Borough of Chambersburg

2025 Annual Drinking Water Quality Report

Per the United States Environmental Protection Agency (EPA) and the Pennsylvania Department of Environmental Protection (DEP) regulations, the Borough of Chambersburg Water Department (PWSID 7280005), presents its 2025 Consumer Confidence Report. This report is designed to provide consumers with valuable information concerning Chambersburg's drinking water quality including source location, compliance with federal and state regulations, contaminants detected, and most importantly answers the question, is our water safe to drink?

IS OUR WATER SAFE TO DRINK?

The EPA sets the standards for safe drinking water under the authority of the 1974 Safe Drinking Water Act. DEP adopts these standards and is the agency which regulates all public water systems in Pennsylvania.

The water that Chambersburg produces meets all EPA and DEP standards. Chambersburg also participates in the Partnership for Safe Water program. This is a voluntary self-improvement program sponsored by the American Water Works Association and DEP. Members commit to improving plant operation and are held to stricter standards than those of EPA and DEP. Chambersburg meets those standards as well. Judging the water by these criteria, Chambersburg's water is indeed safe to drink. However, there are some people who are more at risk than the general population. Quoting from EPA:

> *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 (1-800-426-4791).*

SOURCE OF YOUR WATER

The source of Chambersburg's water is the East Branch of the Conococheague Creek. Water is collected from an 18.25 sq. mi. watershed northeast of Caledonia State Park. Most of the watershed lies within Adams County with a small percentage lying in Franklin and Cumberland Counties.

Long Pine Run Reservoir within our watershed can store up to 1.8 billion gallons of water, approximately 1.5 years supply for the Borough of Chambersburg.

Protection of our watershed is the single most important factor in ensuring a safe water supply. We are fortunate that 95% of our watershed lies within Michaux State Forest. There is no industry, no agricultural activity, and only a small residential population in the 5% remaining watershed outside of Michaux State Forest.

In the Borough of Chambersburg's Source Water Assessment, few potential contamination sites exist; however, the few that do exist pose a moderately high risk, mainly the Route 233 transportation corridor and associated residential activities along it. This report is available for review at Chambersburg's Water Treatment Plant:

> Borough of Chambersburg Water Treatment Plant
> 7659 Lincoln Way East
> Fayetteville, PA 17222
> Phone number: (717) 352-7450

EPA requires that the following information about drinking water contaminants be included in this report.

SOURCES OF CONTAMINATION

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, bacteria and protozoa, which may come from sewage treatment plants, septic systems, agriculture 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 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 and DEP prescribes regulations which limit the amount of certain contaminants in water provided by public water systems. Food and Drug Administration and DEP 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 Safe Drinking Water Hotline (800-426-4791).

As a surface water source, our water is naturally susceptible to surface runoff and any contaminants carried by the runoff, which include microbial contaminants from wildlife and the small residential population in our watershed. Removal of the clay and silt particles and organic debris that harbor these microbial contaminants is the main function of our water filtration plant.

The absence of industry and agriculture in our watershed minimizes the threat of organic chemical pollution. The aquifer feeding the springs and streams which flow into Long Pine Reservoir and the Conococheague Creek is practically inert, adding almost no minerals to the water.

The watershed contains a significant amount of trees which produce needles and leaves. As fallen leaves and other vegetation decompose, decomposition products enter the soil. These decomposition products, collectively called natural organic matter (NOM), mainly tannic, humic, and fulvic acids, enter the soil and are subsequently washed into the streams whenever a substantial rainfall event occurs. As the NOM concentration increases, treatment of the water becomes more difficult.

NOMs are not regulated contaminants, but they can combine with chlorine to form regulated disinfection byproducts which are suspected carcinogens. Two regulated disinfection byproducts are total trihalomethanes and haloacetic acids. Levels of these compounds are usually low; but, occasionally can become elevated dependent on creek conditions.

In 2018, Chambersburg completed and submitted LT2 cryptosporidium sampling with PADEP. As a result of those sampling results, a Bin 1 classification was determined and no additional cryptosporidium testing has been required.

