

# Community Utilities of Pennsylvania, Inc. Penn Estates Water System

PWS ID: PA2450065



## Annual Water Quality Report 2024

### Message from Nate Spriggs, President

Dear Community Utilities of Pennsylvania, Inc. Customers,

I am pleased to present your Annual Water Quality Report for 2024. We strive to do our part in delivering vital, safe and reliable water services that empower our communities to flourish. Included in this report are details about where your water comes from, what it contains, and how it compares to regulatory standards.

**We are proud to share this report which is based on water quality testing through December 2024. We continually strive to supply water that meets and/or exceeds all federal and state water quality regulations at your tap.**

Providing a safe and reliable water supply is hard work, but it is satisfying. Our team of local water experts are proudly dedicated to providing safe, reliable, and cost-effective service every day. This commitment includes acting with integrity, protecting the environment, and enhancing the local community.

Best regards,

A handwritten signature in black ink, reading "Nathaniel L. Spriggs".

**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.**

**Visit us online at [www.myutility.us/PA](http://www.myutility.us/PA) to view the Water Quality Reports. Also visit our website for water conservation tips and other educational material.**

### Source of Drinking Water

Your water is supplied from seven wells that draw groundwater from three aquifers, Towamensing, Walcksville and the Trimmers Rock in Monroe County located within community boundaries in the Stroud Township. An aquifer is a geological formation that contains water.

### Source Water Assessment

A source water assessment of the Towamensing, Walcksville and the Trimmers Rock geologic aquifer, which supplies water for Community Utilities of Pennsylvania, Inc. was completed by the PA Department of Environmental Protection (PADEP).

Summary reports of the assessment are available by writing to, Community Utilities of Pennsylvania, Inc. P.O. Box 379, Dunkirk, Maryland 20754-0379 and on the PADEP website at [www.dep.state.pa.us/dep/deputate/watermgt/wc/Subjects/SrceProt/SourceAssessment/default.htm](http://www.dep.state.pa.us/dep/deputate/watermgt/wc/Subjects/SrceProt/SourceAssessment/default.htm).

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 PADEP Northeast Regional Office, Records Management Unit at (570) 826-2511.

The assessment found 11 individual potential pollution point activities in the area:

The highest risk of threat of potential pollution to the water system by activity quantity is Quarry, swimming pools and wastewater treatment plants.

Please call customer service at 1-800-638-0262 if you have questions.

Category	Quantity	Greatest Percentage
Agricultural	0	
Commercial	0	
Industrial	1	Quarry
Miscellaneous	9	Wastewater Treatment Plant
Residential	1	Swimming Pool

**Este informe contiene información muy importante sobre su agua beber. Tradúzcalo ó hable con alguien que lo entienda bien.**

## EPA Wants You To Know

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:**

- 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, urban stormwater runoff, and residential uses.
- D. **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.
- E. **Radioactive contaminants**, which can be naturally occurring or be the result of oil and gas production and mining activities.

### **What measures are in place to ensure water is safe to drink?**

In order to ensure that tap water is safe to drink, the EPA prescribes regulations, which limit the amount of certain contaminants in water provided by public water systems. The Food and Drug Administration (FDA) 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 the 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 at 1-800-426-4791.

### **Special notice from EPA for the elderly, infants, cancer patients and people with HIV/AIDS or other immune system problems**

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. USEPA/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 (1-800-426-4791).

### **Information Concerning Lead in Water**

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. Community Utilities of Pennsylvania, Inc. is responsible for providing high quality drinking water and removing lead pipes, but cannot control the variety of materials used in plumbing components in your home. You share the responsibility for protecting yourself and your family from the lead in your home plumbing. You can take responsibility by identifying and removing lead materials within your home plumbing and taking steps to reduce your family's risk. Before drinking tap water, flush your pipes for several minutes by running your tap, taking a shower, doing laundry or a load of dishes. You can also use a filter certified by an American National Standards Institute accredited certifier to reduce lead in drinking water. If you are concerned about lead in your water and wish to have your water tested, contact Community Utilities of Pennsylvania, Inc. by emailing [lead.lines@nexuswg.com](mailto:lead.lines@nexuswg.com). Information on lead in drinking water, testing methods, and steps you can take to minimize exposure is available at [www.epa.gov/safewater/lead](http://www.epa.gov/safewater/lead).

