

PASCOAG UTILITY DISTRICT, WATER DIVISION

Consumer Confidence Report – 2019

Covering Calendar Year – 2018



This brochure is a snapshot of the quality of the water that we provided last year. Included are the details about where your water comes from, what it contains, and how it compares to Environmental Protection Agency (EPA) and state standards. We are committed to providing you with information because informed customers are our best allies. If you would like to learn more about our decision-making processes that affect drinking water quality, please call MICHAEL KIRKWOOD at 401-568-6222 Ext: 224.

Our drinking water is supplied from another water system through a Consecutive Connection (CC). To find out more about our drinking water sources and additional chemical sampling results, please contact our office at the number provided below. Your water comes from:

Source Name	Source Water Type
WELL #5	Ground Water

We have one drilled well, Well #5, which provides a portion of our water. It is 700 feet deep and is located in the area of Reservoir Road and George Eddy Drive. Well #5's pump station is equipped with a sodium hypochlorite injector which allows for improved chlorine levels in the Reservoir Road service area. We maintain the prescribed wellhead protection area and consider the well to be at low risk of contamination.

We purchase the remainder of our water from the Harrisville Fire District. The Harrisville Fire District's water source is seven wells, three near their office, three in Eccleston Field, and one across the Clear River from Eccleston Field. The RI Department of Health, in cooperation with other state and federal agencies, has assessed the threats to the Harrisville's water supply sources. The assessment considered the intensity of development, the presence of businesses and facilities that use, store or generate potential contaminants, how easily contaminants may move through the soils in the Source Water Protection Area (SWPA), and the sampling history of the water.

Our monitoring program continues to assure that the water delivered to your home is safe to drink. However, the assessment found that Harrisville's water source is at MODERATE RISK of contamination. This does NOT mean that the water cannot become contaminated. Protection efforts are necessary to assure continued water quality. The complete Source Water Assessment Report is available from the Harrisville Fire District or the Department of Health at (401) 222-6867.

Some people may be more vulnerable to contaminants in drinking water than the general population. Immuno-compromised persons such as those 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).

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 EPA's Safe Drinking Water Hotline (800-426-4791).

The sources of drinking water (both tap water and bottled water) included 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 sources water before we treat it include:
Microbial contaminants, such as viruses and bacteria, which may come from sewage treatment plants, septic systems, 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 storm water run-off, agriculture, and residential users.
Radioactive contaminants, which can be naturally occurring or the result of mining activity.
Organic contaminants, including synthetic and volatile organic chemicals, which are by-products of industrial processes and petroleum production, and also come from gas stations, urban storm water run-off, and septic systems.

In order to ensure that tap water is safe to drink, EPA prescribes regulation which limits the amount of certain contaminants in water provided by public water systems. We treat our water according to EPA's regulations. Food and Drug Administration regulations establish limits for contaminants in bottled water, which must provide the same protection for public health.

Our water system is required to test a minimum of 3 samples per month in accordance with the Total Coliform Rule for microbiological contaminants. Coliform bacteria are usually harmless, but their presence in water can be an indication of disease-causing bacteria. When coliform bacteria are found, special follow-up tests are done to determine if harmful bacteria are present in the water supply. If this limit is exceeded, the water supplier must notify the public.

Water Quality Data

The following tables list all of the drinking water contaminants which were detected during the 2018 calendar year. The presence of these contaminants does not necessarily indicate the water poses a health risk. Unless noted, the data presented in this table is from the testing done January 1- December 31, 2018. The state requires us to monitor for certain contaminants less than once per year because the concentrations of these contaminants are not expected to vary significantly from year to year. Some of the data, though representative of the water quality, is more than one year old. **The bottom line is that the water that is provided to you is safe.**

Terms & Abbreviations

Maximum Contaminant Level Goal (MCLG): the "Goal" is the level of a contaminant in drinking water below which there is no known or expected risk to human health. MCLGs allow for a margin of safety.

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.

Secondary Maximum Contaminant Level (SMCL): recommended level for a contaminant that is not regulated and has no MCL.

Action Level (AL): the concentration of a contaminant that, if exceeded, triggers treatment or other requirements.

Treatment Technique (TT): a required process intended to reduce levels of a contaminant in drinking water.

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.

Non-Detects (ND): lab analysis indicates that the contaminant is not present.