Lead can cause serious health problem, especially for pregnant women and young children. Lead in drinking water is primarily from materials and components associated with service lines and home plumbing. The Borough of Chambersburg is responsible for providing high quality drinking water and is removing lead service lines as is currently defined under the EPA Lead and Copper Rule Revisions (LCRR), but cannot control the variety of materials used in plumbing components in your home. The Chambersburg distribution system has no lead service lines; however, under the current EPA and DEP classification, a lead gooseneck upstream of a galvanized service line is defined as Galvanized Requiring Replacement (GRR). GRR service lines potentially increase your risk to lead exposure. You share the responsibility for protecting yourself and your family from the lead in your home plumbing. You can take responsibility by identifying and removing lead materials within your home plumbing and taking steps to reduce your family's risk. Before drinking tap water, flush your pipes for several minutes by running your tap, taking a shower, doing laundry or a load of dishes. You can also use a filter certified by American National Standards Institute accredited to reduce lead in drinking water. If you are concerned about lead in your water and wish to have your water tested, contact the Borough of Chambersburg Water Treatment Plant at (717)-352-7450 you may request to have your water tested. Information on lead in drinking water, testing methods, and steps you can take to minimize exposure is available at https://www.epa.gov/safewater/lead

The Borough of Chambersburg has successfully implemented a Corrosion Control Plan designed to minimize the leaching out of lead and copper from household plumbing. This is accomplished by treating the water with sodium hydroxide to raise the pH, sodium bicarbonate (baking soda) to raise the alkalinity level, plus the addition of an orthophosphate corrosion control chemical. Chambersburg currently conducts lead monitoring at a frequency as required by PADEP, which was last required and completed in 2023. Lead concentrations were below 15 parts per billion (ppb) in 90% of samples analyzed for the Borough to remain in compliance.

In October 2024, Chambersburg prepared a service line inventory that includes the type of materials contained in each service line in our distribution system. This plan was most recently submitted in Fall of 2025. This inventory can be accessed online at:

https://chambersburgpa.gov/pdf/Customer%20Service%20Line%20Inventory%2008282025%20PDF%20for%20website.pdf

or by contacting our office at:

Borough of Chambersburg Water Treatment Plant
Phone number: (717) 352-7450

TREATMENT

When the Borough of Chambersburg first began drawing water out of the Conococheague Creek in 1912 near Caledonia, treatment consisted solely of physical screening - a screen on the end of a pipe to remove large debris such as leaves and branches before water entered the transmission system. Fortunately, we have made significant treatment process improvements since those days. Potable water standards are much more stringent than they were 100+ years ago and continue to be improved upon.

The Water Treatment Plant's purpose is to:

- Inactivate pathogenic viruses, bacteria, and protozoans
- Remove suspended and colloidal matter from the water
- Reduce color
- Remove iron and manganese which can cause laundry staining problems
- Control taste and odor
- Reduce corrosivity to pipes and household plumbing

All this is done to produce water that meets current EPA and DEP standards.

As prescreened water enters the treatment plant, sodium hydroxide (caustic) is injected into the water to increase pH. Then a primary coagulant (a poly-aluminum blend) is added. The treated water enters large circular tanks where it is gently mixed and the coagulating chemicals cause the small suspended particles to stick together eventually forming larger, heavier particles (floc) that will settle out.

After the settling phase, water flows to the filters where the finer particles are removed. Our filters are classified as multimedia rapid sand filters. As water flows through two layers of specially graded anthracite (coal) and silica sand, the remaining particles in the water are removed by a process called adsorption. During this process, the media act as tiny magnets which attract suspended material as the water flows through the filter.

Following filtration, the water is disinfected with chlorine to inactivate any microorganisms present and the following chemicals are added: sodium hydroxide to raise pH, sodium bicarbonate (baking soda) to raise the alkalinity of the water, fluoride, and finally a blended orthophosphate solution for corrosion control which helps protect the distribution mains as well as household plumbing.

Following treatment, water flows to a 4.5 million gallon in-ground clearwell. From there, the finished water flows by gravity to Chambersburg. An outstanding feature of our system is that it is completely gravity delivered; a tremendous energy savings since there are no pumping costs. Water is available to almost every customer in the 40 – 80 psi pressure range.

