

2023 Consumer Confidence Report



298 Main Street
Schwenksville, PA 19473
610-287-7772



2023 Water Quality Report Schwenksville PA, PWSID # PA1460042

*Este informe contiene información importante acerca de su agua potable.
Haga que alguien lo traduzca para usted, ó hable con alguien que lo entienda.*

About Your Drinking Water

Schwenksville Borough Water Authority is pleased to provide you with important information about your drinking water in this 2023 Water Quality Report. The report summarizes the quality of water the Authority provided in 2023 including details about water sources, what the water at your tap contains, and how it compares to standards set by regulatory agencies. Although the report lists only those regulated substances that were detected in your water, we test for more than what is reported. This report is only a summary of our testing during 2023. If you have any questions about the information in this report, please call 610-287-7772 or visit our website at <https://sbawspa.org>

Sources of Supply

Our water source(s) are five (5) Municipal wells located throughout Schwenksville Borough and Lower Frederick Township, and Interconnections with Aqua PA and The North Penn Water Authority. Both the Aqua PA and The North Penn Water Authority Consumer Confidence report are available at <https://sbawspa.org/water-reports>

The sources of drinking water (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 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 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, stormwater runoff, and residential uses.
- Organic chemical contaminants, including synthetic and volatile organics, which are byproducts of industrial processes and petroleum production, and can also come from gas stations, urban stormwater runoff and septic systems.
- Radioactive contaminants, which can be naturally occurring or be the result of oil and gas production and mining activities. Radon is not regulated in drinking water. It is a radioactive gas that you cannot see, taste or smell. Most radon enters homes directly from underground. Radon can be released into the air from tap water. Generally, tap water is a small source of radon in indoor air.

In order to ensure that tap water is safe to drink, EPA prescribes regulations that limit the amount of certain contaminants in water provided by public water systems. 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 water poses a health risk. More information about contaminants and potential health effects can be obtained by calling the Environmental Protection Agency's (EPA) Safe Drinking Water Hotline at 800.426.4791.

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)

The following tables list contaminants that were detected during 2023 in your water system. The state allows monitoring for some contaminants less than once per year because the concentrations of these contaminants do not change frequently. Some of the data below, though representative, are more than one year old.

| Contaminants | Average Detection | Range of Detections | MCL | MCLG | Sample Date | Violation Y/N | Major Sources in Drinking Water |
|--------------|-------------------|---------------------|-----|------|-------------|---------------|---------------------------------|
|--------------|-------------------|---------------------|-----|------|-------------|---------------|---------------------------------|

Inorganic Contaminants

| | | | | | | | |
|-----------------|------|------------|----|----|------|---|--|
| Arsenic, ppb | 7 | 5-7 | 10 | 0 | 2023 | N | Erosion of natural deposits |
| Nitrate, ppm | 1.51 | 1.01-1.51 | 10 | 10 | 2023 | N | Runoff from fertilizer use; leaching from septic tanks, sewage; erosion of natural deposits |
| Chloroform, ppb | 26.5 | 2.5 – 26.5 | 80 | 70 | 2023 | N | Discharge from petroleum and metal refineries; erosion of natural deposits; discharge from mines |

Radiological Contaminants

| | | | | | | | |
|-------------------------|-------|-----------|----|----|------|---|-----------------------------|
| Gross Alpha, pCi/L | 22.6 | N/A | 15 | 15 | 2023 | Y | Erosion of natural deposits |
| Combined Uranium, pCi/L | 18.09 | N/A | 20 | 0 | 2023 | N | Erosion of natural deposits |
| Radium-226, pCi/L | .34 | N/A | 5 | 5 | 2022 | N | Erosion of natural deposits |
| Radium- 228, pCi/L | .74 | .71 - .74 | 5 | 5 | 2020 | N | Erosion of natural deposits |

Disinfection Byproducts

| | | | | | | | |
|----------------------------|-------|-------------|----|-----|------|---|---|
| Haloacetic acids, ppb | 2.68 | 1.11 - 4.24 | 60 | NA | 2023 | N | By-product of drinking water chlorination |
| Total Trihalomethanes, ppb | 31.52 | 8.23- 54.8 | 80 | NA | 2023 | N | By-product of drinking water chlorination |
| Dichloroacetic Acid, ppb | 1 | 1 | 60 | N/A | 2023 | N | By-product of drinking water chlorination |
| Trichloroacetic Acid, ppb | 1.5 | 0 – 3.0 | 60 | N/A | 2023 | N | By-product of drinking water chlorination |
| Bromoform, ppb | 3.0 | .8 – 3.0 | 80 | N/A | 2023 | N | By-product of drinking water chlorination |
| Bromodichloromethane, ppb | 9.05 | 2.6 – 15.5 | 80 | N/A | 2023 | N | By-product of drinking water chlorination |
| Chlorodibromomethane, ppb | 9.8 | 2.4 – 9.8 | 80 | N/A | 2023 | N | By-product of drinking water chlorination |

