

# Municipal Authority of Borough of Union City

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## 2023 ANNUAL WATER QUALITY REPORT



For 2022 Calendar Year Reporting Data  
PWSID 6250064

Dear Customer,

We are pleased to present to you this year's Annual Water Quality Report. This report is also presented on the Union City Municipal Authority's website at: <http://unioncitypa.us/ucma/> The Union City Municipal Authority is committed to meeting the expectations of our customers. We will strive together to provide products and services that contribute to the welfare of the consumer, while supporting opportunities for economic growth & vitality throughout the community in which it serves. The Union City Municipal Authority will continue to work towards providing water that meets or exceeds state and federal standards for drinking water. Sincerely, Dan Brumagin- Operations Manager

Este informe contiene informacion muy importante sobre su agua de beber. Traduzcalo I hable con alguien que lo entienda bien. (This report contains very important information about our drinking water. (Translate it, or speak to someone who understands it.)

### General Information About Drinking Water

All 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 the 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 (1-800-426-4791) or visit [www.epa.gov/safewater](http://www.epa.gov/safewater).

Some people may be more vulnerable to contaminants in drinking water than the general population. Immunocompromised 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* (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, 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 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 by-products 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. FDA and DEP regulations establish limits for contaminants in bottled water which must provide the same protection for public health.

### Our Water Source

The Union City Water Supply Reservoir is located east of Union City. It drains an area of approximately 2.41 square miles and is fairly well protected from the kinds of contamination that can occur from animal and human activities. The reservoir is primarily spring fed with rain runoff contributing to keeping it full, both help to provide us with a dependable water resource. Throughout the process of collection, treatment and distribution, the certified operators and staff monitor and sample the water quality for its chemical and biological content. Some of these analyses are required to meet state and federal standards, while others are part of ongoing testing to assure a continual supply of high quality drinking water.

For information or assistance on how you might be able to get involved with protecting your water source: Contact the DEP Regional Office in your area at 814-332-6899 or visit the DEP's website at [www.dep.state.pa.us](http://www.dep.state.pa.us) and then select PA Watersheds or for additional information visit: [www.pawatersheds.org/](http://www.pawatersheds.org/)

### Monitoring Your Water:

We routinely monitor for contaminants in your drinking water according to federal and state laws. The following tables show the results of our monitoring for the period of January 1 to December 31. The State allows us to monitor for some contaminants less than once per year because the concentrations of these contaminants do not change frequently. Some of our data is from prior years in accordance with the Safe Drinking Water Act. The date has been noted on the sampling results table. Terms and abbreviations used below:

- **Not applicable (N/A)** – not applicable
- **Non-Detects (ND)** laboratory analysis indicates that the contaminate is not present at a detectable level.
- **Maximum Contaminant Level Goal or MCLG:** The level of a contaminant in drinking water below which there is no expected risk to health. MCLGs allow for a margin of safety.
- **Maximum Contaminant Level or 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
- **Action Level (AL):** The concentration of a contaminant, which, if exceeded, triggers treatment, or other requirements, which a water system must follow.
- **Treatment Technique (TT):** A required process intended to reduce the level of a contaminant in drinking water.
- **ppm** = parts per million, or milligrams per liter (mg/L) - one part per million corresponds to one minute in two years or a single penny in \$10,000.
- **ppb** = parts per billion, or micrograms per liter (ug/L) - one part per billion corresponds to one minute in 2,000 years, or a single penny in \$10,000,000,
- **Picocuries per liter (pCi/L)** - picocuries per liter is a measure of the radioactivity in the water. Millirems per year (mrem/yr) - measure of radiation absorbed by the body.
- **Nephelometric Turbidity Unit or NTU:** A measure of the clarity of water. Turbidity in excess of 5 NTU is just noticeable to the average person.
- **MRDL** = Maximum Residual Disinfectant Level
- **MRDLG** = Maximum Residual Disinfectant Level Goal

