

## 2022 ANNUAL DRINKING WATER QUALITY REPORT

**PWSID #: 4560057    NAME: Somerset Township Municipal Auth - Friedens**

*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.)

### **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 Carolyn Zambanini, Manager, at (814) 445-5842. We want you to be informed about your water supply. If you want to learn more, please attend any of our regularly scheduled meetings. They are held the second Thursday of each month at 7:00 p.m. at the Municipal Building located at 2209 North Center Avenue, Somerset, Pennsylvania.

### **SOURCE(S) OF WATER:**

Our water source(s) is/are purchased from Somerset County General Authority, the source of which is the Quemahoning Dam treated at a plant located on Mastillo Road in Hollsopple, Pennsylvania. A copy of the Somerset County General Authority "Annual Drinking Water Quality Report" is attached hereto.

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:**

We routinely monitor 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, 2022. 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 results table.

### **DEFINITIONS:**

*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 (MinRDL)* - The minimum level of residual disinfectant required at the entry point to the distribution system.

*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.

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

*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)

*ppm* = parts per million, or milligrams per liter (mg/L)

*ppq* = parts per quadrillion, or picograms per liter

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

**DETECTED SAMPLE RESULTS:**

<b>Chemical Contaminants</b>								
Contaminant	MCL in CCR Units	MCLG	Level Detected	Range of Detections	Units	Sample Date	Violation Y/N	Sources of Contamination
Chlorine	MRDL = 4	MRDLG = 4	0.87	0.45 – 0.87	ppm	3/2022	N	Water additive used to control microbes.
HAA5	60	NA	44.4	40 – 47	ppb	12/14/22	N	By-product of drinking water disinfection.
TTHM	80	NA	41.2	37 – 47	ppb	12/14/22	N	By-product of drinking water chlorination.

<b>Lead and Copper</b>							
Contaminant	Action Level (AL)	MCLG	90 <sup>th</sup> Percentile Value	Units	# of Sites Above AL of Total Sites	Violation Y/N	Sources of Contamination
Lead	15	0	2.5	ppb	0 of 10	N	Corrosion of household plumbing.
Copper	1.3	1.3	0.394	ppm	0 of 10	N	Corrosion of household plumbing.

**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, 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 stormwater run-off, 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 stormwater 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 stormwater 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* (800-426-4791).

# *2022 Annual Drinking Water Quality Report*

## **Somerset County General Authority - PWSID #4560009**

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.)

The Somerset County General Authority takes great pleasure in presenting our 2022 Annual Drinking Water Quality Report. This report provides information about your water quality and what it means. Included are details about where your water comes from, what it contains, and how it compares to Environmental Protection Agency (EPA) and state standards. If you would like to learn more, please attend any of our regularly scheduled meetings which are held on the second Thursday of each month at 3:00 PM, in the Commissioner's Board Room.

Our water source is surface water from the Quemahoning Reservoir, which is located in Somerset County and spans portions of Conemaugh, Jenner, and Quemahoning Townships. The reservoir is owned by the Cambria-Somerset Authority (CSA). We purchase raw water from the CSA and process it through our water treatment plant where it is treated to remove contaminants, filtered, and disinfected with chlorine before entering the distribution system.

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

The tables below list all of the drinking water contaminants that we detected during the 2022 calendar year. Unless otherwise noted, the data presented in this table is from testing done January 1 through December 31, 2022. 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, is more than one year old.

In this table, you may find terms and abbreviations that you are not familiar with. The following definitions have been provided to help you better understand this data:

**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 (µg/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

**Maximum Contaminant Level (MCL)** - The "Maximum Allowed" (MCL) is 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 "Goal" (MCLG) is 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.

**Minimum Residual Disinfectant Level (MinRDL)** - 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.

Contaminant (Unit of Measurement)	Violation Yes/No	Lowest Level Detected	Range of Detections	Sample Date	Minimum Disinfectant Residual	Major Sources in Drinking Water
Chlorine (ppm)	No	1.18 (3-8-22)	1.18 -1.57	2022	0.20	Water additive used to control microbes

Contaminant (Unit of Measurement)	Violation Yes/No	Level Detected	Range	MCL	MCLG	Major Sources in Drinking Water
Distribution System Chlorine (ppm)	No	1.25 (Jan. 22)	1.06 – 1.25	MRDL = 4	MRDLG = 4	Water additive used to control microbes
Barium (ppm)	No	0.0308	-	2	2	Discharge of drilling wastes; discharge from metal refineries; erosion of natural deposits
Nickel (ppm)	No	0.0016	-	2	2	Erosion of natural deposits
Nitrate (ppm)	No	0.85	-	10	10	Runoff from fertilizer use; leaching from septic tanks, sewage; erosion of natural deposits
TTHM (Total Trihalomethanes) (ppb)	No	34.6	-	80	N/A	By-product of drinking water disinfection
HAA5 (Haloacetic Acids) (ppb)	No	34.4	-	60	N/A	By-product of drinking water disinfection
Gross Alpha (pCi/L) (9-9-2020)	No	6.04	-	15	0	Erosion of natural deposits

Contaminant (Unit of Measurement)	MCL	MCLG	Level Detected	Sample Date	Violation Yes/No	Major Sources in Drinking Water
Turbidity (NTU)	TT = 1 NTU for a single measurement	0	0.140	3/5/22	No	Soil Runoff
	TT = at least 95% of monthly samples $\leq$ 0.3 NTU		100%	2022	No	

Contaminant	Range of % Removal Required	Range of % Removal Achieved	Number of Quarters out of Compliance	Violation Yes/No	Major Sources in Drinking Water
Total Organic Carbon (TOC)	35%	22% - 36%	None*	No	Naturally present in the environment

\*Alternative Compliance Criteria (ACC) were used to determine compliance

Contaminant	TT	MCLG	Assessments/ Corrective Actions	Violation Yes/No	Major Sources in Drinking Water
Total Coliform Bacteria	Any system that has failed to complete all the required assessments or correct all identified sanitary defects, is in violation of the treatment technique requirement	N/A	See detailed description under "Detected Contaminants Health Effects Language and Corrective Actions" section	No	Human and animal fecal waste

Contaminant	MCL	MCLG	Positive Sample(s)	Violation Yes/No	Sources of Contamination
<i>E. coli</i>	Routine and repeat samples are total coliform-positive and either is <i>E. coli</i> -positive or system fails to take repeat samples following <i>E. coli</i> -positive routine sample or system fails to analyze total coliform-positive repeat sample for <i>E. coli</i> .	0	1	No	Human and animal fecal waste

**Detected Contaminants Health Effects Language and Corrective Actions:**

*Coliforms are bacteria that are naturally present in the environment and are used as an indicator that other potentially-harmful, bacteria may be present or that a potential pathway exists through which contamination may enter the drinking water distribution system. We found coliforms indicating the need to look for potential problems in water treatment or distribution. When this occurs, we are required to conduct assessment(s) to identify problems and to correct any problems that were found during these assessments.*

During the past year, we were required to conduct one Level 1 assessment. One Level 1 assessment was completed, with no deficiencies being found. In January of 2022, we detected total coliform bacteria and *E.coli* in our routine monthly bacteria samples. Check samples were immediately taken and were found to be free of any total coliform bacteria or *E.coli*. Since the check samples were clear, there was no confirmation of contamination and therefore, no violation of the *E.coli* MCL occurred.

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- 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.

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