



2009 Water Quality Report Honesdale Water System, PWSID# PA2640018

*Este informe contiene información muy importante sobre su agua de beber.
Tradúzcalo o hable con alguien que lo entienda bien.*

About Your Drinking Water

Aqua Pennsylvania, Inc. (Aqua) is pleased to provide you with important information about your drinking water in this 2009 Consumer Confidence Report for the Honesdale Water System (public water supply ID-PA2640018). The report summarizes the quality of water provided in 2009 by the Honesdale Water System - including details about water sources, what the water at your tap contains, and how it compares to standards set by regulatory agencies. Aqua acquired the Honesdale system on October 1, 2008. Although the report lists only those regulated substances that were detected in your water, we test for more than what is reported. This report is only a summary of testing during 2009. If you have any questions about the information in this report, please call 570.647.0358 or visit our website at www.aquapennsylvania.com.

Sources of Supply

Water for the Honesdale Water System comes from six wells. A Source Water Assessment was completed in 2002. The assessment found that contamination could come from both point source and non-point source activities. Examples include underground storage tanks, combined sewer outfalls, highway spills and salt applications. The Pennsylvania Department of Environmental Protection (DEP) has completed source water assessments for groundwater sources. Information on source water assessments is available on the DEP Web site at www.depweb.state.pa.us (DEP keyword "source water"). Completed reports are distributed to municipalities, water suppliers, local planning agencies, and DEP offices.

Shortly after purchasing the Honesdale water system, Aqua received approval from DEP to construct a treatment facility at the Quarry well to remove arsenic. The treatment facility has been on-line since February 2010 and became fully operational in April 2010.

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 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 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, stormwater runoff, and residential uses.
- Organic chemical contaminants, including synthetic and volatile organics are byproducts of industrial processes and petroleum production and can also come from gas stations, urban stormwater 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 prescribes regulations that 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.

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 (EPA) Safe Drinking Water Hotline at 800.426.4791.

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 at 800.426.4791.

Our water systems are designed and operated to deliver water to our customers' plumbing systems that complies with state and federal drinking water standards. This water is disinfected using chlorine, but it is not necessarily sterile. Customers' plumbing, including treatment devices, might remove, introduce or increase contaminants in tap water. All customers, and in particular operators of facilities like hotels and institutions serving susceptible populations (like hospitals and nursing homes), should properly operate and maintain the plumbing systems in these facilities. You can obtain additional information from the EPA's Safe Drinking Water Hotline at 800.426.4791.

The following table lists contaminants that were detected in your water system. The table provides average, minimum and maximum levels of regulated contaminants found in samples from this system.

Honesdale Water System, – PWSID# PA2640018

| Contaminants | Average Detection | Range of Detections | MCL | MCLG | Sample Date | Violation Y/N | Major Sources in Drinking Water |
|--|-------------------|---------------------|----------|-----------|-------------|---------------|--|
| Total Coliform Bacteria | 0 | 0-3 | 1 | 0 | 2009 | Y* | Naturally present in the environment |
| <i>E. coli</i> | 0 | 0-2 | 0 | 0 | 2009 | N | Human and animal fecal waste |
| Values above are number positive samples each month. The MCL is 1 positive monthly sample. In March 2009, 3 of the samples were positive for Total Coliform; 2 of the same samples were positive for <i>E. coli</i> . This was a violation and Public Notice was issued. All check samples were negative for <i>E. coli</i> . | | | | | | | |
| Chlorine, ppm | 0.4 | 0.3-1.1 | MRDL = 4 | MRDLG = 4 | 2009 | N | Water additive used to control microbes |
| Barium, ppm | 0.26 | 0.04-0.46 | 2 | 2 | 2006 | N | Erosion of natural deposits |
| Arsenic, ppb | 9 | 5-17 | 10 | 0 | 2009 | Y* | Erosion of natural deposits |
| Some people who drink water containing arsenic in excess of the MCL over many years could experience skin damage or problems with their circulatory system, and may have an increased risk of getting cancer. These results represent data from 4 wells; one of the wells (Quarry well) has elevated levels of arsenic. The majority of the water supplied to Honesdale customers comes from wells without elevated arsenic. Shortly after purchasing the Honesdale water system, Aqua received approval from DEP to construct a treatment facility at the Quarry well to remove arsenic. The treatment facility has been on-line since February 2010 and was fully operational in April 2010. | | | | | | | |
| Fluoride, ppm | 0.3 | 0.2-0.5 | 2 | 2 | 2006 | N | Erosion of natural deposits |
| Nitrate, ppm | ND | ND-1.3 | 10 | 10 | 2008 | N | Fertilizers; leaching from septic tanks, sewage; erosion of natural deposits |
| Haloacetic acids, ppb | 2 | ND-5 | 60 | NA | 2007 | N | Byproduct of drinking water chlorination |
| Total Trihalo-methanes, ppb | 5 | ND-10 | 80 | NA | 2007 | N | |

