



**2008  
ELEVENTH ANNUAL  
DRINKING WATER QUALITY REPORT  
FOR TERRE HILL BOROUGH  
PWSID #: 7360119**



We are pleased to present you with this year's Annual Drinking Water Quality Report. This report is designed to inform you about the quality water services we deliver to you every day. Our constant goal is to provide you with a dependable supply of drinking water. We strive to continually improve the water treatment process and protect our water resources. We are committed to ensuring the quality of your water.

*Este informe contiene información muy importante sobre su agua de beber. Tradúzcalo ó hable con alguien que lo entienda bien.* (This report contains very important information about your drinking water. Translate it, 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 Robert R. Rissler at (717) 445-4581. We want you, our valued customers to be informed about your water supply. If you want to learn more, please attend any of our regularly scheduled council meetings. They are held on the 2nd Tuesday of each month at 7 PM at the Terre Hill Borough Office, Town Clock Hall, 300 Broad Street, Terre Hill, PA.

### **SOURCES OF WATER:**

Terre Hill Borough has four wells that supply the water system. **Well #1** is located off Vine Street in the northwest portion of the Borough, next to the Borough Reservoirs. **Well #3** is located off of Willow Street, adjacent to the Borough Garage. **Well #4** is located near the intersection of Linden and Earle Streets in the eastern portion of the Borough. **Well #6** is the newest of the Borough's water production facilities and is located in a wooded area to the south of Vine Street and west of Broad Street. Most of our water is pumped from the Hammer Creek Aquifer. Wells #3 & #4 pump directly into the distribution system, Wells #1 & #6 pump directly into our 340,000-gallon water storage reservoirs.

We have a source water protection plan available from our office that provides more information such as potential sources of contamination.

**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, 2008. 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.

### **VIOLATIONS:**

Terre Hill Borough has met all Federal and State requirements regarding monitoring, reporting and Treatment Requirements under the Safe Drinking Water Program during the year 2008. We are proud that our drinking water meets or exceeds all Federal and State requirements.

## **DEFINITIONS AND ABBREVIATIONS:**

**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.

**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:**

Chemical Contaminant	MCL Or MRDL	MCLG Or MRDLG	Highest Level Detected	Range of Detection s	Units	Sample Date	Violation	Sources of Contamination
Arsenic	10	0	5	0 – 5	ppb	2/23/06	NO	Erosion of natural deposits
Nitrate (as Nitrogen)	10	10	8.43	0 – 8.43	ppm	3/31/08 9/4/08	NO	Runoff from fertilizer use; leaching from septic tanks; sewage; erosion of natural deposits
Haloacetic Acids (HAA)	60	N/A	1	0 – 1	ppb	9/6/07	NO	By-product of drinking water disinfection
Trihalomethanes (2007)	80	N/A	0.5	0 – 0.5	ppb	9/6/07	NO	By-product of drinking water chlorination
Chlorine Residual	4	4	0.69	0.22 - 0.69	ppm	1/17/08 12/11/08	NO	Water additive used to control microbes

Contaminant and Testing Year	Action Level (AL)	MCLG	90 <sup>th</sup> Percentile Value	Units	# of Sites Above AL of Total Sites	Violation Of TT	Sources of Contamination
Lead (2007)	15	0	0	ppb	0 of 10	NO	Corrosion of household plumbing; erosion of natural deposits
Copper (2007)	1.3	1.3	1.1	ppm	0 of 10	NO	Corrosion of household plumbing; erosion of natural deposits

## **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).

## **OTHER 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.

***About 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 for advice from your health care provider.

For more information on Safe Drinking Water visit these websites: Environmental Protection Agency at [www.epa.gov/safewater](http://www.epa.gov/safewater) or PA Department of Environmental Protection at [www.dep.state.pa.us](http://www.dep.state.pa.us).

If you have any questions, please contact the Borough Office at (717) 445-4581. Office hours are Monday through Friday, 8 AM – 12 PM, 1 PM – 5 PM. This report can also be found on the borough's website at [www.terrehillboro.com](http://www.terrehillboro.com).

***Terre Hill Borough work continuously to provide top quality water to every tap. 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.***

***Please Conserve Water.....It Is Our Most Valuable Natural Resource!***