**Detected Sample Results:**

Chemical Contaminants								
Contaminant	MCL in CCR Units	MCLG	Level Detected	Range of Detections	Units	Sample Date	Violation Y/N	Sources of Contamination
Chlorine	MRDL=4	MRDLG=4	2.57	0.50 - 2.57	PPM	8/20/2022	N	Water Additive used to control microbes.
Barium	2	2	0.019	N/A	PPM	3/14/2022	N	Discharge of drilling wastes; Discharge from metal refineries; Erosion of natural deposits.
Nitrate	10	10	0.52	N/A	PPM	4/11/2022	N	Runoff from fertilizer use; Leaching from septic tanks, sewage, Erosion of natural deposits
HAA5	60	N/A	34.3	16.3 – 79.1	PPB	2022	N	By-product of drinking water disinfection.
TTHM	80	N/A	42.4	14.6 – 87.6	PPB	2022	N	By-product of drinking water chlorination.

Entry Point Disinfection Residual							
Contaminant	Minimum Disinfection Residual	Lowest Level Detected	Range of Detections	Units	Sample Date	Violation Y/N	Sources of Contamination
Chlorine	0.20	0.20	0.20 – 1.36	PPM	1/4/2022	N	Water Additive used to control microbes.

Lead and Copper							
Contaminant	Action Level (AL)	MCLG	90th Percentile Value	Units	# of sites Above AL of Total Sites	Violation Y/N	Sources of Contamination
Copper- 2019 (a)	1.3	1.3	0.238	PPM	0 out of 20	N	Corrosion of household plumbing.
Lead- 2019 (a)	15	0	4.18	PPB	0 out of 20	N	Corrosion of household plumbing.

Footnote: (a)- Tested every three years

Microbial					
Contaminant	MCL	MCLG	Highest # or % of Positive Samples	Violation Y/N	Sources of Contamination
Total Coliform Bacteria	For systems that collect <40 samples/month: * More that 1 positive sample For systems that collect > 40 samples/month: *5% of monthly samples are positive	0	0	N	Naturally present in the environment.
Fecal Coliform Bacteria or E. Coli	0	0	0	N	Human and animal fecal waste

Turbidity						
Contaminant	MCL	MCLG	Level Detected	Sample Date	Violation Y/N	Sources of Contamination
Turbidity	TT=1 NTU for a single measurement	0	0.169	8/5/2022	N	Soil runoff.
	TT=at least 95% of montly samples <0.3 NTU		100.0%	2022	N	

Total Organic Carbon (TOC)					
Contaminant	Range of % Removal Required	Range of percent removal achieved	Number of quarters out of compliance	Violation Y/N	Sources of Contamination
TOC	25 - 35	54 - 68	0	N	Naturally present in the environment.

**Information about Lead:**

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 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>.

**Other Information:**

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

If you should have any questions concerning your water utility, or the quality of your water and this report, please contact Dan Brumagin at 438-3721. We value our customers and want them to be completely informed about their water utility. If you wish to learn more about our operations, please attend our regularly scheduled meetings. They are open to the public and held on the 4th Thursday of every month at 5:30 pm. The meeting location is in the lower conference room at the Authority building located at 22 North Main Street.

**Violations:**

December 2022- Union City had a TOC reporting violation due to the contracted laboratory having an analysis error with the submitted sample.

**System Improvements and Water Rates Update:**

The new \$11.7 million water system upgrades included over one mile of water line replacement, a complete overhaul and upgrade of the existing water plant, a new pressure filter water plant, new concrete waste lagoons, a complete system upgrade and replacement of the outdated water meters and a new 700,000 gallon water storage tank. The new upgrades bring Union City’s water system into the 21<sup>st</sup> Century and makes ours one of the most technologically advanced water systems, for a small community, in the state of Pennsylvania.

With the new water plant upgrades, Union City has met all regulatory requirements and continues to produce a water quality that has exceeded expectations and is of superior quality compared to what the old water plant was able to produce.