

# 2023 ANNUAL DRINKING WATER QUALITY REPORT

## Oakdale Borough

PWSID # 5020067

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

### 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 Vicki Kaine, 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 Thursday of the month at 7:00 PM at the Community Center located at 104 Seminary Avenue, Oakdale, PA 15071.

### SOURCE OF WATER:

Our water sources are **Pennsylvania American Water Company (PAWC)** :

**Hays Mine** : Pennsylvania American Water –Pittsburgh (Hays Mine Treatment Plant)

**Aldrich**: Pennsylvania American Water –Pittsburgh (Aldrich Treatment Plant)

and **Western Allegheny County Municipal Authority (WACMA)** who obtains their water from Pennsylvania American Water Company.

### SOURCE WATER ASSESSMENT – PA AMERICAN WATER

The Pennsylvania Department of Environmental Protection (DEP) and PAWC completed an assessment for the drinking water sources for the Pittsburgh, McMurray, and Mon-Valley system in May 2002. No man-made contaminants have been detected in the surface water supplies. Based on the source water assessment, the water shed is at High Risk of contamination. The water sources are considered most vulnerable to the following activities (although not associated with any detected chemicals): transportation corridors, boating, barge traffic, salt storage, auto repair, utility substations, power plants, combined sewer outfalls, and runoff from non-point sources such as residential developments, farms, and abandoned mines. The source of the water assessment is Surface Water from the Monongahela River. A copy of the completed Source Water assessment may be viewed by calling the local office of the PA DEP at 412-442-4000 or at the following website <http://www.dep.state.pa.us/dep/deputate/watermgt/wc/Subjects/SrceProt/SourceAssessment/default.htm> PAWC encourages you to take an active part in protecting your water supply by participating in local activities as they occur in your local area.

**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, 2023. The State allows us to monitor 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.

**Minimum Residual Disinfectant Level** - The minimum level of residual disinfectant required at the entry point to the distribution system.

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

**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 bacteria 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.

**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)

(mg/L) **ppq** = parts per quadrillion, or picograms per liter

**ppm** = parts per million, or milligrams per liter

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

**DETECTED SAMPLE RESULTS**

<b>Entry Point Disinfectant Residual - Chlorine*</b>							
<b>Minimum Disinfectant Residual</b>	<b>Minimum Disinfectant Residual</b>	<b>Lowest Level Detected</b>	<b>Range of Detections</b>	<b>Units</b>	<b>Lowest Sample Date</b>	<b>Violation Y/N</b>	<b>Sources of Contamination</b>
(Hays Station) – PAWC 2023	0.20	1.12	1.12 – 2.89	ppm	7/26/23	N	Water additive used to control microbes.
(Aldrich Station) –PAWC 2023	0.20	1.49	1.49 – 3.68	ppm	8/23/23	N	Water additive used to control microbes.

(\*) Monitored continuously at treatment plants and the lowest daily reading reported to regulatory agency each month.

<b>Chemical Contaminant</b>	<b>MCL in CCR units</b>	<b>MCLG</b>	<b>Highest Level Detected</b>	<b>Range of Detections</b>	<b>Units</b>	<b>Sample Date</b>	<b>Violation Y/N</b>	<b>Sources of Contamination</b>
<b>Nitrate</b> PAWC (Hays) PAWC (Aldrich)	10	10	0.65	N/A	(ppm)	7/25/23	N	Runoff from fertilizer use; Leaching from septic tanks, sewage; Erosion of natural deposits
	10	10	0.44	N/A	(ppm)	7/25/23	N	
<b>Fluoride (a)</b> PAWC (Hays) PAWC (Aldrich)	2	2	0.58	N/A	(ppm)	1/11/23	N	Erosion of natural deposits; water additive which promotes strong teeth; discharge from fertilizer and aluminum factories.
	2	2	0.50	N/A	(ppm)	1/10/23	N	

Chemical Contaminant	MCL in CCR units	MCLG	Highest Level Detected	Range of Detections	Units	Sample Date	Violation Y/N	Sources of Contamination
Chlorine Oakdale (Distribution)	MRDL=4	MRDLG=4	1.49 ( March 2023)	0.69 – 1.49	(ppm)	2023	N	Water additive used to control microbes
Gross Beta Particles PAWC (Aldrich)	50	0	11.60	0.00-11.60	(pCi/L)	2023	N	Decay of natural and man-made deposits
TTHMs (Total Trihalomethanes) Oakdale	80	N/A	58.84 1st Qtr. <b>(b)</b>	36.20 – 70.50	(ppb)	2023	N	By-product of water chlorination
Haloacetic Acids (HAA) Oakdale	60	N/A	21.15 2nd Qtr. <b>(b)</b>	0.00 – 49.70	(ppb)	2023	N	By-product of drinking water disinfection
Total Organic Carbon PAWC – Hayes PAWC – Aldrich	TT	N/A	35% <b>Removal Required</b>	<b>% Rem Ach</b> 6.60-35.30 % <b>(c)</b> 18.40-35.60% <b>(c)</b>	% Removed	2023 2023	N N	Naturally present in the environment