We prepared a service line inventory that includes the type of material contained in each service line in our distribution system. To request access to this inventory or request to review the complete lead tap sampling data, email us at: [lead.lines@nexuswg.com](mailto:lead.lines@nexuswg.com).

### **Drain Disposal Information**

Sewer overflows and backups can cause health hazards, damage home interiors, and threaten the environment. A common cause is sewer pipes blocked by grease, which gets into the sewer from household drains. Grease sticks to the insides of pipes. Over time, the grease can build up and block the entire pipe. Help solve the grease problem by keeping this material out of the sewer system in the first place:

- Never pour grease down sink drains or into toilets. Scrape grease into a can or trash.
- Put strainers in sink drains to catch food scraps / solids for disposal.

### **Prescription Medication and Hazardous Waste**

Household products such as paints, cleaners, oils, and pesticides, are considered to be household hazardous waste. Prescription and over-the-counter drugs poured down the sink or flushed down the toilet can pass through the wastewater treatment system and enter rivers and lakes (or leach into the ground and seep into groundwater in a septic system). Follow the directions for proper disposal procedures. **Do not flush hazardous waste or prescription and over-the-counter drugs down the toilet or drain.** They may flow downstream to serve as sources for community drinking water supplies. Many communities offer a variety of options for conveniently and safely managing these items.

For more information, visit the EPA website at: [www.epa.gov/hw/household-hazardous-waste-hhw](http://www.epa.gov/hw/household-hazardous-waste-hhw).

**The Safe Drinking Water Act** was passed in 1974 due to congressional concerns about organic chemical contaminants in drinking water and the inefficient manner by which states supervised and monitored drinking water supplies. Congress' aim was to assure that all citizens served by public water systems would be provided high quality water. As a result, the EPA set enforceable standards for health-related drinking water contaminants. The Act also established programs to protect underground sources of drinking water from contamination.

**Understanding This Report** In order to help you understand this report, we want you to understand a few terms and abbreviations that are contained in it.

Action level (AL)	The concentration of a contaminant which, if exceeded, triggers treatment or other requirements that a water system must follow.
Action level goal (ALG)	The level of a contaminant in drinking water below which there is no known or expected risk to health. ALG's allow for a margin of safety.
Avg	Regulatory compliance with some MCLs is based on running annual average of monthly samples.
EPA	Environmental Protection Agency.
Maximum Contaminant Level (MCL)	The highest level of a contaminant that is allowed in drinking water. MCL's are set as close to the MCLG's as feasible using the best available treatment technology.
Maximum Contaminant Level Goal (MCLG)	The "goal" is 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. MRDLGs do not reflect the benefits of the use of disinfectants to control microbial contaminants.
MFL	Million fibers per liter
Not applicable (N/A)	Not applicable.
Not Detected (ND)	Analysis or test results indicate the constituent is not detectable at minimum reporting limit.
Parts per million (ppm) or Milligrams per liter (mg/l)	One part per million corresponds to one minute in two years or a single penny in \$10,000.
Parts per billion (ppb) or Micrograms per liter (ug/l)	One part per billion corresponds to one minute in 2,000 years or a single penny in \$10,000,000.
Picocuries per liter (pCi/L)	A measure of radioactivity in the water.
Treatment Technique (TT)	A treatment technique is a required process intended to reduce the level of a contaminant in drinking water.

## Help Protect our Resources

Help put a stop to the more than **1 trillion gallons of water lost annually** nationwide due to household leaks. These easy to fix leaks waste the average family the amount of water used to fill a backyard swimming pool each year. Plumbing leaks can run up your family's water bill an extra 10 percent or more, but chasing down these water and money wasting culprits is as easy as 1—2—3. Simply check, twist, and replace your way to fewer leaks and more water savings:

- ⇒ **Check** for silent leaks in the toilet with a few drops of food coloring in the tank, and check your sprinkler system for winter damage.
- ⇒ **Twist** faucet valves; tighten pipe connections; and secure your hose to the spigot. For additional savings, twist a WaterSense labeled aerator onto each bathroom faucet to save water without noticing a difference in flow. They can save a household more than 500 gallons each year—equivalent to the amount water used to shower 180 times!
- ⇒ **Replace** old plumbing fixtures and irrigation controllers that are wasting water with WaterSense labeled models that are independently certified to use 20 percent less water and perform well.

