

# Doylestown Township Municipal Authority

PWS # 1090128

## Water Quality Report

2023

Doylestown Township Municipal Authority  
425 Wells Road · Doylestown, PA 18901

Water Quality Report 2023

This Water Quality Report is available at

<https://www.doylestownpa.org/water-quality-reports/>

This report contains important information about your drinking water.  
If you do not understand it, please have someone translate it to you.  
Este informe contiene información muy importante sobre su agua beber.  
Tradúzcalo ó hable con alguien que lo entienda bien.

Dear Customer:

The Doylestown Township Municipal Authority (DTMA) owns and operates a public water system in Doylestown Township and portions of adjoining municipalities. In addition to providing public water to Doylestown Township, DTMA provides service to the Cross Keys Place Shopping Center in Plumstead Township, the Fountainville Center in New Britain Township, portions of New Britain Borough and select residential developments.

This report is to apprise you of efforts to provide our customers with water that meets or exceeds water quality standards under the Safe Drinking Water Act (SDWA). It will be available to all customers on an annual basis no later than July of the ensuing year. The report contains information regarding the water system operation, water sources, treatment, and monitoring results for contaminant testing as required by permit under the SDWA and the Pennsylvania Department of Environmental Protection (DEP).

DTMA routinely monitors for over seventy contaminants. The results of the water monitoring program are presented in the attached report. The report will show results from the period January 1, 2023, through December 31, 2023. Should you have any questions regarding this report, please call Keith Hass, P.E., Executive Director, at **215-348-9915** or email [Khas@doylestownpa.org](mailto:Khas@doylestownpa.org). The DTMA public meetings are held on the third Thursday of the month beginning at 3:30 p.m.

All drinking water, including bottled water, may reasonably be expected to contain at least small amounts of some contaminants. It is important to remember that the presence of these contaminants do not necessarily pose a health risk. DTMA distributes groundwater pumped from ten (10) wells within Doylestown Township and may receive groundwater via an interconnection with Doylestown Borough. In addition, a blend of surface and groundwater via an interconnection with North Penn Water Authority (NPWA) is purchased. For 2023, NPWA provided 6.8% of source water distributed by DTMA. Doylestown Borough provided 1.3% of DTMA's water supply.

All sources of drinking water are subject to potential contaminants that are naturally occurring or man-made. More information about contaminants and potential health effects can be obtained by calling the:

**Environmental Protection Agency  
Safe Drinking Water Hotline**

**1-800-426-4791**

[www.epa.gov/your-drinking-water](http://www.epa.gov/your-drinking-water)

More information can be obtained at:

**PA Department of Environmental Protection**

**717-772-4018**

[www.depweb.state.pa.us](http://www.depweb.state.pa.us)

### Important Health Information

Some people may be more vulnerable to contaminants in drinking water than the general population. Immuno-compromised persons with cancer, undergoing chemotherapy, persons who have undergone organ transplants, people with the 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** or by visiting the EPA web site at [www.epa.gov/your-drinking-water](http://www.epa.gov/your-drinking-water).

While your drinking water meets EPA's standards for arsenic, it does contain low levels of arsenic. EPA's standard balances the current understanding of arsenic's possible health effects against the costs of removing arsenic from drinking water. EPA continues to research the health effects of low levels of arsenic which is a mineral known to cause cancer in humans at high concentrations and is linked to other health effects such as skin damage and circulatory problems.

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. DTMA 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 website at [www.epa.gov/your-drinking-water](http://www.epa.gov/your-drinking-water).

Nitrate in drinking water at levels above 10 ppm is a health risk for infants of less than 6 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 advice from your health care provider.

PFAS chemicals are among a family of man-made compounds that have been used for decades as ingredients to make products that resist heat, oil, stains, grease, and water. PFAS chemicals can be found in industrial and consumer products such as clothing, carpeting, food packaging, non-stick cookware, firefighting foam, personal car products, adhesives, metal plating, wire manufacturing and many other uses. In January 2023, DEP set new drinking water standards for PFOA and PFOS, two contaminants that are part of the larger group of PFAS chemicals. The new regulations set a MCL of 14 ppt for PFOA and a MCL of 18 ppt for PFOS.