***Violations:** Public Notice was issued in March 2009 for exceedance of the monthly MCL for Coliform bacteria. Because *E. coli* was detected in 2 of the routine samples, a public notice was issued immediately. Follow-up samples were negative for Total Coliform and *E. coli* bacteria.

During the fourth quarter 2009, the Running Annual Average for arsenic at the Quarry well was 15 ppb. This exceeded the MCL, and a public notice was issued. Treatment to remove arsenic at this well has been on-line since February 2010 and was fully operational in the spring of 2010.

Monitoring/reporting violations occurred for Coliform bacteria and chlorine residual during June 2009 and for antimony during 2009. A follow-up sample showed that antimony was not detected.

| Lead and Copper | 90th Percentile | Total Number of Samples | Samples Exceeding Action Level | Action Level | MCLG | Sample Date | Violation Y/N | Major Sources in Drinking Water |
|-----------------|-----------------|-------------------------|--------------------------------|--------------|------|-------------|---------------|---------------------------------|
| Copper, ppm | 0.59 | 25 | 0 | 1.3 | 1.3 | 2007 | N | Corrosion of household plumbing |
| Lead, ppb | 8.7 | 25 | 2 | 15 | 0 | 2007 | N | |

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. Aqua 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>.

Water Sources: six wells. **Municipality Served:** Honesdale Borough and Texas Township, Wayne County.

Notes:

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

Fluoride: Fluoride may help prevent tooth decay if administered properly to children, but can be harmful in excess. Customers in the Honesdale system receive water from unfluoridated supplies.

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. Some levels are based on a running annual average.

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

NA: Not applicable.

ND: Not detected.

ppb: A unit of concentration equal to one part per billion.

ppm: A unit of concentration equal to one part per million.

PWSID: Public water supply identification number.

IMPORTANT INFORMATION ABOUT YOUR DRINKING WATER
Monitoring Requirements Not Met for
Aqua Pennsylvania, Inc. Honesdale PWS ID 2640018
Honesdale Borough & Texas Township (Seelyville) PA

Our water system violated a drinking water standard during June, 2009. Even though these were not emergencies, as our customer you have a right to know what happened and what we did to correct these situations.

We are required to monitor your drinking water for specific contaminants on a regular basis. Results of regular monitoring are an indicator of whether or not our drinking water meets health standards. We did not sample for antimony in 2009, and during the month of June, 2009 we did not monitor for coliform bacteria and chlorine residual, and therefore cannot be sure of the quality of our drinking water during that time.

What should I do? There is nothing you need to do at this time. You may drink the water. This is not an emergency. If it had been, you would have been notified immediately.

The table below lists the contaminants we did not properly test for, how often we are supposed to sample for and how many samples we are supposed to take, how many samples we took, when samples should have been taken, and the date on which follow-up samples were taken.

| Contaminant | Required sampling frequency | Number of samples taken | When all samples should have been taken | When samples were taken |
|-------------------|-----------------------------|-------------------------|---|-------------------------|
| Coliform Bacteria | 6 samples per month | 0 | June, 2009 | July, 2009 |
| Chlorine residual | 6 samples per month | 0 | June, 2009 | July, 2009 |
| Antimony | 1 sample every 3 years | 0 | 2009 | 2010 |

What happened? What was done? During the month of June, 2009 we were required to collect 6 samples in the distribution system for coliform and chlorine residual testing and none were taken. The subsequent monthly samples taken for July, 2009 had satisfactory results.

During 2009, one sample was required to be taken some time during the year for antimony and it was not taken until March 25, 2010. No antimony was detected in that follow-up sample.

For more information, please contact Aqua’s Customer Service at 1.877.987.2782

Please share this information with all the other people who drink this water, especially those who may not have received this notice directly (for example, people in apartments, nursing homes, schools and businesses). You can do this by posting this notice in a public place or distributing copies by hand or mail.

Aqua Pennsylvania
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