

Revised July 2012 \*

**Township of Salisbury    2900 South Pike Avenue, Allentown, PA 18103    Phone: (610)-797-4000**



Salisbury Township  
PWS ID# 3390062

***Este informe contiene informacion muy importante sobre su agua beber.  
Traduzcalo o hable con alguien que lo entienda bien.***

**\* A mandatory educational statement about lead in drinking water has been added and table revisions were updated.**

We're very pleased to provide you with this year's Annual Drinking Water Quality Report and the City of Allentown's Annual Report. We want to keep you informed about the excellent water and services we have delivered to you over the past year.

Salisbury Township currently serves 3,252 customers. At this time our water system is a distribution system only. The water we provide our customers is obtained from the City of Allentown. Our goal is to provide you with quality drinking water. Allentown's raw water sources include Schantz Spring, Crystal Spring, Little Lehigh Creek and the Lehigh River. Finished water is produced at the City of Allentown treatment plant

Highlights of Salisbury's distribution system include approximately 60 miles of water main ranging in diameter from 4 to 12 inches; a Pump Station; a 300,000 gallon storage tank rehabilitated in 1998; a 500,000 gallon Hydropillar rehabilitated in 1993; and an interconnect with Lehigh County Authority was also constructed in 1993 prior to the rehabilitation of our Hydropillar. It remains as part of our Emergency Response system.

We are pleased to report that our drinking water meets federal and state requirements. If you have any questions about this report or your water utility, please contact John Andreas, Director of Public Works at (610) 797-4000. 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 Commissioner's meetings. They are held on the second and fourth Thursday of every month at 2900 S. Pike Avenue as noted in the Township Newsletter / Calendar.

Salisbury Township routinely monitors for constituents in your drinking water according to Federal and State laws. This table shows the results of our monitoring for the period of January 1st to December 31st, 2011. All drinking water, including bottled drinking water, may be reasonably expected to contain at least small amounts of some constituents. It's important to remember that the presence of these constituents does not necessarily pose a health risk.

The City of Allentown has monitored its raw water supply for various constituents. Cryptosporidium has been periodically present in the Little Lehigh Creek, but has NEVER been detected in the finished water. We believe it is important for you to know that cryptosporidium may cause serious illness in 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. These people should seek advice from their health care providers.

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

The presence of contaminants does not necessarily indicate that the 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 at 1-800-426-4791. MCL's are set at very stringent levels for health effects. 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.

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). Salisbury Township's water distribution system is serviced and maintained by our Utility Department which can be reached at (610) 797-4000 through our Public Works Department. After hours emergencies can also be reported at (610) 797-4000 and handled through our answering service.

**Lead:** In June of 2010, water sampled from the homes of 20 residents was tested for the presence of lead and copper. Results met federal and state standards. 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. The City of Allentown 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>.

In the table below 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 contaminant is not present at a detectable level.

**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.

**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** - 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** - 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 the 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.

TEST RESULTS						
Contaminant (Unit of measurement)	Violation Y/N	Level Detected	Range	MCLG/ MRDLG	MCL/ MRDL, AL	Likely Source of Contamination
<b>Inorganic Contaminants</b>						
Copper (ppm) (June 2010)	N	.274	# Sites above AL 0 of 20	1.3	AL=1.3	Corrosion of household plumbing systems; erosion of natural deposits; leaching from wood preservatives
Lead (ppb) (June 2010)	N	5	# Sites above AL 1 of 20	0	AL=15	Corrosion of household plumbing systems, erosion of natural deposits
<b>Volatile Organic Contaminants</b>						
TTHM [Total trihalomethanes] (ppb)	N	29.8	29.8 to 29.8	0	80	By-product of drinking water chlorination
Haloacetic Acids (ppb)	N	12.0	12.0 to 12.0	0	60	By-product of drinking water chlorination
<b>Chlorine Performance</b>						
Distribution Points (ppm)	N	0.61	0.57 to 0.67	4	4	Water additive used to disinfect and control microbes