CONTAMINANTS

A contaminant is anything in the water that is not a water molecule. Water in its purest form is practically unknown in nature; even distilled water contains some contaminants. Public water suppliers monitor for over 80 contaminants that are potentially hazardous to human health if present in the water above certain levels. Chambersburg's water contains very few regulated contaminants, all at levels significantly below limits set by EPA and DEP. The included water quality data table in this report lists all the **detected regulated contaminants** one might expect to find in a typical sample of Chambersburg water based on analyses performed in the year 2025; or if a parameter was not required to be tested for, then the most recent result prior to 2025. One exception to the detected listing of contaminants is PFAS: two (2) PFAS chemicals were tested for in 2024 with no concentration of either chemical existing. DEP allows us to monitor for some contaminants less than once per year because the concentrations of these contaminants do not change frequently.

A complete list of all analytical results and other pertinent information can be viewed on the Pennsylvania Department of Environmental Protection's Drinking Water Reporting System webpage:

www.drinkingwater.state.pa.us/dwrs/HTM/SelectionCriteria.html

Select "Public Water System ID"; then enter "7280005"; select a category from "Information Request" and click "Submit". All analytical results are accessible on the following page(s).

COMPLIANCE WITH THE SAFE DRINKING WATER ACT

In January 2026, PADEP notified the Chambersburg Water Plant of a Failure to Monitor or Report a Fourth Quarter TOC (Total Organic Compound). The Borough collected 7 of the 8 required samples for 2025. Failing to collect the final sample resulted in the Borough having a Tier III Violation. Tier III Violation requires public notice to all Water Customers. The notice can be read by accessing the link below:

https://chambersburgpa.gov/pdf/TierIIIViolationPublicNotificationQ4%20TOCS.pdf

Per PADEP recommendation, the Borough is required to follow the same sampling schedule in the future.

MISCELLANEOUS

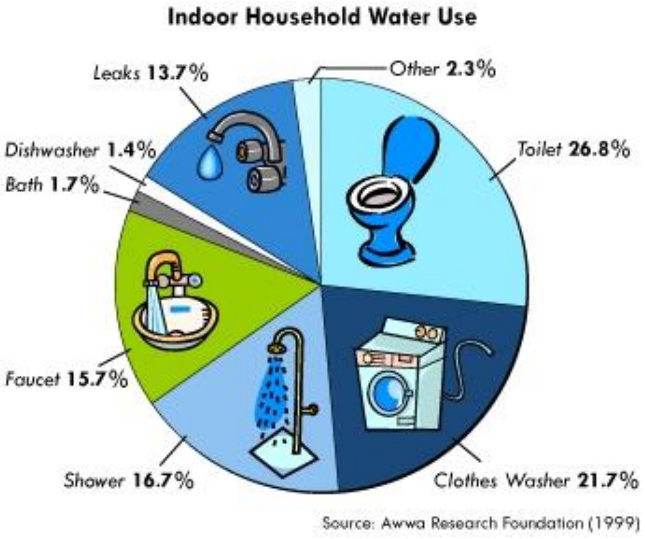
HARDNESS: Chambersburg water has very little hardness due to the lack of calcium carbonate and other minerals in the water. The hardness of Chambersburg water is approximately 10 parts per million or about ½ grain per gallon. In other words, the water is relatively very soft.

PRECIPITATION: Our watershed in the Blue Ridge Mountains receives an average of 44.32 inches of rainfall equivalent per year. In 2025, we received rainfall equivalent of 37.38 inches (6.94 inches below average).

WATER CONSERVATION: Chambersburg is fortunate to possess an abundant water supply. Realizing that this is a precious resource, the Borough has taken an aggressive posture on leak detection to reduce the amount of unaccounted water within our distribution system.

Just as the Borough practices water conservation, so too can individual customers. Practicing conservation will lower your water bills and if you are a Borough resident, will lower your sewer bill as well since sewer bills are based on water usage, hence, a double savings. Here are some tips to reduce water usage:

- Repair leaking faucets and toilets.
  - 1 out of every 5 toilets in the U.S. is leaking at any point in time.
  - Leaking toilets are the No. 1 cause of high water bills.
  - The average leaking toilet wastes 100 gallons of water per day, or nearly 40,000 gallons of water per year, enough to fill an Olympic sized swimming pool.
  - The total U.S. water loss due to leaking toilets has been estimated to be as high as 5 billion gallons per day, or nearly 2 trillion gallons per year!
- Water lawns wisely, water in evenings or early mornings to minimize evaporation losses.
- Install water efficient appliances in your home. Look for EPA WaterSense labels.
- Take shorter showers.
- Turn off water while brushing teeth or shaving.
- Turn off hose while washing your car.
- Operate dishwashers and washing machines only with full loads.



