRDL of 4	MRDLG of 4	1.73	1.40 - 1.99	ppm	water additive used to control microbes
	01/2009 - 12/2009			2.49	1.6 - 2.7		
				monthly average of water system samples			
				monthly minimum leaving Octoraro Treatment Plant			
Barium	4/2009	2	2	N/A	0.028	ppm	Erosion of Natural Deposits
Atrazine	4/2009 to 07/2009	3	0	N/A	<0.1 - 0.3	ppb	Runoff from herbicide used on row crops