

2023 ANNUAL DRINKING WATER QUALITY REPORT

PWSID #: 5320034 NAME: Indiana County Municipal Services Authority - Rossiter

Este informe contiene información importante acerca de su agua potable. Haga que alguien lo traduzca para usted, ó hable con alguien que lo entienda. (This report contains important information about your drinking water. Have someone translate it for you, or speak with someone who understands it.)

WATER SYSTEM INFORMATION:

This report shows our water quality and what it means. If you have any questions about this report or concerning your water utility, please contact Martin Maschak, Executive Director or Tricia Lefko, Compliance Superintendent at 724-349-6640, ext. 102 or ext. 107. We want you to be informed about your water supply. If you want to learn more, please attend any of our regularly scheduled meetings. They are held on the second Tuesday of each month at 7:30pm, ICMSA office, 602 Kolter Drive, Indiana, PA 15701.

SOURCE(S) OF WATER:

Our water source(s) is/are:

Indiana County Municipal Services Authority – Rossiter’s source of water is surface water from Straight Branch Run in Canoe Township, Indiana County, Pennsylvania. The watershed encompasses approx. 2.3 square miles including two municipalities (Canoe and Banks Townships) in Indiana County. The majority of the Straight Branch Run watershed is forested (90%) with some areas of agriculture (10%). Urban or developed areas and barren land comprise the remaining land usage.

A Source Water Assessment of our source(s) was completed by the PA Department of Environmental Protection (Pa. DEP). The Assessment has found that our source(s) is potentially most susceptible to roads, bridges and runoff from non-point sources such as residential developments, farms and mined areas. Overall, our source(s) has little risk of significant contamination. A summary report of the Assessment is available on the Source Water Assessment Summary Reports eLibrary web page: <http://www.elibrary.dep.state.pa.us/dsweb/View/Collection-10045>. Complete reports were distributed to municipalities, water supplier, local planning agencies and PADEP offices. Copies of the complete report are available for review at the Pa. DEP Southwest (Pittsburgh) Regional Office, Records Management Unit at (412) 442-4000.

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* (800-426-4791).

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, 2023. 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.

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 (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.

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.

Minimum Residual Disinfectant Level (MinRDL) - The minimum level of residual disinfectant required at the entry point to the distribution system.

Level 1 Assessment – 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.

Level 2 Assessment – 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.

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

Mrem/year = millirems per year (a measure of radiation absorbed by the body)

ppm = parts per million, or milligrams per liter (mg/L)

pCi/L = picocuries per liter (a measure of radioactivity)

ppq = parts per quadrillion, or picograms per liter

ppb = parts per billion, or micrograms per liter (µg/L)

ppt = parts per trillion, or nanograms per liter

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	4	4	1.40	0.98 – 1.40	ppm	March 2023	N	Additive used to control microbes.
Barium	2	2	0.0649	Annual sample	ppm	04/25/23	N	Discharge of drilling wastes.
Dalapon	200	200	1.8	Annual sample	ppb	07/18/23	N	Runoff from herbicide used on rights of way.
TTHM***	80	80	112.0*	21.4 - 278	ppb	2023	Y	Chlorination by-product.
Bromodichloro methane	-	-	7.69	3.76 – 14.6	ppb	2023	N	Chlorination by-product.
Chloroform	-	-	105.2	17.6 - 264	ppb	2023	N	Chlorination by-product.
HAA5***	60	60	119.0*	24.7 - 190	ppb	2023	Y	Chlorination by-product.
Dichloroacetic Acid	-	-	60.1	13.3 – 89.7	ppb	2023	N	Chlorination by-product.
Trichloroacetic Acid	-	-	58.9	11.3 - 101	ppb	2023	N	Chlorination by-product.

* Highest running annual average for sample location. ** Range represents sampling for quarterly sampling events.

*** Please note that the TTHM result is the sum of the compounds Bromodichloromethane and Chloroform. The HAA5 result is the sum of the compounds Dichloroacetic Acid and Trichloroacetic Acid.

