

# *Tri-Township Water Corporation*

## *2016 Annual Drinking Water Quality Report*

### **Is our water safe?**

This brochure is a snapshot of the quality of the drinking water that we provide each day. Included as part of this report are details about where the water that you drink comes from, what it contains, and how it compares to Environmental Protection Agency (EPA) and Indiana standards. We at the Tri-Township Water Corp. (TTW) are committed to provide you with all the information that you need to know about the quality of the water that you drink. **We are pleased to report that our drinking water meets and exceeds all federal and state requirements.**

### **Where does our water come from?**

Our water source is underground wells. We have two well fields and they both draw from the Whitewater Valley aquifer. The Wellhead Protection Area Delineation of both of our Well Fields has been approved by the State and we continue to monitor the Well Head Protection Area for any change of activity and possible contaminants. This Plan and more information about Source Water Assessment are available at our office.

### **Why are there contaminants in my drinking water?**

Drinking water, including bottled water, may be reasonably expected to contain at least small amounts of some contaminants. It's important to remember that the presence of these contaminants does not necessarily pose a health risk or that it is not suitable for drinking. More information about contaminants and their potential health effects can be obtained by calling the Environmental Protection Agency's Safe Drinking Water Hotline at 1-800-426-4791.

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 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 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, storm water runoff, and residential uses.
- Organic chemicals, 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 materials, which can be naturally occurring or be the result of oil and gas production and mining activities.

In order to ensure tap water is safe to drink, EPA prescribes regulations that limit the amount of certain contaminants in water provided by public water systems. The Food and Drug Administration (FDA) regulations establish limits for contaminants in bottled water, which must provide the same protection for public health.

## **Water Quality Data**

The Tri-Township Water Corporation routinely monitors for constituents in your drinking water according to Federal and State laws. The table included in this brochure shows the detected results of our monitoring for the period of January 1<sup>st</sup> to December 31<sup>st</sup>, 2016. In this table you will find many terms and abbreviations you might not be familiar with. To help you better understand these terms we've provided the following definitions:

***Non-Detects (ND)*** - laboratory analysis indicates that the constituent is not present.

***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*** - 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)*** - picocuries per liter is a measure of the radioactivity in water.

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

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

***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 contaminants.

***Point of Entry-*** (poe 1) Jamison Plant - (poe 2) Cedar Grove Plant

**TEST RESULTS**

Contaminant	Poe 1 Results	Poe 2 Results	Unit Measurement	MCLG	MCL	Violates	Likely Source of Contamination
<b>Radioactive Contaminants      Last Date Sampled 4/16/2008</b>							
Radium 228	0.7	0.4	pCi/l	0	5	No	Decay of natural and man-made deposits
<b>Inorganic Contaminants      Last Date Sampled 4/15/2014</b>							
Barium	0.157	.09	ppm	2	2	No	Discharge of drilling wastes; discharge from metal refineries; erosion of natural deposits
Fluoride (Natural)	.179	.107	ppm	4	4	No	Erosion of natural deposits; water additive which promotes strong teeth; discharge from fertilizer and aluminum factories
Nickel	.006	.005	ppm	N/A	N/A	No	Erosion of natural deposits; Leaching
Chlorine (daily 2016)	1.0	1.0	ppm	MRDLG=4.0	MRDL=4.0	No	Water additive used to control microbes.
Sodium	18.05	10.18	ppm	N/A	N/A	No	Leaching from ore-processing sites; discharge from electronics, glass, and drug factories
Nitrate (as Nitrogen) sample date 3/15/2016	1.21	3.24	ppm	10	10	No	Runoff from fertilizer use; leaching from septic tanks, sewage; erosion of natural deposits
Bromo-Dichloromethane Sample date 3/18/2014	.6	ND	ppb	N/A	N/A	No	By-product of drinking water disinfections
Chloro-Dibromomethane Sample date 3/18/2014	1.6	ND	ppb	N/A	N/A	No	By-product of drinking water disinfections
<b>Distribution Sampling</b>							
Copper Sample date 7/15/2014	0.088	0.088	ppm	1.3	AL=1.3	No	Corrosion of household plumbing systems; erosion of natural deposits; leaching from wood preservatives
Lead Sample date 7/15/2014	<0.0001	<0.0001	ppm	0	AL=0.015	No	Corrosion of household plumbing systems, erosion of natural deposits
TTHM's [Total Trihalomethanes] Sample date 8/16/2016	0.0087	0.0087	ppm	N/A	0.08	No	By-product of drinking water disinfections
(HAA5) [Haloacetic Acids] Sample date 8/16/2016	0.0094	0.0094	ppm	N/A	0.06	No	By-product of drinking water disinfections

### **Do I need to take special precautions?**

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).

MCL's are set at very stringent levels. To understand the possible health effects described for many regulated constituents, 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:** As a precaution we would always notify physicians and health care providers in this area if there is ever a higher than normal level of nitrates in the water supply.

**Lead:** Lead in drinking water is rarely the sole cause of lead poisoning, but it can add to a person's total lead exposure. All potential sources of lead in the household should be identified and removed, replaced, or reduced.

### **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. Tri-Township Water 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 (800-426-4791) or at <http://www.epa.gov/safewater/lead>.”

### **Information About Your Water Utility**

If you have any questions about this report or concerning your water utility, please contact our Utility Manager, Jody Blasdel, at (812) 637-1039. We want our valued customers to be informed about their water utility. If you want to learn more, please attend any of our regularly scheduled meetings. They are held on the second Wednesday of each month at 7:30 p.m., at our main office. The office is located at 24192 State Line Road, Bright, Indiana. Our valued customers are always welcome to attend our meetings.

The Tri-Township Water Corporation currently serves 3721 meters or approximately 9302 people. We are fortunate to have quality water from underground wells. Last year we produced 283 Million gallons of safe drinking water. This relates to an average of 775 Thousand gallons per day or 84 gallons per person per day.

The Tri- Township Water Corporation operates two filtration plants. A 600 gpm (gallon per minute) plant at the Jamison Well Field and a 1200 gpm plant at the Cedar Grove Well Field. Both of these plants are Iron & Manganese removal plants & Chlorine is added for oxidation of Iron & Manganese & for disinfection. Tri-Township Water employees test our Raw & Finished Water daily for Iron, Manganese, PH, & Chlorine. Of our Finished Water, our Iron averages 0.00 Mg/L, our Manganese is 0.0 Mg/L, & our PH averages 7.2-7.3. Chlorine dissipates the farther you get from the water plants where it is injected. We are required to maintain 0.2 Mg/L throughout the distribution system. Our Free Chlorine levels will range from 1.0 Mg/L at the treatment plants to 0.4 Mg/L at the farthest point in our distribution system. The hardness of our water is 23 grains per gallon. **We also collect 10 Bacteriological samples monthly from various homes throughout the distribution system. These samples are sent to a State approved Laboratory, and we are pleased to report, all of our 2016 samples were satisfactory.**

Thank you for allowing us to continue providing your family with clean, quality water this year. Please call our office if you have questions or check us out at our web site at [www.tritownshipwater.com](http://www.tritownshipwater.com).

We at Tri-Township Water work around the clock to provide top quality water to every tap each and every day. 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.