# 2021 ANNUAL DRINKING WATER QUALITY REPORT

## Fox Township/Toby Water PWSID # 6240008

*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 Rob Singer at (814) 885-8450 Extension 3. If you want to learn more, please attend any of our regularly scheduled meetings. They are held on the 1st Wednesday of the month at 6:00 PM at the Fox Township Building.

**SOURCE OF WATER**: Fox Township/Toby Water's source of water is purchased surface water through an interconnection with the St. Mary's Area Water Authority PWSID #6240016. Their Annual Drinking Water Quality Report can be viewed online at https://goh2o.net/smawa/ccr.

**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, 2021. 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. Some of our data is from the Saint Mary's Water Authority sample data. It is noted in the table. The dates have been noted on the sampling results table.

## 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 expected risk to health. MRDLGs do not reflect the benefits of the use of disinfectants to control microbial contaminants.

***Minimum Residual Disinfectant Level Goal (MRDLG***) – The minimum level of residual disinfectant required at the entry point to the distribution system.

***Mrem/year*** = millirems per year (a measure of radiation absorbed by the body)

***ppb*** = *parts per billion, or micrograms per liter (µg/L)*

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

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

***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.

***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.

| DETECTED SAMPLE RESULTS | | | | | | | | |
|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|
| **Chemical Contaminant** | **MCL in CCR units** | **MCLG** | **Highest Level Detected** | **Range of Detections** | **Units** | **Sample Date** | **Violation Y/N** | **Sources of Contamination** |
| Barium (St. Mary's) | 2 | 2 | 0.0364 | N/A | (ppm) | 12/9/21 | N | Discharge of drilling wastes; Discharge from metal refineries; Erosion of natural deposits |
| Fluoride (St. Mary's) | 2 **(1)** | 2 | 0.59 | N/A | (ppm) | 12/9/21 | N | Erosion of natural deposits; Water additive which promotes strong teeth; Discharge from fertilizer and aluminum factories |
| Nitrate (St. Mary's) | 10 | 10 | 0.30 | N/A | (ppm) | 7/12/21 | N | Runoff from fertilizer use; Leaching from septic tanks, sewage; Erosion of natural deposits |
| Chlorine (Distribution) (Fox Twp./Toby) | MRDL =4 | MRDLG=4 | 0.49 (August 2021) | 0.32 - 0.49 | (ppm) | 2021 | N | Water additive used to control microbes |
| Haloacetic Acids (HAA) (Fox Twp./Toby) | 60 | N/A | 31.65**(2)** 2nd Quarter | 24.60 – 41.00 | (ppb) | 2021 | N | By-product of drinking water disinfection |
| Trihalomethanes (TTHM) (Fox Twp./Toby) | 80 | N/A | 33.45**(2)** 1st Quarter | 17.80 – 50.40 | (ppb) | 2021 | N | By-product of drinking water chlorination |

**(1)** EPA's MCL for fluoride is 4 ppm. However, Pennsylvania has set a lower MCL to better protect human health.
**(2)** These are the highest running annual average calculated during 2021.

| **Contaminant** | **MCL** | **MCLG** | **Level Detected** | **Units** | **Date** | **Violation** | **Sources of Contamination** |
|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|
| Turbidity (Saint Mary's) | TT = at least 95% of monthly samples <= 0.3 NTU | 0 | 100% | (NTU) | 2021 | N | Soil runoff. |

| **Contaminant** | **Range of % Removal Required** | **Range of percent removal achieved** | **Number of quarters out of compliance** | **Date** | **Violation** | **Sources of Contamination** |
|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|
| Total Organic Carbon (TOC) (Saint Mary's) | 35% | 33.40 -58.90 % | (NTU) | 2021 | N | Naturally present in the environment |

| ***Entry Point Disinfectant Residual*** | | | | | | | |
|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|
| **Contaminant** | **Minimum Disinfectant Residual** | **Lowest Level Detected** | **Range of Detections** | **Units** | **Lowest Value Sample Date** | **Violation Y/N** | **Sources of Contamination** |
| Chlorine (2021) (Saint Mary's) | 0.20 | 0.83 | 0.83– 1.66 | ppm | 2/26/21 | N | Water additive used to control microbes. |

| Contaminant | Action Level (AL) | MCLG | 90th Percentile Value | Units | # of Sites Above AL of Total Sites | Violation of TT Y/N | Sources of Contamination |
|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|
| Lead (2019) (Fox Twp./Toby) | 15 | 0 | 7.00 | ppb | 0 out of 10 | N | Corrosion of household plumbing systems; Erosion of natural deposits |
| Copper (2019) (Fox Twp./Toby) | 1.3 | 1.3 | 0.028 | ppm | 0 out of 10 | N | Corrosion of household plumbing systems; Erosion of natural deposits; Leaching from wood preservatives |

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. Toby 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 or at http://www.epa.gov/safewater/lead."

## *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 storm water 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 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.

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).