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

(b) Indicates that these are the highest running annual average (RAA) calculated during 2023.

(c) In months that the percentage achieved was below required, there was no exceedance of the MCL because PAWC and MAWC met alternative compliance criteria as required by the PA Safe Drinking Water Act. Adequate removal of TOC may be necessary to control the unwanted formation of chlorinated by-products. Naturally occurring organic matter present in the source water can react with the disinfectants used at the treatment facility to form these by-products. There are several compliance criteria that can be used to meet this requirement.

(d) “\*EPA considers 50 pCi/L to be the level of concern for beta particles.”

Contaminant	MCL	MCLG	Highest Level Detected	Source of Contamination
Turbidity PAWC 2023	TT= 1 NTU for a Single measurement	0	(Hay’s Mine) 0.12 1/5/23 (Aldrich) 0.077 12/4/23	Soil Runoff
	TT+ at least 95% of Monthly samples ≤0.3 NTU	0	(Hay’s Mine) 100% (Aldrich) 100%	Soil Runoff

Turbidity readings were below the treatment technique requirement of 0.3 NTU in 95% of all samples taken for compliance on a monthly basis. Turbidity is a measure of the cloudiness of the water. We monitor it because it is a good indicator of the efficacy of our clarification and filtration processes.

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 – 2022 Oakdale	15	0	0.00	(ppb)	0 out of 10	N	Corrosion of household plumbing systems; Erosion of natural deposits
Copper – 2022 Oakdale	1.3	1.3	0.102	(ppm)	0 out of 10	N	Corrosion of household plumbing systems; Erosion of natural deposits; Leaching from wood preservatives

"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. Oakdale 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 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>."

**Violations:** We are required to monitor for Distribution Chlorine each week, but in November of 2023 we failed to report the results to the PA Department of Environmental Protection by the required due date resulting in a monitoring/reporting violation.

We are required to sample for Total Coliform (2 samples each month). In February of 2023 we only sampled once. Public Notification regarding this violation is enclosed at the end of this report.

### ***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, may come from sewage treatment plants, septic systems, agricultural livestock operations, and wildlife.
- Inorganic contaminants, such as salts and metals, can be naturally occurring or result from urban storm water 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 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 (1-800-426-4791).

**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 children's future.**

# IMPORTANT INFORMATION ABOUT YOUR DRINKING WATER FAILURE TO MONITOR

**ESTE INFORME CONTIENE INFORMACIÓN IMPORTANTE ACERCA DE SU AGUA POTABLE. HAGA QUE  
ALGUIEN LO TRADUZCA PARA USTED, O HABLE CON ALGUIEN QUE LO ENTIENDA.**

## Monitoring Requirements Not Met for the Oakdale Borough Water Department

Our water system violated a drinking water standard over the past year. Even though this was not an emergency, as our customers, you have a right to know what happened and what we did to correct this situation.

*We are required to monitor your drinking water for specific contaminants on a regular basis. Results of regular monitoring are an indicator of whether or not our drinking water meets health standards. Each month we are required to take 2 samples for Total Coliform, but in February of 2023 we only took one sample and therefore cannot be sure of the quality of our drinking water during that time.*

### What should I do?

There is nothing you need to do at this time.

The table below lists the contaminants we did not properly test for during the last year, how often we are supposed to sample for Total Coliform, and how many samples we are supposed to take, how many samples we took, when samples should have been taken, and the date on which follow-up samples were taken.

Contaminant	Required sampling frequency	Number of samples taken	When all samples should have been taken	When samples were taken
Total Coliform	2 Samples each month	1	February 2023	March 2023

### What happened? What was done?

*Each month we are required to take 2 samples for Total Coliform, but in February of 2023 we only took one sample. The correct number of samples were taken in March of 2023.*

For more information, please contact Vicki Kaine at 724-693-9740.

*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.*

This notice is being sent to you from the Oakdale Borough Water Department.

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