QUESTIONS OR CONCERNS?

Questions concerning this report or anything concerning water quality can be addressed to Chambersburg Water Plant, by phone at (717) 352-7450 between the hours of 7:00 A.M. and 3:00 P.M or by email at chambersburgwater@chambersburgpa.gov Although there are no public meetings devoted solely to water issues, regular Borough Council meetings are open to the public throughout the year and there is an open forum period where one can voice concerns about anything pertaining to Borough business. Call (717) 264-5151 for dates and times of public meetings.

More information on contaminants and health effects can be obtained by calling the **EPA Safe Drinking Water Hotline** at **(800) 426-4791.**

Need additional copies of this report? Call (717) 352-7450 and more reports will be provided.

The Borough of Chambersburg is proud to be a member of the Partnership for Safe Water, since 2009.

The Partnership's mission is to improve the quality of drinking water delivered to customers of public water supplies by optimizing system operations.

Water Quality Table

The tables on this page list all of the drinking water contaminants that we detected during the 2025 calendar year (with the exception of PFAS: both PFAS chemicals tested for were both non-detects in 2024). The presence of contaminants in the water does not necessarily indicate that the water poses a health risk. Unless otherwise noted, the data presented is from testing done January 1 through December 31, 2025. The state requires us to monitor for certain contaminants less than once per year because the concentrations of these contaminants do not change frequently.

CONTAMINANT	HIGHEST LEVEL ALLOWED (MCL)	MCLG (EPA GOAL)	HIGHEST DETECTED LEVEL	RANGE OF DETECTION	ANALYSES DATE	SOURCES OF CONTAMINANT
INORGANIC CONTAMINANTS						
FLUORIDE	2.0 mg/L	2.0 mg/L (DEP Goal)	0.87 mg/L	Sampled for only once	3/5/2025	WATER ADDITIVE
DISINFECTANT						
ENTRY POINT CHLORINE	4 mg/L (MRDL)	4 mg/L (MRLG)	1.43 mg/L	0.77 - 1.43 mg/L	Lowest Value 07/16/2025	WATER ADDITIVE
DISTRIBUTION RESIDUALS	4 mg/L (MRDL)	4 mg/L (MRLG)	01/2025 HIGHEST MONTHLY AVG 1.02 mg/L	0.24 - 1.57 mg/L	07/2025 LOWEST MONTHLY AVG 0.77 mg/L	WATER ADDITIVE
DISINFECTION BYPRODUCTS						
TOTAL TRIHALOMETHANES	80 ppb	NA	57.1 ppb (Highest LRAA)	10.2 – 57.1 ppb	2025	DISINFECTION BYPRODUCT
TOTAL HALOACETIC ACIDS	60 ppb	NA	26.9 ppb (Highest LRAA)	9.6 – 26.9ppb	2025	DISINFECTION BYPRODUCT
MCL compliance is based on an LRAA of 4 samples collected quarterly; therefore, an individual sample may exceed MCL and not be a violation.						
LEAD AND COPPER						
LEAD	15 ppb (AL)	0.00 ppb	82.0 ppb	ND – 82.0 ppb	Jun – Sept 2025	CORROSION OF HOUSEHOLD PLUMBING
COPPER	1.3 mg/L (AL)	1.3 mg/L	0.117 mg/L	0.000 - 0.117 mg/L	Jun – Sept 2025	CORROSION OF HOUSEHOLD PLUMBING
32 homes with high potential for lead and copper contamination were sampled and tested in 2023. 90th percentile lead and copper concentrations were 2.11 ppb and 0.114 mg/L, respectively.						
TURBIDITY (FILTERED WATER CLARITY)						
TURBIDITY	TT = 1 NTU for a single measurement	0.100 NTU	0.093 NTU	0.010 - 0.093 NTU	5/22/2025 (Highest result)	SOIL RUNOFF
	TT = at least 95% of monthly samples ≤0.3 NTU	0.100 NTU	100.00%	NA	2025	SOIL RUNOFF
Average turbidity for 2025 was 0.022 NTU.						

