

April 2024

# HILLTOWN TOWNSHIP WATER AND SEWER AUTHORITY 2023 WATER QUALITY REPORT

HTWSA WATER SYSTEM ♦ PWSID #1090117 & PWSID #1090162

*Este informe contiene información importante acerca de su agua potable. Haga que alguien lo traduzca para usted, ó hable con alguien que lo entienda. (This report contains important information about your drinking water. Have someone translate it for you, or speak with someone who understands it.)*

## HTWSA's Commitment to You: Safe & Reliable Drinking Water

### How Good is Hilltown's Water?



The Hilltown Township Water and Sewer Authority (HTWSA) has been committed to providing residents with a safe and reliable supply of high-quality drinking water since 1986. We test our water using the most current equipment and methods to ensure safe drinking water. This annual report will provide you with information regarding the

source of your water; test results; and other things you should know about the water you use.

We are proud to report that the water we provide to you exceeds the water quality standards of the Pennsylvania Department of Environmental Protection and the U.S. Environmental Protection Agency. We have learned through our monitoring and testing that some constituents have been detected. The EPA has determined that your water **IS SAFE** at these levels. ♦

You may also visit EPA's drinking water website for more information about drinking water standards and quality. [www.epa.gov/safewater](http://www.epa.gov/safewater)

# HTWSA

WE'RE ON THE WEB!  
[WWW.HTWSA.ORG](http://WWW.HTWSA.ORG)

[NorthPennWater.org](http://NorthPennWater.org)

### Important Health Information

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 ways to lessen the risk of infection by *Cryptosporidium* and other microbial contaminants are available from the Safe Drinking Water Hotline (800-426-4791). ♦

Regular Hilltown Water and Sewer Authority Meetings are held on the 2nd Wednesday of every month at 7:30 p.m. at the Authority Office.

316 Highland Park Road  
Hilltown Township

Customer Service: (215) 453-6065

Emergency After-Hours: (215) 453-6065

EPA Safe Drinking Water Hotline:  
(800) 426-4791

Hilltown Water and Sewer Authority is a member of the Pennsylvania Rural Water Association and the American Water Works Association.

**Your Drinking Water Meets & Exceeds EPA & PADEP Standards**



We routinely monitor for contaminants in your drinking water according to federal and state laws. The following table shows the results of our monitoring for the period of January 1 to

December 31, 2023. 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 table results. 💧

**Where Does Your Water Come From?**

In 2023, three municipal groundwater wells and interconnections with North Penn Water System fulfilled the needs of HTWSA's customers. The wells are located in the East Branch Perkiomen watershed. Well No. 1 is located off Thistle Lane. Well No. 2 is located on South Perkasio Road. Well No. 5 is located on Route 152. Arsenic treatment and disinfection are conducted at each well facility prior to distribution. A copy of the Source Water Assessment is available for viewing at the HTWSA Office.

HTWSA has two interconnects with North Penn Water Authority (NPWA). The southern connection is the sole source for the Ridge and Reserve at Hilltown. The northern interconnect is a supplementary water source for the central distribution system .

HTWSA customers living in the **Hilltown Ridge** and **Reserves at Hilltown** subdivisions are served by the Southern Distribution System (PWSID #1090162). This system is supplied solely through an interconnect with NPWA. HTWSA monitors contaminants which are associated with distribution of drinking water for this System. Contaminants which are associated with source water are monitored by NPWA. A copy of NPWA Annual Water Quality Report is attached. 💧

HTWSA serves customers on two distribution systems. The majority of our customers are served by the Central Distribution System (PSWID 1090117). This system is supplied water from HTWSA wells and an interconnection with North Penn Water Authority (NPWA).

**DETECTED SAMPLE RESULTS—HTWSA CENTRAL DISTRIBUTION**

**INORGANIC CONTAMINANTS**

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
Copper (2022)	1.3	1.3	0.180	ppm	0 of 20	N	Corrosion of household plumbing systems; erosion of natural deposits; leaching from wood preservatives
Lead (2022)	15	0	2.21	Ppb	0 of 20	N	Corrosion of household plumbing systems; Erosion of natural deposits
Contaminant	MCL	MCLG	Level Detected	Range	Units	Violation Y/N	Sources of Contamination
Arsenic	10	0	5.125	2-8	ppb	N	Erosion of natural deposits; Runoff from orchards; Runoff from glass and electronics production wastes
Barium (2021)	2	2	0.21	0.06 - 0.21	ppm	N	Discharge of drilling wastes; discharge from metal refineries; erosion of natural deposits
Nitrate	10	10	1.78	0-1.78	ppm	N	Runoff from fertilizer use; Leaching from septic tanks, sewage; Erosion of natural deposits
Chlorine (In System)	MRDL =4	MRD-LG=4	1.54	0.23- 1.54	ppm	N	Water additive used to control microbes.

