

# 2006 ANNUAL DRINKING WATER QUALITY REPORT

## Oakdale Borough

PWSID # 5020067

*Este informe contiene información muy importante sobre su agua de beber. Tradúzcalo ó hable con alguien que lo entienda bien.* (This report contains very important information about your drinking water. Translate it, or speak with someone who understands it.)

### WATER SYSTEM INFORMATION:

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 Kelly Rohbeck, Borough Secretary at 724-693-9740. If you want to learn more, please attend any of our regularly scheduled meetings. They are held on the first Wednesday of the month at the Community Center located at 104 Seminary Avenue, Oakdale, PA 15071.

### SOURCE OF WATER:

Our water source is Pennsylvania American Water Company (PAWC) and Western Allegheny County Municipal Authority (WACMA) who obtains their water from Pennsylvania American Water Company.

**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).**

### MONITORING YOUR WATER

Oakdale Borough routinely monitors for contaminants in your drinking water according to federal and state laws. The following tables show the results of our monitoring for the period of January 1 to December 31, 2006. 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 is from prior years in accordance with the Safe Drinking Water Act. The date has been noted on the sampling results table. Since we obtain our water from different sources, it is indicated in the table which source it is from.

**DEFINITIONS AND ABBREVIATIONS:**

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

**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.

**Treatment Technique (TT)** – A required process intended to reduce the level of a contaminant in drinking water.

**Mrem/year** = millirems per year (a measure of radiation absorbed by the body)

**pCi/L** = picocuries per liter (a measure of radioactivity)

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

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

**ppq** = parts per quadrillion, or picograms per liter

**ppt** = parts per trillion, or nanograms per liter

**DETECTED SAMPLE RESULTS**

Chemical Contaminant	MCL in CCR units	MCLG	Highest Level Detected	Range of Detections	Units	Sample Date	Violation Y/N	Sources of Contamination
Barium PAWC	2	2	.031	.029-.031	(ppm)	2006	N	Discharge of drilling wastes; Discharge from metal refineries; Erosion of natural deposits
Combined Radium PAWC	5	0	1.4	NA	(pCi/L)	4/08/2003	N	Erosion of natural deposits
Beta /photon emitters PAWC	50	0	3.6	1.9-3.6	(pCi/L) (a)	2005	N	Decay of natural and man-made deposits.
Alpha Emitters PAWC	15	0	2.4	1.5-2.4	(pCi/L)	2005	N	Erosion of natural deposits.
Strontium PAWC	8	0	0.6	NA	(pCi/L)	2003	N	Decay of natural and man-made deposits
Tritium PAWC	20,000	0	500	NA	(pCi/L)	2003	N	Decay of natural and man-made deposits
Nitrate PAWC	10	10	.72	.63-.72	(ppm)	2006	N	Runoff from fertilizer use; Leaching from septic tanks, sewage; Erosion of natural deposits
Arsenic PAWC	10	0	1	< 1 – 1	(ppb)	2006	N	Erosion of natural deposits; runoff from orchards; runoff from glass and electronics production wastes.

Chemical Contaminant	MCL in CCR units	MCLG	Highest Level Detected	Range of Detections	Units	Sample Date	Violation Y/N	Sources of Contamination
Selenium PAWC	50	50	4	3-4	(ppb)	2006	N	Discharge from petroleum and metal refineries; erosion of natural deposits; discharge from mines.
Fluoride PAWC	2	2	1.46	.45-1.46	(ppm)	2006	N	Erosion of natural deposits; water additive which promotes strong teeth; discharge from fertilizer and aluminum factories.
Chlorine Oakdale(Distribution) PAWC(Entry Point)	MRDL=4	MRDLG=4	.85(b) .35	.46-.1.13 .3-1.3	(ppm)	2006 2006	N	Water additive used to control microbes
TTHMs ( Total trihalomethanes) Oakdale	80	n/a	61 (c)	55-61	(ppb)	2006	N	By-product of water chlorination
Haloacetic Acids (HAA) Oakdale	60	n/a	17 (c)	12-17	(ppb)	2006	N	By-product of drinking water disinfection
Total organic carbon PAWC	TT	n/a	35% Removal Required	21 to 42(d) %Removal Achieved	% Removed	2006	N	Naturally present in the environment

(a)The MCL for Beta Particles is 4 mrem/year. EPA considers 50 pCi/L the level of concern for Beta Particles.

(b) Highest monthly average for individual sample points.

(c) Highest annual running average for individual sample points.

(d) In months that the percent achieved was below required, there was no exceedance of the MCL because PAWC met alternative compliance criteria as required by the PA Safe Drinking Water Act.

Contaminant	MCL	MCLG	Level Detected	Sample Date	Violation of TT Y/N	Source of Contamination
Turbidity PAWC	TT= at least 95% of monthly samples ≤0.3 NTU	0	.14	2006	N	Soil runoff
Microbial Contaminants	MCL	MCLG	Highest # or % of Positive Samples	Violation Y/N	Typical Sources of Contamination	
Total Coliform Bacteria	For systems that collect <40 samples/month: • 1 positive monthly sample For systems that collect ≥40 samples/month: • 5% of monthly samples are positive	0	21 8/1/06	Y	Naturally present in the environment.	

Contaminant	Action Level (AL)	MCLG	90 <sup>th</sup> Percentile Value	Units	# of Sites Above AL of Total Sites	Violation of TT Y/N	Sources of Contamination
Lead	15	0	2	(ppb)	0 out of 10	N	Corrosion of household plumbing.
Copper	1.3	1.3	.21	(ppm)	0 out of 10	N	Corrosion of household plumbing.

## VIOLATIONS

In August of 2006 we had two of our four coliform samples come back positive. We are only allowed one per month. All retesting results were zero. A separate public notification was sent out at that time.

### IMPORTANT INFORMATION ABOUT YOUR DRINKING WATER

ESTE INFORME CONTIENE INFORMACION MUY IMPORTANTE SOBRE SU AGUE DE BEBER. TRADUZCALO O HABLE CON ALGUIEN QUE LO ENTIENDA BIEN.

Monitoring Requirements Not Met for October 2006 Calendar Year for Oakdale Water Authority

Free-Col Laboratories, the testing facility for Oakdale water, voided both Total Coliform samples and both chlorine residual samples that they collected on 10/03/06, due to improper sample delivery by their employee to their laboratory. Unfortunately, sampling was not rescheduled due to an internal communication error between the lab and their Pittsburgh office. As a result the testing was not completed in October, 2006 as required. This violated a drinking water monitoring standard. This was not an emergency but you have a right to know what happened and what we did to correct the situation.

To correct this situation, the borough is looking to hire a more responsible service do the borough's water testing.

#### What should I do?

There is nothing you need to do at this time.

The table below shows what the laboratory should monitor for each month during the year.

Contaminant Parameter	Required sampling frequency	Number of samples required	When all samples should have been taken	When samples were next taken
(1) Total Coliform				
(2) Chlorine Residual	Monthly	2 sets	October, 2006	November, 2006

#### What happened? What was done?

Even though the complete monitoring was not done in October, 2006, results in November, 2006 were entirely clear of any bacteria and the chlorine residual was at an adequate level.

For more information, please contact the Oakdale Borough Office at 724-693-9740.

This notice is being sent to you by Oakdale Borough.

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Date distributed: 6/07

## **EDUCATIONAL INFORMATION**

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. Contaminants that may be present in source water include:

- Microbial contaminants, such as viruses and bacteria, which 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 storm water run-off, 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 storm water 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 storm water 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 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.

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).

**We at Oakdale Borough 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 our childrens future.**