

## ***2021 Annual Drinking Water Quality Report***

City of Duquesne  
12 S. Second Street  
Duquesne, PA 15110  
Water Department  
PWSID - 5020012

For Non-English speaking customers:

Este informe contiene informacion importante acerca de su agua potable. Haga que alguien lo traduzca para usted, o hable con alguien que lo entienda. (This report contains very important information about your drinking water. Translate it, or speak to someone who understands it.)

We're pleased to present to you this year's Annual Drinking Water Quality Report. This report is designed to inform you about the quality water and services we deliver to you every day. Our constant goal is to provide you with a dependable supply of drinking water. We want you to understand the efforts we make to continually improve the water treatment process and protect our water resources. We are committed to ensuring the quality of your water. Our water source is the Municipal Authority of Westmoreland County (MAWC), which draws water from the Youghiogheny River, which means our water is classified as a "surface water supply". **We are pleased to report that our drinking water meets federal and state requirements.**

If you have any questions about this report or concerning your water utility, please contact **Jaqui Daniels at the City of Duquesne Water Department (412) 466-8535 or Municipal Authority of Westmoreland County Customer Service at 412-678-6065, Extension 11.** 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 and fourth Tuesday of each month at 6:30 PM in Council Chambers, 2<sup>nd</sup> floor, City Hall, 12 S. Second Street, Duquesne, PA.**

We routinely monitor for contaminants in your drinking water according to Federal and State laws. The following table shows the results of our monitoring for the period of January 1<sup>st</sup> to December 31<sup>st</sup>, **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. The date has been noted on the sampling results table.

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).

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:

*Milligrams per liter (mg/L)* –milligrams per liter 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 or micrograms per liter (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.

*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 highest level of contaminant that is allowed in drinking water MCL’s are set as close to the MCLG 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 Residential Disinfectant Level Goal (MRDLG)* – The level of drinking water disinfectant below which there is no known or expected risk to health. MRDLG’s do not reflect the benefits of the use of disinfectants to control microbial contamination.

CONTAMINANT	MCL	LEVEL	RANGE	DATE TESTED	Violation
Lead	0.015 mg/L	0.003 90 <sup>th</sup> Percentile	0.00-0.006 mg/l	2019	No
Copper	1.3 mg/L	0.265 mg/L 90 <sup>th</sup> Percentile	0.025 – 0.164 mg/L	2019	No
Bacteria (Total Coliform)	>5%	0.00		2020	No
THM	0.08 mg/L	0.083 mg/ L (LRAA)	0.032 – 0.110 mg/L	2021	No
HAA Max Duq Distribution	0.06 mg/L	0.048 mg/L (LRAA)	0.011 – 0.061 mg/L	2021	No
System Ave Duq Distribution		2.14 mg/L		2021	No
System		0.28 – 2.14 mg/L		2021	No

LRAA = locational running annual average (\*highest annual running average for individual sample point\*)

All sources of drinking water are subject to potential contaminants that are naturally occurring or manmade. Those contaminants can be microbes, organic or inorganic chemicals, or radioactive materials. 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 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. 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 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 stormwater runoff and residential uses.
- Organic chemical contaminants, including synthetic and volatile organic chemicals, which are byproducts of industrial process and petroleum production and mining activities.

A *Source Water Assessment* of our source was completed by the PA Department of Environmental Protection (PADEP). The Assessment has found that our source is potentially most susceptible to contaminants shown in the chart below. Overall, our source has high risk of significant contamination. A summary report of the Assessment is available on the *Source Water Assessment & Protection* web page at (<http://www.dep.state.pa.us/dep/deputate/watermgt/wc/Subjects/SrceProt/SourceAssessment/default.htm>). Complete reports were distributed to municipalities, water supplier, local planning agencies and the PADEP Regional Office, Records Management Unit at 412-442-4000.

Potential Sources of Contamination	Contaminants of Concern	Description	Protection Priority
Transportation corridors, bridges, railroads	Metals, turbidity, SOCs	Road deicing and potential for spills along roads, bridges, railroads	A
Boating, Marina	Petroleum products	Accidental release/spill	A
Road Deicing, Salt Storage	Sodium chloride	Runoff from storage areas, application of salt on roads	A
Auto repair shops	MTBE, BTEX, Metals	Disposal of products/byproducts	A
Utility substations	Heavy metals, SOCs, VOCs	Accidents near water source	A
Combined Sewer Outfalls, Wildcat sewers	Pathogens, bacteria, viruses, nutrients	Raw sewage entering water source	A
Residential Developments	Nitrates/Nitrites, pathogens, VOCs, SOCs, nutrients, pesticides, herbicide	Stormwater runoff, lawn care, on-lot waste disposal	A
Strip mines, abandoned mines	Turbidity, metals, heavy metals, acidity	Storm water runoff from stripped area	B

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

Thank you for allowing us to continue providing your family with clean, quality water this year. In order to maintain a dependable water supply we sometimes need to make improvements that will benefit all of our customers. These improvements are sometimes reflected as rate structure adjustments. Thank you for understanding. **Please call our office if you have questions.** We at the city of Duquesne Water Department work around the clock to provide top quality water to every tap in the City. We ask that all our customers help us protect our water sources, which are the heart of our community, or way of life and our children's future.

**Lead:** Infants and young children are typically more vulnerable to lead in drinking water than the general population. It is possible that lead levels at your home may be higher than at other homes in the community as a result of materials used in your home's plumbing. If you are concerned about

elevated lead levels in your home's water, you may wish to have your water tested and flush your tap for 30 seconds to 2 minutes before using tap water. Additional information is available from the Safe Drinking Water Hotline at [www.epa.gov/safewater/lead](http://www.epa.gov/safewater/lead) or 1-800-426-4791.

**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.

Here's a water conservation tip that may also help you reduce your water bill.

#### How to check your toilet for leaks

1. Remove the toilet tank lid.
2. Drop one dye tablet or 10 drops of food coloring into the tank.
3. Put the lid back on. Do not flush.
4. Wait at least 10-15 minutes, and then look in the bowl.
5. If color has come through, your tank is leaking.