**RADIONUCLIDES**

Contaminant	MCL	MCLG	Level Detected	Range	Units	Violation Y/N	Sources of Contamination
Gross Alpha	15	0	6.76	n/a	pCi/L	N	Erosion of natural deposits of certain minerals that are radioactive and may emit a form of radiation known as alpha radiation
Combined Uranium	20	0	1.534	1.494-1.534	pCi/L	N	Erosion of natural deposits

## DETECTED SAMPLE RESULTS—HTWSA CENTRAL DISTRIBUTION

### DISINFECTION BYPRODUCTS

Contaminant	MCL	MCLG	Level Detected	Range	Units	Year	Violation Y/N	Sources of Contamination
Trichloroacetic Acid (HAA)	60	n/a	2.3	0-2.3	ppb	2023	N	Byproduct of drinking water disinfection
Dichloroacetic Acid (HAA)	60	n/a	3.6	1.3-3.6	ppb	2023	N	Byproduct of drinking water disinfection
Dibromoacetic Acid (HAA)	60	n/a	2.2	0-2.2	ppb	2023	N	Byproduct of drinking water disinfection
Bromodichloromethane (THM)	80	n/a	13.1	3.4-13.1	ppb	2023	N	Byproduct of drinking water disinfection
Chlorodibromomethane (THM)	80	n/a	11.1	2.4-11.1	ppb	2023	N	Byproduct of drinking water disinfection
Chloroform (THM)	80	n/a	14.6	3.7-14.6	ppb	2023	N	Byproduct of drinking water disinfection
Bromoform (THM)	80	n/a	3.4	0-3.4	ppb	2023	N	Byproduct of drinking water disinfection

### ENTRY POINT DISINFECTION RESIDUAL—WELLS 1, 2, AND 5

Contaminant	Minimum Residual	Lowest Level	Range	Units	Sample Date	Violation Y/N	Sources of Contamination
Chlorine (ID 101)	0.40	0.84	0.84-1.51	ppm	Daily 2023	Y*	Water additive used to control microbes.
Chlorine (ID 102)	0.40	0.49	0.49-1.28	ppm	Daily 2023	Y*	Water additive used to control microbes.
Chlorine (ID103)	0.40	0.82	0.82-1.77	ppm	Daily 2023	Y*	Water additive used to control microbes.

\*We are required to monitor drinking water for disinfection byproducts on a regular basis. Results of regular monitoring are an indicator of whether or not our drinking water meets health standards. During 2023, we were late in reporting Chlorine samples during quarters 1 & 3. Compliance for this violation was achieved. All results of samples taken were below the minimum allowable level; you do not need to take any actions at this time.

## Key to Tables

**Maximum Contaminant Level (MCL)** - The highest level of a contaminant that is allowed in drinking water. MCL's 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.

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

**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.

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

**ppb** - parts per billion, or micrograms

per liter (µg/L), One part per billion corresponds to a single penny in \$10,000,000.

**ppm** - parts per million, or milligrams per liter (mg/L), One part per million corresponds to a single penny in \$10,000.

**NTU** - Nephelometric turbidity unit is a measure of the clarity of water. Turbidity in excess of 5 NTU is just noticeable to the average person

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

**N/A** - Not Applicable

## What Else Should I 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:

**Microbial contaminants**, these include viruses and bacteria, which may come from sewage treatment plants, septic systems, agricultural livestock operations, and wildlife.

**Inorganic contaminants**, these include salts and metals, which 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**, these may come from a variety of sources such as agriculture, urban storm water runoff, and residential uses.

**Organic chemical contaminants**, these include 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**, these can be naturally occurring or be the result of oil and gas production and mining activities.

In order to assure 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 and potential health effects can be obtained by calling the Environmental Protection Agency's Safe Drinking Water Hotline.

**Information about Arsenic:** While your drinking water meets EPA's standard for arsenic, it does contain low levels of arsenic. EPA's standard balances the current understanding of arsenic's possible health effects against the costs of removing arsenic from drinking water. EPA continues to research the health effects of low levels of arsenic which is a mineral known to cause cancer in humans at high concentrations and is linked to other health effects such as skin damage and circulatory problems.

**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. HTWSA 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 [www.epa.gov/safewater/lead](http://www.epa.gov/safewater/lead)

**Information about Copper:** 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.

**Information about Haloacetic Acids (HAA):** Some people who drink water containing haloacetic acids in excess of the MCL over many years may have an increased risk of getting cancer.

**Information about Total trihalomethanes (TTHMs):** Some people who drink water containing trihalomethanes in excess of the MCL over many years may experience problems with their liver, kidneys, or central nervous systems, and may have an increased risk of getting cancer.