For more information visit [www.epa.gov/watersense](http://www.epa.gov/watersense)

**Visit us online at [www.myutility.us/PA](http://www.myutility.us/PA) to view the Water Quality Reports. Also visit our website for water**

**conservation tips and other educational material.**

## Monitoring Your Water

We routinely monitor for contaminants in your drinking water according to Federal and State laws. The tables below lists all the drinking water contaminants that were detected in the last round of sampling for each particular contaminant group. The presence of contaminants does not necessarily indicate that water poses a health risk. **Unless otherwise noted, the data presented in the table is from testing done January 1 through December 31, 2024.** The EPA or the State requires us to monitor for certain contaminants less than once per year because the concentrations of these contaminants are not expected to vary significantly from year to year. Some of the data, though representative of the water quality, maybe more than one year old.

*MCLs are set at very stringent levels. To understand the possible health effects described for many regulated contaminants, a person would have to drink 2 liters of water every day at the MCL level for a lifetime to have a one-in-a-million chance of having the described health effect.*

## If You Have Questions Or Want To Get Involved

Community Utilities of Pennsylvania, Inc. does not hold regular public meetings. If you have any questions about this report or your water utility, please contact customer service at 1-800-638-0262.

**To access your utility account anytime, anywhere, please register for our customer portal & download My Utility Account at <https://account.myutility.us>**

## Water Quality Test Results

### Lead and Copper Contaminants - Regulated at the Consumers' Tap

Contaminant (Units)	Sample Date	Action Level (AL)	MCLG	90th Percentile Value	# of sites Above AL of Total Sites	Range Low High	Violation	Likely Source of Contamination
Copper (ppm)	6/1/2024 - 9/30/2024	1.3	1.3	0.881	1 out of 22	0.269 - 1.46	N	Corrosion of household plumbing systems; erosion of natural deposits; leaching from wood preservatives.
Lead (ppb)	6/1/2024 - 9/30/2024	15	0	0.2	0 out of 22	0 - 0.4	N	Corrosion of household plumbing systems, erosion of natural deposits.

**Copper** is an essential nutrient, but some people who drink water containing copper in excess of the action level over a relatively short amount of time could experience gastrointestinal distress. Some people who drink water containing copper in excess of the action level over many years could suffer liver or kidney damage. People with Wilson's disease should consult their personal doctor.

### Secondary Contaminants

Contaminant (units)	Sample Date	MCL Violation Y/N	Your Water Average	Range Low High	MCL	Likely Source of Contamination
Sulfate (ppm)	2018	N	16	11 - 23	250	Erosion of natural deposits
**Lead (ppb)	2020	N	10	ND- 48	15	Erosion of natural deposits
**Copper (ppm)	2020	N	0.307	ND-0.578	1.3	Erosion of natural deposits, leaching from wood preservatives

**\*\*Lead and \*\*Copper** samples were collected at Entry Point and were not collected as part of the Lead and Copper Rule. **Lead:** Exposure to lead in drinking water can cause serious health effects in all age groups. Infants and children can have decreases in IQ and attention span. Lead exposure can lead to new learning and behavior problems or exacerbate existing learning and behavior problems. The children of women who are exposed to lead before pregnancy can have increased risk of these adverse health effects. Adults can have increased risks of heart disease, high blood pressure, kidney or nervous system problems.

### Entry Point Disinfectant Residual

Contaminant	Minimum Disinfectant Residual	Lowest Level Detected	Range of Detections	Units	Sample Date	Violation	Sources of Contamination
Chlorine	0.4	0.4	0.4 - 2.52	ppm	2024	N	Water additive used to control microbes

### Disinfection By-Products Contaminants

Contaminant (units)	Sample Date	MCL/MRDL Violation Y/N	Your Water Average	Range Low-High	MCLG	MCL	Likely Source of Contamination
Distribution System Chlorine (ppm)	2024	See Violation Section	1.10	0.26 - 3.1	MRDLG = 4	MRDL = 4	Water additive used to control microbes

### Inorganic Contaminants

Contaminant (units)	Sample Date	MCL Violation Y/N	Your Water Average	Range Low High	MCLG	MCL	Likely Source of Contamination
Arsenic (ppb)	2024	N	2.0	2.0 - 2.0	0	10	Erosion of natural deposits; Runoff from orchards; Runoff from glass and electronics production wastes
Barium (ppm)	2024	N	0.034	0.011 - 0.034	2	2	Discharge from drilling wastes; Discharge from metal refineries; Erosion of natural deposits
Asbestos (MFL)	2022	N	0.12	0.12 - 0.12	7	7	Decay of asbestos cement water mains; Erosion of natural deposits
Nickel (ppm)	2024	N	0.004	0.001 - 0.014	0.1	0.1	