Disinfectant Residual – Values below reflect results from routine monthly distribution sampling at multiple sites.

| | | | | | | | |
|---------------|------|---|---|---|------|---|---|
| Chlorine, ppm | 1.83 | 4 | 4 | 4 | 2023 | N | Water additive used to control microbes |
|---------------|------|---|---|---|------|---|---|

| Contaminants | Entry Point # | Minimum Residual Level Required | Lowest Level Detected | Range of Detections | Sample Date | Violation Y/N | Major Sources in Drinking Water |
|---------------|---------------|---------------------------------|-----------------------|---------------------|-------------|---------------|---|
| Chlorine, ppm | 101 | 0.40 | .40 | .4 – 2.38 | 2023 | N | Water additive used to control microbes |
| | 102 | 0.40 | .41 | .41 – 2.65 | 2023 | N | Water additive used to control microbes |
| | 103 | 0.40 | .44 | .44 – 1.9 | 2023 | N | Water additive used to control microbes |
| | 106 | 0.40 | .66 | .6 – 2.16 | 2023 | N | Water additive used to control microbes |

Entry Point Disinfectant Residual – PA Ground Water Rule: This rule requires that no well station operate below specific minimum free chlorine levels for more than 4 hours.

| Lead and Copper | 90th Percentile | Total Number of Samples | Samples Exceeding Action Level | Action Level | MCLG | Sample Date | Violation Y/N | Major Sources in Drinking Water |
|-----------------|-----------------|-------------------------|--------------------------------|--------------|------|-------------|---------------|---------------------------------|
| Copper, ppm | .241 | 23 | 0 | 1.3 | 1.3 | 2022 | N | Corrosion of household plumbing |
| Lead, ppb | ND | 23 | 0 | 15 | 0 | 2022 | N | |

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. Aqua 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 cold water 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>.

DETECTED CONTAMINANTS HEALTH EFFECTS LANGUAGE AND CORRECTIVE ACTIONS:

About our Gross Alpha Violation: The result of our triannual Gross Alpha test exceeded the MCL. As per DEP regulations, we then tested for Uranium, with a result within the MCL. Gross alpha radiation, uranium and radium are naturally found in the Earth's crust. The amount of gross alpha radiation in water varies because the Earth's crust contains varying amounts of radioactive elements. Certain minerals are radioactive and may emit a form of radiation known as alpha radiation. Some people who drink water containing alpha emitters exceeding the MCL, over many years, may have increased risk of cancer.

Voluntary PFAS (Forever Chemicals) Entry Point Sampling 2023

| Name | Chemical Name | Range of Detections (ppb) |
|---------|---|---------------------------|
| GenX | Hexafluoropropylene oxide dimer acid | ND |
| Lithium | Lithium | 10.9 – 45.7 |
| PFOA | Perfluorooctanoic acid | ND – .0054 |
| PFOS | Perfluorooctane sulfonate | ND – .0083 |
| PFBS | Perfluorobutane sulfonic acid and Perfluorobutane sulfonate | ND – .0053 |
| PFHxS | Perfluorohexanesulfonic acid | ND |
| PFNA | Perfluorononanoic acid | ND |

Notes:

Action Level (AL): The concentration of a contaminant which, if exceeded, triggers treatment or other requirements.

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.

NA: Not applicable.

ND: Not detected.

Nitrate: Nitrate in drinking water at levels above 10 ppm is a health risk for infants of less than six months of age. High nitrate levels in drinking water can cause blue baby syndrome. Nitrate levels may rise quickly for short periods of time because of rainfall or agricultural activity. If you are caring for an infant, you should ask advice from your health care provider.

pCi/L, picoCuries/Liter: A unit of concentration for radioactive contaminants.

ppb: A unit of concentration equal to one part per billion.

ppm: A unit of concentration equal to one part per million.

PWSID: Public water supply identification number.

Turbidity: Monitored as a measure of treatment efficiency for removal of particles. Plant Performance Level: 0.3 NTU.

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

*This notice contains required or recommended regulatory language, and nothing herein is, is intended as, nor should be construed as, a promise of or contract for payment or reimbursement of expenses incurred for any action you take on account of this notice.