**Other Contaminants Tested But Not Detected:** Total Coliform Presence, Nitrite, and Vinyl Chloride

## IMPORTANT NOTICE — Wipes and Personal Hygiene Products Clog Sewer Lines!

Unfortunately, many household products are labeled and marketed as DISPOSABLE and/or FLUSHABLE; many baby and adult personal hygiene products, along with household wipes and cleaning towelettes are labeled both disposable and flushable. While these products may be marketed as a convenience item in this way, the truth is that these types of items have the ability to clog and stop up not only the sewer line on your property, but can also cause blockage and service problems in the public sewer system and pump stations.

Unlike toilet paper, these products DO NOT break down once they are flushed and can lead to an expensive repair to the sewer line on your property.

On a larger scale, when these products make their way into the public sewer system they collect together, causing very large obstructions and clogs in the main collector lines and pump stations; which can lead to costly repairs and or replacement of equipment.

## What We All Can Do To Help

The following should NEVER be flushed into the sewer system:

Disinfecting/surface wipes, Baby wipes, Jewelry wipes, Cosmetic wipes, Disposable diapers or liners, Cotton swabs, Toilet cleaning pads, Mop or Swiffer type refills, Paper Towels, Pet care wipes, First Aid wipes, Bio-pads, Feminine hygiene products, Prophylactics, Any moist type towelette.

Simply put - Do not flush any consumer item that is not toilet paper.



## DETECTED SAMPLE RESULTS—HTWSA SOUTHERN DISTRIBUTION

### INORGANIC CONTAMINANTS

Contaminant	Action Level (AL)	MCLG	90 <sup>th</sup> Percentile Value	Units	# of Sites Above AL	Violation of TT Y/N	Sources of Contamination
Copper (2022)	1.3	1.3	0.17	ppm	0 of 5	N	Corrosion of household plumbing systems; erosion of natural deposits; leaching from wood preservatives
Contaminant	MCL	MCLG	Level Detected	Range	Units	Violation Y/N	Sources of Contamination
Chlorine (In System)	MRDL =4	MRD-LG=4	2	0.32-2	ppm	Y*	Water additive used to control microbes.

### DISINFECTION BYPRODUCTS

Contaminant	MCL	MCLG	Level Detected	Range	Units	Year	Violation Y/N	Sources of Contamination
Trichloroacetic Acid (HAA)	60	n/a	8.6	8.6	ppb	2023	N	Byproduct of drinking water disinfection
Dichloroacetic Acid (HAA)	60	n/a	2.6	2.6	ppb	2023	N	Byproduct of drinking water disinfection
Bromodichloromethane (THM)	80	n/a	9.1	9.1	ppb	2023	N	Byproduct of drinking water disinfection
Chlorodibromomethane (THM)	80	n/a	3	3	ppb	2023	N	Byproduct of drinking water disinfection
Chloroform (THM)	80	n/a	43.2	43.2	ppb	2023	N	Byproduct of drinking water disinfection

**Other Contaminants Tested But Not Detected:** Lead, Fecal Coliform Bacteria.

\*We are required to monitor drinking water for disinfection byproducts on a regular basis. Results of regular monitoring are an indicator of whether or not our drinking water meets health standards. During 2023, we were late in reporting Chlorine samples during quarters 1 & 3. Compliance for this violation was achieved. All results of samples taken were below the minimum allowable level; you do not need to take any actions at this time.

**Secondary Contaminant Testing:** EPA has established National Secondary Drinking Water Regulations (NSDWRs) that set non-mandatory water quality standards for 15 contaminants. EPA does not enforce these “secondary maximum contaminant levels” (SMCLs). They are established as guidelines to assist public water systems in managing their drinking water for aesthetic considerations, such as taste, color, and odor. These contaminants are not considered to present a risk to human health at the SMCL. The table to the right summarizes selected testing for Secondary Contaminants which has been performed on your water.

Contaminant	SMCL	Level Detected	Units	Noticeable Effects Above SMCL
Manganese	0.05	0-0.026	ppm	Black to brown color; black staining; bitter, metallic taste
Zinc	5	0-0.0069	ppm	Metallic taste

## SAMPLING AND TESTING

Hilltown Township Water and Sewer Authority routinely monitors for constituents in your drinking water according to the Federal and State laws. 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 systems. HTWSA has met or exceeded all standards set forth for quality and safety.

During 2023, samples were tested at Analytical Laboratories, Inc. Chalfont, PA (215) 723-6466. More information about contaminant and potential health effects can be obtained by calling the Environmental Protection Agency.

**Safe Drinking Water Hotline: 1-800-426-4791**