Parts per Million (ppm) or milligrams per liter (mg/l)
Parts per Billion (ppb) or micrograms per liter (µg/l)
Picocuries per Liter (pCi/L): a measure of the radioactivity in water.
Millirems per Year (mrem/yr): measure of radiation absorbed by the body.
Monitoring Period Average (MPA): An average of sample results obtained during a defined time frame, common examples of monitoring periods are monthly, quarterly and yearly.
Nephelometric Turbidity Unit (NTU): a measure of the clarity of water. Turbidity

in excess of 5 NTU is just noticeable to the average person. Turbidity is not regulated for groundwater systems.
Running Annual Average (RAA): an average of sample results obtained over the most current 12 months and used to determine compliance with MCLs.
Locational Running Annual Average (LRAA): Average of sample analytical results for samples taken at a particular monitoring location during the previous four calendar quarters.

Testing Results for: PASCOAG UTILITY DISTRICT, WATER DIVISION

Microbiological	Result	MCL	MCLG	Typical Source
COLIFORM (TCR)	In the month of October, 1 sample(s) returned as positive	Treatment Technique Trigger	0	Naturally present in the environment

Regulated Contaminants	Collection Date	Highest Value	Range (low/high)	Unit	MCL	MCLG	Typical Source
BARIUM	3/8/2016	0.002	0.002	ppm	2	2	Discharge of drilling wastes; Discharge from metal refineries; Erosion of natural deposits
FLUORIDE	3/8/2016	0.98	0.98	ppm	4	4	Natural deposits; Water additive which promotes strong teeth

Disinfection Byproducts	Monitoring Period	Highest RAA	Range (low/high)	Unit	MCL	MCLG	Typical Source
TOTAL HALOACETIC ACIDS (HAA5)	2018	7	1.7 - 6.9	ppb	60	0	Byproduct of drinking water disinfection
TTHM	2018	38	19.8 - 38.4	ppb	80	0	Byproduct of drinking water disinfection

Lead and Copper	Monitoring Period	90 th Percentile	Range (low/high)	Unit	AL	Sites Over AL	Typical Source
COPPER, FREE	2018	0.359	0.0055 - 0.584	ppm	1.3	0	Corrosion of household plumbing systems
LEAD	2018	2.500	<1.0 - 14.4	ppb	15	0	Corrosion of household plumbing systems

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. Your water system 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>.

Maximum Disinfection Level	MPA	MPA Units	RAA	RAA Units
2018 - 2018	0.8800	MG/L	0.6	MG/L

Secondary Contaminants-Non Health Based Contaminants-No Federal Maximum Contaminant Level (MCL) Established.	Collection Date	Highest Value	Range (low/high)	Unit	SMCL
SODIUM	3/22/2018	8.98	8.98	MG/L	1000

Please Note: Because of sampling schedules, results may be older than 1 year.

During the 2018 calendar year, we had the below noted violation(s) of drinking water regulations.

Federal Compliance Period	Comments
3/1/2018 - 3/31/2018	Failed to maintain microbial treatment for more than 4 hours

We are required to disinfect one of our drinking water sources, which is a ground water well designated as Well #5. Between 1:42AM and 7:52AM on 03/09/2018, we did not meet one or more of our treatment requirements by failing to provide sufficient levels of disinfectant at Well 5 for more than 4 hours due to a "low limit" alarm being left in the "off" position after disinfection equipment had been undergoing maintenance.

While we immediately tested and did not detect any evidence of contamination in or other health threats to our source water, we are still committed to maintaining the required level of treatment to the water from Well 5 to eliminate the threat of contamination. We have reinforced with our operations staff the importance of resetting the automatic alarms after working on and water source treatment equipment, so that if the chlorine level goes below the low limit in the future, the well pump will be shut off automatically. The problem was resolved on 03/09/2018, and bacterial tests on 03/12/2018 tested negative for both E.COLI and Coliforms.

Additional Required Health Effects Language:

Coliforms are bacteria that are naturally present in the environment and are used as an indicator that other, potentially-harmful, bacteria may be present.

Infants and 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 (800-426-4761).

Inadequately treated water may contain disease causing organisms. These organisms include bacteria, viruses and parasites which can cause symptoms such as nausea, cramps, diarrhea, and associated headaches

There are no additional required health effects violation notices.