

## ***2015 Drinking Water Quality Report***

### **ATGLEN BOROUGH WATER SYSTEM**

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

The 2015 Drinking Water Quality Report is designed to inform you about the water quality and services we deliver to you every day. Our mission is to provide you with a dependable and safe supply of drinking water. We want you to understand the efforts we make to continually improve the water treatment process, protect our water resources, and deliver a high quality public water product to your home and business.

In 2015, our public water source supply came from three wells located in West Sadsbury Township. Also when needed on an emergency basis we purchase treated public drinking water from PA American Water Company.

Atglen Borough routinely monitors for contaminants in your drinking water. The monitoring results are shown on the Table found on page 2 for the period of January 1 to December 31, 2015.

All drinking water, including bottled drinking water, may reasonably be expected to contain at least small amounts of some contaminants. Some potential contaminants are naturally occurring or manmade. These contaminants can be microbes, organic or inorganic chemicals, or radioactive materials. It is important to remember that the presence of these contaminants does not necessarily pose a health risk.

Contaminants that may be present in source water include:

- Microbial contaminants, such as viruses and bacteria, which may come from 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 or domestic wastewater discharges, production, or farming.
- Pesticides and herbicides, which may come from a variety of sources such as agricultural, urban stormwater runoff, and residential uses.
- Organic chemical contaminants, including synthetic and volatile organic chemicals, which can be byproducts of urban 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 which limit the amount of certain contaminants in water provided by public water systems. Food and Drug Administration regulations establish limits for contaminants in bottled water which must provide the same protection for public health.

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 microbiological contaminants are available from the Safe Drinking Water Hotline (800-426-4791).

Below is a Table of test results for Year 2015. In this table you will find unfamiliar terms and abbreviations.. To help you better understand these terms and abbreviations we have provided the following definitions:

*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.

*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 Maximum Contaminant Level Goals 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 contamination.

<b>2015 TEST RESULTS</b>						
<b>Inorganic Contaminants</b>						
<b>Contaminant</b> (Unit of measurement)	Violation Y/N	Level Detected	Results Range	MCLG	MCL	Likely Source of Contamination
14. Copper (ppm)	No	.38 8/13	.01-.38 All ten samples below the action level.	1.3	AL=1.3	Corrosion of household plumbing systems; erosion of natural deposits; leaching from wood preservatives
17. Lead (ppb)	No	.003 8/13	.001-.003 All ten samples below the action level.	0	AL=15	Corrosion of household plumbing systems, erosion of natural deposits
19. Nitrate (as Nitrogen) (ppm)	Yes	10.5 10/15	2.2 – 10.5	10	10	Runoff from fertilizer use; leaching from septic tanks, sewage; erosion of natural deposits
73. TTHM (total trihalomethanes) (ppb)	No	6.0 9/11	N/A	0	100	By product of drinking water chlorination
<b>Disinfectants</b>						
	MRDL	MRLG	Highest Monthly Average	Range of Detections	Violation	Typical Source of Contaminant
Chlorine (ppm)	4	4	1.2	0.5 – 2.2	N	Water additive used to control microbes.

MCL's are set at very stringent levels for health effects. 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.

**Nitrates:** Atglen Borough has three primary public water sources. We test the public water sources quarterly for nitrates. On October 8, 2015 we notified you of a slightly high nitrate level in Well #4 and shut down Well # 4. The well tested at 10.5 mg/l at the entry point. We performed maintenance by backflushing the water lines and retested on October 9. The test results on October 9 found the problem was corrected. On October 15 we advised the community the nitrate level at the entry point had improved and met acceptable standards. But we decided to keep Well #4 turned off for ten additional weeks as we monitored daily the nitrate levels. We wanted the nitrates to show consistent levels below the acceptable public water drinking standards of 10 mg/l. On December 23, 2015 we returned Well # 4 to service.

Nitrates levels may rise quickly for short periods of time because of rainfall or agricultural activity. High nitrate levels above 10 mg/l are a health risk for infants of less than six months of age. It may cause blue baby syndrome. If you are caring for an infant and need advice please consult with your health care provider.

**Information about 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. Atglen Borough is responsible for providing high quality drinking water, but we cannot control the variety of materials used in the plumbing components. When your water has been sitting for several hours not moving through the system, you can minimize the potential for lead exposure by turning on your faucet for 30 seconds to two 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>.

**Fluoride:** Atglen Borough does not add fluoride to its water supply. Our emergency source, PA American Water, has a fluoride level of approximately 0.7 ppm.

As previously mentioned we strive to maintain a dependable and high quality water supply system. Sometimes it is necessary to make improvements to the water infrastructure system. Most often these improvements are reflected as rate structure adjustments.

The Borough Council meetings are held on the first Monday of each month at 7:00 p.m. at the Atglen Borough Hall, 120 West Main Street, Atglen, PA. For more information please refer to our website- [www.atglen.org](http://www.atglen.org).

Landlords, apartment managers, businesses and others are encouraged to share this Drinking Water Quality Report with all water users at their respective locations. We thank you for your cooperation in distributing this important information. If you have any questions about this report or concerns about your water utility, please contact Bryan Umble, Public Works Manager, at 610.593.6854.