TOTAL ORGANIC CARBON (TOC)					
CONTAMINANT	**RANGE OF % REMOVAL REQUIRED**	**RANGE OF % REMOVAL ACHIEVED**	**NUMBER OF QUARTERS OUT OF COMPLIANCE**	**VIOLATION Y/N**	**SOURCES OF CONTAMINATION**
TOC	45%	59 – 80%	1	Y	NATURALLY PRESENT IN THE ENVIRONMENT
Met % Removal required (35%) and Alternative Compliance Criteria (<2 mg/L TOC Source/Filtered Water) for 2025					

PER- and POLYFLUOROALKYL SUBSTANCES (PFAS) Last Sampled in 2024				
CONTAMINANT	**MCLG (ng/L or ppt)**	**RANGE OF RESULT (ng/L or ppt)**	**VIOLATION Y/N**	**SOURCES OF CONTAMINATION**
PFOA (Perfluorooctanoic acid)	8	ND	N	SYNTHETIC CHEMICAL
PFOS (Perfluorooctanesulfonic acid)	14	ND	N	SYNTHETIC CHEMICAL

Key to Abbreviations:

AL = Action Level; the concentration of a contaminant that triggers treatment or other requirements that a water system must follow. Action Levels are reported at the 90th percentile for homes at greatest risk.
LRAA = Locational Running Annual Average,
MCL= Maximum Contaminant Level; the highest level of a contaminant that is allowed in drinking water.
MCLG = Maximum Contaminant Level Goal; the level of a contaminant in drinking water below which there is no known or expected risk of heath.
mg/L = Milligrams per liter (or parts per million)
ng/L = Nanograms per liter (or parts per trillion)
MRDLG = Maximum Residual Disinfectant Level Goal; the level of a drinking water disinfectant below which there is no known or expected risk to health.
MRDL = Maximum Residual Disinfectant Level; the highest level of a disinfectant allowed in drinking water.
NA = Not applicable
ND = Not Detected
NR = Not Regulated
NTU = Nephelometric Turbidity Unit is a measure of the clarity of water. Turbidity in excess of 5 NTU is noticeable to the average person.
ppb = Parts per billion (or micrograms per liter)
TT = Treatment Technique; a required process intended to reduce the level of a contaminant in drinking water.
TBD = To be determined

CONSUMER CONFIDENCE REPORT

This report contains important information about your drinking water.
Translate it or speak with someone who understands it.

Este informe contiene información muy importante sobre su agua potable.
Tradúzcalo ó hable con alguien que lo entienda bien.

Dear Customer:

This is an annual report on the quality of water delivered by the Borough of Chambersburg. It meets the federal Safe Drinking Water Act (SDWA) requirement for "Consumer Confidence Reports" and contains information on the source of our water, its contaminants, and how it compares to (EPA) and state standards. Safe water is vital to our community. Please read this report carefully, and if you have any questions, contact the Borough Water Department at (717) 352-7450.

In 2025, we routinely tested samples of you water to assure that it met established water quality standards set by the United States Environmental Protection Agency (EPA), and the Pennsylvania Department of Environmental Protection (DEP). All test results are kept on file and available to the public.

Borough of Chambersburg

Jeffrey Stonehill	Lance Anderson, P.E.	Tyler Seibert
Borough Manager/Director of Utilities	Director of Water & Wastewater	Water Plant Supervisor

OFFICE HOURS

The Water Department Office can be reached Monday through Friday between 8:00am and 5:00pm at (717) 251-2405.
Billing inquiries should be directed to Borough of Chambersburg Customer Service at (717) 264-5151.
The Water Treatment Plant can be reached Monday through Friday between 7:00am and 3:00pm at (717) 352-7450.
For weekend and after-hours water emergencies, please call (717) 263-4111.

Supplemental Water Quality Table

This table comprises annual inorganic chemical, volatile organic compound, and synthetic organic chemical testing results along with previous Unregulated Contaminant Monitoring Rule (UCMR) testing results which were above the detection limit.
Unregulated contaminants are those that do not yet have a drinking water standard set by the US Environmental Protection Agency. The purpose of monitoring for these contaminants is to assist USEPA in deciding whether the contaminants should have a standard in the future.

CONTAMINANT	HIGHEST LEVEL ALLOWED (MCL)	MCLG (EPA GOAL)	HIGHEST DETECTED LEVEL	RANGE OF DETECTION	ANALYSES DATE	SOURCES OF CONTAMINANT
INORGANIC CONTAMINANTS						
BARIUM	2.0 mg/L	2.0 mg/L	0.027 mg/L	NA	3/5/2025	EROSION OF NATURAL DEPOSITS