



Stockbridge-Munsee Water System

2015 Consumer Confidence Water Quality Report

Is my water safe?

This report is a summary of last year's water quality. Included are details about where your water comes from, what it contains, and how it compares to standards set by regulatory agencies. We are committed to providing you with information because informed customers are our best allies.

This report covers the monitoring period between January 1, 2015 and December 31, 2015.

Where does my water come from?

In a typical community water supply system, water is transported under pressure through a distribution network of buried pipes. Smaller pipes, called house service lines, are attached to the main water lines to bring water from the distribution network to your house. In our community water supply system, water pressure is provided by pumping water up into the storage tanks that stores water at higher elevations than the houses they serve. The force of gravity then "pushes" the water into your home when you open your tap. After the water is pumped, it is treated with chlorine.

The drinking water distributed through the community system originates as rainwater that percolates through the ground and is naturally filtered as it travels through the soil and rock. The water is most susceptible to becoming contaminated at the earth's surface. As the water travels underground both down gradient and from areas of greater pressure to least pressure, water collects in what is known as aquifers. Our wells are drilled into ground water

aquifers and we pump water to the surface to use as drinking water.

The Stockbridge-Munsee Environmental and Legal Departments created the Groundwater Protection ordinance to ensure that rainwater is not contaminated at the earth's surface before the water reaches the community drinking water system's groundwater aquifer. The drinking water system groundwater aquifer lacks confining layers, which could stop the movement of pollutants. Instead, the groundwater aquifer is composed of sand and gravel, which allows contaminants to move downward rapidly. The Groundwater Protection Ordinance can be found on the Internet at www.mohican.com/tribalordinance.html.

Source Water Assessment and Protection Plans and their availability

The Environmental Department has also completed a source water assessment and protection plan. The source water plans helped the Tribe identify potential contaminant sources and determined the susceptibility of each of the three wells, which support the Tribal drinking water system. Please contact the Stockbridge-Munsee Environmental Department at 715-793-4818 for a copy of the Source Water Plans or for more information.

Why are there contaminants in my drinking water?

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).

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 that 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, that 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 that are by-products of industrial processes and petroleum production, and can also come from gas stations, urban storm water runoff, and septic systems.

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Radioactive contaminants can be naturally-occurring or be the result of oil and gas production and mining activities.

If present, elevated levels of **lead and copper** 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. Stockbridge-Munsee Public Utilities 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 www.epa.gov/safewater/lead.

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

When coliform bacteria are found, special follow-up tests are done to determine if harmful bacteria are present in the water supply. If the standard is exceeded, the water supplier must notify the public by newspaper, hand delivery.”

Do I need to take special precautions?

Some people may be more vulnerable to contaminants in drinking water than the general population. Immune-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/Centers for Disease Control (CDC) guidelines on appropriate means to lessen the risk of infection by Cryptosporidium and other microbial contaminants are available from the Safe Water Drinking Hotline (800-426-4791).

Definitions & Acronyms:

In this table you will find many terms and abbreviations you might not be familiar with. To help you better understand we've provided the following definitions:

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.

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

Variances and Exemptions: Permission was granted via waiver not to meet the MCL for asbestos.

Compliance with Other Drinking Water Regulations

Total Coliform: “Water systems are required to meet a strict standard for coliform bacteria. Coliform Bacteria are used as indicators to a problem with disinfection and not necessarily a threat to humans.

How can I get involved?

If you have any questions, concerns or would like to provide input on the review or renewal of the asbestos exemption please feel free to contact the Public Works Department (715) 793-4854.

For more information, contact:

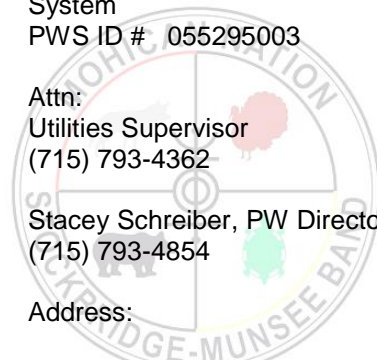
Stockbridge-Munsee South Central Community Water System
PWS ID # 055295003

Attn:
Utilities Supervisor
(715) 793-4362

Stacey Schreiber, PW Director
(715) 793-4854

Address:

Stockbridge-Munsee Public Works
W13817 County Highway A
Bowler, WI 54416



Stockbridge-Munsee Water System Detected Contaminants Table

Contaminant	Violation Y/N	Level Detected	Unit Measurement	MCL	MCLG	Likely Source of Contaminant	Test Date
Nitrogen, Nitrate Pumphouse	N	1.500	ppm	10	10	Runoff & leaching from fertilizer use; leaching from septic tanks, sewage; erosion of natural deposits	3/24/2015
Copper	N	0.870	mg/l	1.3	1.3	Corrosion of household plumbing systems; erosion of natural deposits	9/17/2013
Lead	N	0.013	mg/l	0.015	0	Corrosion of household plumbing systems; erosion of natural deposits	9/17/2013
TTHM	N	25.0	ug/l	80	0	Disinfection byproduct	8/7/2015
TTHM	N	13.0	ug/l	80	0	Disinfection byproduct	8/7/2015
HAA5	N	21.0	ug/l	60	60	Disinfection byproduct	8/12/2015
HAA5	N	13.0	ug/l	60	60	Disinfection byproduct	8/12/2015
Barium	N	17.0	ug/l	2000	2000	Erosion of natural deposits	8/11/2015
Nickel	N	0.75	ug/l	100	N/A	Occurs naturally in soils	8/11/2015
Fluoride	N	0.26	mg/l	4	4	Erosion of natural deposits	8/11/2015

Abbreviation Key:

TTHM	Total Trihalomethanes
HAA5	Five Haloacetic Acids
ppm	Parts per Million
mg/L	Milligrams per Liter
ug/l	Microgram per Liter