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PFOA and PFOS have been detected in the DTMA wells at very low levels. PFAS has also been detected in private wells in Doylestown Township. DTMA is being proactive to ensure that we meet any existing and future proposed regulations related to PFAS. For more information on the presence of these chemical compounds in the local water supply please visit the DEP website for the [Easton Road PFC Site](#). If there are any questions, please call the office at **215-348-9915**.

In order to insure 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 level of protection to the public's health. PA allows us to monitor for some contaminants less than once per year. This is because the concentrations do not change frequently. Some of our data, though representative, is more than one year old.

As water travels over the surface of land or through the ground, it dissolves naturally occurring minerals. In addition, water can pick substances resulting from the presence of animal or human activity.

### Substances That May Be Present in Source Water

- **Microbial contaminants**, such as viruses and bacteria which may come from sewage treatment plants, septic systems, agriculture/livestock operations and wildlife.
- **Pesticides and herbicides**, which may come from a variety of sources such as agriculture, urban storm water runoff and residential use.
- **Radioactive contaminants**, which can be naturally occurring or the result of oil and gas production and mining activities.
- **Organic chemical contaminants**, including synthetic or volatile organic chemicals, which are byproducts of industrial processes, petroleum production or mining activities.
- **Inorganic contaminants**, such as salts and metals, which can be naturally occurring or result from urban runoff, industrial or domestic wastewater discharges, oil and gas production, mining or farming.

### Table Definitions

<b>Parts per million (ppm) or milligrams per liter (mg/L)</b>	One part per million corresponds to a single penny in \$10,000.
<b>Parts per billion (ppb) or micrograms per liter (ug/L)</b>	One part per billion corresponds to a single penny in \$10,000,000.
<b>Parts per trillion (ppt)</b>	One part per trillion corresponds to a single penny in \$10,000,000,000.
<b>Action Level (AL)</b>	The concentration of a contaminant which, if exceeded, triggers treatment or other requirement which a water system must follow.
<b>Treatment Technique (TT)</b>	A required process intended to reduce the level of contaminant in drinking water.

### Table Definitions (Continued)

<b>Maximum Contaminant Level (MCL)</b>	The highest level of a contaminant that is allowed in drinking water. MCL's are set close to the MCLG's as feasible using the best available treatment technology.
<b>Maximum Contaminant Level Goal (MCLG)</b>	The level of a contaminant in drinking water below which there is no known or expected risk to health. MCLG's allow for a margin of safety.
<b>Maximum Residual Disinfectant Level (MRDL)</b>	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.
<b>Maximum Residual Disinfectant Level Goal (MRDLG)</b>	The level of a 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 contaminant.
<b>N/A</b>	Not Applicable
<b>Picocurie per liter (pCi/L)</b>	A measure of radioactivity in water.
<b>Mrem/year</b>	Millirems per year (a measure of radiation absorbed by the body).
<b>Million Fibers per Liter (MFL)</b>	A measure of asbestos in water.
<b>Level 1 Assessment</b>	A Level 1 assessment is a study of the water system to identify potential problems and determine (if possible) why total coliform bacteria have been found in our water system.
<b>Level 2 Assessment</b>	A Level 2 assessment is a very detailed study of the water system to identify potential problems and determine (if possible) why an E. coli MCL violation has occurred and/or why total coliform bacteria have been found in our water system on multiple occasions.

### Source Water Assessment

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Source Water Assessment of our sources was completed by the PA Department of Environmental Protection (PA DEP). The assessment has found that our sources are potentially most susceptible to agricultural activities and transportation corridors (spills, road salt) and residential activities. Overall, our sources have varied risk of contamination. A summary report of the Assessment is available on the Source Water Assessment & Protection web page at: <http://www.dep.state.pa.us/deputate/water/wc/Subjects/SourceAssessment/default.htm>. Complete reports were distributed to municipalities, water suppliers, local planning agencies and PADEP offices. Copies of the complete report are available for review at the PA DEP Southeast Regional Office Records Management Unit at **484-250-5900**.