Entry Point Disinfectant Residual							
Contaminant	Minimum Disinfectant Residual	Lowest Level Detected	Range of Detections	Units	Sample Date	Violation Y/N	Sources of Contamination
Chlorine	0.2	0.87	0.82 – 2.70	ppm	07/5/2023	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
Lead	15	0	3.82	ppb	0	N	Corrosion of household plumbing.
Copper	1.3	1.3	0.403	ppm	0	N	Corrosion of household plumbing.

Note: Lead and Copper data is from 2022.

Turbidity						
Contaminant	MCL	MCLG	Level Detected	Sample Date	Violation Y/N	Source of Contamination
Turbidity	TT=1 NTU for a single measurement	0	0.201 NTU	11/6/23	N	Soil runoff
	TT= at least 95% of monthly samples ≤ 0.3 NTU		100%	2023	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	30.0 – 35.0	33.0 – 35.0	0	N	Naturally present in the environment

DETECTED CONTAMINANTS HEALTH EFFECTS LANGUAGE AND CORRECTIVE ACTIONS:

The Rossiter system met all water quality standards of the Safe Drinking Water Act in 2023 with the exception of the following: The Running Annual Average (RAA) for HAA5’s exceeded the MCL of 0.060 mg/l during all four quarters of 2023 at one location. The Running Annual Average (RAA) for TTHM exceeded the MCL of 0.080 mg/l during the third and fourth quarter of 2023 at one location. Some people who drink water containing haloacetic acids (HAA5’s) and trihalomethanes (TTHM’s) more than the MCL over many years may experience problems with their liver, kidneys, or central nervous systems and may have an increased risk of certain cancers. ICMSA sent notices to customers informing them of the issue when it occurred. ICMSA is currently working with the DEP to resolve the issue.

OTHER VIOLATIONS:

A monitoring violation occurred during 2023. The laboratory encountered an equipment issue and was unable to run the second quarter HAA5 sample within hold time. Consequently, the HAA5 sample had to be resampled and was out of the + or - 3-day window required by the DEP. A tier 3 notice is attached to the CCR.

EDUCATIONAL INFORMATION:

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 run-off, 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. 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).

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. Indiana County Municipal Services Authority – Rossiter 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:

If you have any questions, regarding this report of your drinking water, please do not hesitate to call during business hours (8am-4pm) 724-349-6640. Our phone is a 24/7 number and can be used to report any water emergency after 4pm. To keep our customers updated and informed, we have developed a new website @ www.icomsa.org please visit to learn more.

PUBLIC NOTICE

**IMPORTANT INFORMATION ABOUT YOUR DRINKING WATER
FAILURE TO MONITOR**

**ESTE INFORME CONTIENE INFORMACIÓN IMPORTANTE ACERCA DE SU AGUA POTABLE. HAGA QUE
ALGUIEN LO TRADUZCA PARA USTED, O HABLE CON ALGUIEN QUE LO ENTIENDA.**

Monitoring Requirements Not Met for ICMSA Rossiter

Our water system violated several drinking water standards over the past year. Even though these were not emergencies, as our customers, 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. During 2023 we failed to monitor for the following contaminants 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.

The table below lists the contaminant(s) we did not properly test for during the last year, the required sampling frequency, how many samples we took, when samples should have been taken, and the date on which corrective action samples were (or will be) taken.

Contaminant	Required sampling frequency	Number of samples taken	When all samples should have been taken	When samples were or will be taken
HAA5	Quarterly	5	+ or - 3 days from May 19, 2023	June 20, 2023

What happened? What was done? When will it be resolved?

The laboratory encountered an equipment issue and was unable to run the HAA5 sample within hold time. Consequently, the HAA5 had to be resampled however it was out the + or - 3-day window From May 19, 2023 that the DEP requires for sampling. The HAA5 was resampled as soon as the lab informed ICMSA of the issue, analyzed and reported.

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.

For more information regarding this notice, please contact Tricia Lefko at 724-349-6640.

Certified by:

Signature:  Date: 04/15/2024

Print Name and Title: Tricia Lefko, Compliance Superintendent

As a representative of the Public Water system indicated above, I certify that public notification addressing the above violation was distributed to all customers in accordance with the delivery requirements outlined in Chapter 25 PA Code 109 Subchapter D of the Department of Environmental Protection (DEP's) regulations. The following methods of distribution were used: with annual CCR via website