Other Miscellaneous Water Characteristics - Contaminants			
Contaminant (units)	Sample Date	Your Water	Range Low High
Calcium (ppm)	2023	22.65	18.5 - 26.8
Magnesium	2017	6.29	N/A

**Bulk Water Hauling**  
 In 2024, Community Utilities of Pennsylvania, Inc. purchased water from Easton Area Water System PWSID 3480050 and was hauled in by Palmer & Sons, Inc PWSID 3486567 during several timeframes throughout the year. For any questions regarding the bulk water hauling in 2024, please contact our customer service at 1(800) 638-0262.

**Violations**  
 Please see the following violation that Community Utilities of Pennsylvania, Inc. received in 2024:

Chlorine—Distribution System			
Violation Type	Violation Begin	Violation End	Violation Explanation
Monitoring and Reporting	3/5/2024	3/12/2024	We failed to collect a weekly disinfectant residual.
<i>Some people who use water containing chlorine well in excess of the MRDL could experience irritating effects to their eyes and nose. Some people who drink water containing chlorine well in excess of the MRDL could experience stomach discomfort.</i>			



## PFAS Testing

Community Utilities of Pennsylvania, Inc. continues efforts to conduct statewide drinking water testing for Per- and Polyfluoroalkyl Substances (PFAS). These man-made compounds are used in the manufacturing of products resistant to water, grease or stains including firefighting foams, cleaners, cosmetics, paints, adhesives and insecticides. PFAS can migrate into the soil, water, and air and is likely present in the blood of humans and animals all over the world. On April 10, 2024, the EPA approved new sampling requirements and drinking water limits for six PFAS including PFOA, PFOS, PFNA, PFHxS, PFBS, and GenX Chemicals. We are completing PFAS sampling ahead of the 2027 initial monitoring deadline and will take appropriate action to meet new regulations as needed.

**Our focus will remain, as always, on supplying our customers with quality, reliable water service.**

For the latest PFAS results, visit our website at [www.myutility.us/PA](http://www.myutility.us/PA) and click Water Quality Reports under Water Safety. For more information visit <https://www.epa.gov/pfas>.

### PFAS Results (All results reported as Nanograms per liter (ng/L))

Contaminant	Sample Date	Range of Detect	Average	EPA MCLG	EPA MCL
PFOA (Compliance Samples)	1/24, 2/24, 4/24, 7/24, 10/24	ND—2.27	0.3	0	4.0
PFOS (Compliance Samples)	1/24, 2/24, 4/24, 7/24, 10/24	ND—2.5	0.3	0	4.0
PFOA	3/24	1.9—2.7	2.4	0	4.0
PFOS	3/24	1.6—2.9	2.3	0	4.0
PFBS*	3/24	1.3—2.1	1.6		
PFHxS*	3/24	ND—1.5	0.5	10	10
PFNA*	3/24	N/A	ND	10	10
PFHxA	3/24	0.97—1.4	1.22		
HFPO-DA (GenX)*	3/24	N/A	ND	10	10
PFOSA	3/24	ND—1.1	0.37		
Hazard Index*	3/24	ND—2.1	0.05	1 (unitless)	1 (unitless)

#### Terms and Abbreviations:

- **GenX** – Hexafluoropropylene Oxide Dimer Acid (HFPO-DA)
- **Hazard Index** – PFAS mixtures containing at least two or more of PFHxS, PFNA, HFPO-DA, and PFBS use a Hazard Index MCL to account for the combined and co-occurring levels of these PFAS in drinking water.
- **ND (No Detect)** - No detection means the constituent is not detectable at the minimum reporting limit.
- **Ng/L** – Nanograms per liter (ng/L) which equals Parts per trillion (ppt) – One part per trillion corresponds to one minute in 2,000,000 years, or a single penny in \$10,000,000,000.
- **PFBS** – Perfluorobutanesulfonic Acid
- **PFHxA** – Perfluorohexanoic Acid
- **PFHxS** – Perfluorohexanesulfonic Acid
- **PFNA** – Perfluorononanoic Acid
- **PFOA** – Perfluorooctanoic Acid
- **PFOS** – Perfluorooctanesulfonic Acid
- **PFOSA** – Perfluorooctane Sulfonamide