### Table of Contaminants

Contaminant	MCL	MCLG	Highest Level Detected	Range of Detections	Units	Sample Date	Violation Y/N	Sources of Contamination
<b>INORGANIC CONTAMINANTS (IOC)</b>								
<b>Arsenic</b>	10	0	4.0	0-4.0	ppb	2021 & 2023	No	Erosion of natural deposits. Runoff from orchards; Runoff from glass & electronics waste.
<b>Barium</b>	2	2	0.329	0.015-0.329	ppm	2021 & 2023	No	Discharge of drilling wastes; Discharge from metal refineries; Erosion of natural deposits.
<b>Bromate</b>	10	0	4.0	1.5-4.0	ppb	2023	No	By-product of drinking water chlorination
<b>Fluoride</b>	2	2	0.117	0-0.117	ppm	2021 & 2023	No	Erosion of natural deposits.
<b>Free Chlorine Distribution</b>	4	4	1.29	0.48-1.29	ppm	2023	No	Water additive used to control microbes.
<b>Nitrates</b>	10	10	4.98	0.30-4.17	ppm	2023	No	Runoff from fertilizer use; Leaching from septic tanks; Erosion of natural deposits.

### VOLATILE CONTAMINANTS (VOC)

<b>Tetrachloroethylene</b>	5	0	3.4	0-3.4	ppb	2023	No	Discharge from factories and dry cleaners.
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### RADIOLOGICAL CONTAMINANTS

<b>Gross Alpha</b>	15	0	8.26	0-8.26	pCi/L	2023	No	Erosion of natural deposits.
<b>Combined Uranium</b>	30	0	5.13	0-5.13	pCi/L	2023	No	Erosion of natural deposits.
<b>Combined Radium</b>	5	0	1.81	0-1.81	pCi/L	2023	No	Erosion of natural deposits.

Contaminant	Action Level (AL)	MCLG	90 <sup>th</sup> Percentile	Units	# of Sites Above AL	Sample Date	Violation Y/N	Sources of Contamination
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### LEAD & COPPER - Tested at Customers' Taps

<b>Lead</b>	15	0	1.0	ppb	0 out of 20	2022	No	Corrosion of household plumbing system.
<b>Copper</b>	1.3	1.3	0.69	ppm	0 out of 20	2022	No	Corrosion of household plumbing system.

Contaminant	MCL	Minimum Disinfectant Residual	Lowest Level Detected	Range of Detections	Units	Sample Date	Violation Y/N	Sources of Contamination
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### DISINFECTION BYPRODUCTS & DISINFECTION RESIDUALS

<b>Free Chlorine Entry Points</b>	4	0.20	0.42	0.42-1.88	ppm	2023	No	Water additive used to control microbes.
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Contaminant	MCL	MCLG	Highest Level Detected	Range of Detections	Units	Sample Date	Violation Y/N	Sources of Contamination
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<b>Total Trihalomethanes (TTHMs)</b>	80	N/A	33.2*	8.4-77.9	ppb	2023	No	By-product of drinking water disinfection.
<b>Haloacetic Acids (HAAs)</b>	60	N/A	20.7*	2.1-36.5	ppb	2023	No	By-product of drinking water disinfection.

\*Compliance is based on a running annual average of quarterly results. This value represents the highest running annual average result, not a single sample result.

Contaminant	MCLG	Range of Detections	Highest Level Detected	Sample Date	Violation Y/N	Sources of Contamination
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### PERFLUORINATED COMPOUNDS

<b>PERFLUOROCTANESULFONIC ACID (PFOS) (PPT)</b>	14	5-14	14*	2022	No	Human-made chemical used to make items that are resistant to water, grease, or stains such as cookware, carpets and packaging. Also used in industrial processes and in firefight foams.
<b>PERFLUOROCTANOIC ACID (PFOA) (PPT)</b>	8	6-17	17*	2022	No	Human-made chemical used to make items that are resistant to water, grease, or stains such as cookware, carpets and packaging. Also used in industrial processes and in firefight foams.

\*Compliance is based on a running annual average of quarterly results.

### Violations

In 2023, DTMA was notified that our outsourced laboratory missed a quarterly sampling for synthetic organic chemicals (SOCs) and combined uranium at two of our wells. Upon notification, DTMA immediately sampled for the contaminants and reported the results to DEP. DTMA is pleased to report that all results were "non-detect". At no time was water quality impacted as this was a reporting violation. DTMA initiated protocols to prevent this situation from occurring again.