Buckingham Township Fieldstone Water System
2025 Annual Drinking Water Quality Report - PWSID #1090123

Spanish (Español)

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

Is my water safe?

Last year, your tap water met all U.S. Environmental Protection Agency (EPA) and state drinking water health standards. Buckingham Township vigilantly safeguards its water supplies and we are proud to report that our system did not violate a maximum contaminant level in 2025.

Do I need to take special precautions?

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 microbiological contaminants are available from the Safe Drinking Water Hotline (800-426-4791).

Where does my water come from?

Our water source is from two groundwater wells, FS-1 (source 001) and FS-2 (source 002) located in the open area between Windridge Drive and Church School Road. Emergency Interconnection CS to the Cold Spring System (source 003) becomes a source only when pressure in the Fieldstone system drops.

Water System Information

If you have any questions about this report or concerning your water utility, please contact Stephen Clark (215-794-8834). We want our valued customers to be informed about their water utility. We want you to be informed about your water supply. If you want to learn more, please attend any of our regularly scheduled meetings. Upcoming meeting dates are listed on the Township website at www.buckinghampa.org.

Source Water Assessment and its Availability

Source water assessment was completed by the Penn State Environmental Resource Research Institute and received from PA DEP in June of 2007. Copies of the complete report are available for review at the PA DEP Southeast Regional office, Records Management Unit at (484) 250-5910.

Water Conservation with an Instant Benefit

As concerns with water supplies across the country rise, we as good residents need to start looking at things around the home that can improve our use of this precious resource. Since all of the water in Buckingham Township is provided by groundwater wells located around the Township, it should be looked upon as a local resource that needs to be protected. Through water-saving technologies and simple steps that can be taken around the house, we can help ensure reliable water supplies today and for future generations.

Anyone who showers first thing in the morning may be familiar with the waiting period for hot water to reach the fixture. Depending on where the hot water heater is located and where the shower is, it can take up to 90 seconds for the hot water to arrive.

Hot water recirculation pumps are a convenient option that allows you to benefit from an immediate supply of hot water to all of the faucets in your home. This immediate availability can help you conserve water. Instead of having to wait for the water to heat up every time you take a shower, wash your hands, or do the dishes, these unique systems will pump hot water through the hot water piping system and back to your heater.

In most cases, the hot water recirculation pump has a motion sensor located near each water fixture in your home. This sensor activates the circulation pump each time you turn the water on. The system includes temperature sensors and a check valve that prevents water from going back into the return plumbing line. The recirculation pump actually moves water in the line back to the water heater, thus reducing the amount of time needed for hot water to reach your faucet. It is estimated a hot water recirculation pump can save 11,000 gallons per year in a four-person household. An on-demand hot water recirculation pump offers consumers an opportunity to maximize water conservation and energy efficiency. Unlike recirculation systems which run constantly or operate on a timer, the on-demand systems are button-activated and function only when needed. This option gives the consumer maximum control over their investment.

A recirculation pump may be a successful approach to water conservation in your home, office or business. If you are interested in obtaining more information about this technology, please contact a local, licensed plumber.

WATER QUALITY DATA

The Fieldstone Water System is routinely monitored for constituents in your drinking water according to Federal and State laws. The following table shows the results of our monitoring for the period of January 1st to December 31, 2025**.** However, 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. Samples collection and testing was conducted by Analytical Laboratories, Inc. (215) 723-6466 during 2025.

CHEMICAL CONTAMINANTS

Contaminant	MCL in CCR Units	MCLG	Level Detected	Range of Detections	Units	Sample Date	Violation Y/N	Sources of Contamination
Chlorine (as CL2)	MRDL =4	MRDL G=4	0.26	0.26-1.65	ppm	2025	N	Water additive used to control microbes.
Nitrate	10	10	2.21	N/A	ppm	2025	N	Runoff from fertilizer use; Leaching from septic tanks, sewage; Erosion of natural deposits
Haloacetic Acids (HAA5)	60	N/A	11	N/A	ppb	2024	N	By-product of drinking water disinfection.
Dichloroacetic Acid (HAA)	N/A	N/A	4.3	N/A	ppb	2024	N	Some people who drink water containing Haloacetic acids in excess of the MCL over many years may have an increased risk of getting cancer.
Trichloroacetic Acid (HAA)	N/A	N/A	3.7	N/A	ppb	2024	N	Some people who drink water containing Haloacetic acids in excess of the MCL over many years may have an increased risk of getting cancer.
Dibromoacetic Acid (HAA)	N/A	N/A	2.9	N/A	ppb	2024	N	Some people who drink water containing Haloacetic acids in excess of the MCL over many years may have an increased risk of getting cancer.
Total Trihalomethanes (TTHMs)	80	N/A	35.4	N/A	ppb	2024	N	By-product of drinking water chlorination.
Chloroform (THM)	N/A	N/A	16.1	N/A	ppb	2024	N	Some people who drink water containing trihalomethanes in excess of the MCL over many years may experience problems with their liver, kidneys, or central nervous systems, and may have an increased risk of getting cancer.

Bromoform (THM)	N/A	N/A	1.6	N/A	ppb	2024	N	Some people who drink water containing trihalomethanes in excess of the MCL over many years may experience problems with their liver, kidneys, or central nervous systems, and may have an increased risk of getting cancer.
Bromodichloro-methane (THM)	N/A	N/A	10.8	N/A	ppb	2024	N	Some people who drink water containing trihalomethanes in excess of the MCL over many years may experience problems with their liver, kidneys, or central nervous systems, and may have an increased risk of getting cancer.
Chlorodibromo-methane (THM)	N/A	N/A	6.8	N/A	ppb	2024	N	Some people who drink water containing trihalomethanes in excess of the MCL over many years may experience problems with their liver, kidneys, or central nervous systems, and may have an increased risk of getting cancer.

Contaminant	MCL in CCR Units	MCLG	Level Detected	Range of Detections	Units	Sample Date	Violation Y/N	Sources of Contamination
Barium	2	2	0.0985	0.097-0.1	ppm	2024	N	Discharge of drilling wastes, Discharge from metal refineries; Erosion of natural deposits.

ENTRY POINT DISINFECTION RESIDUAL

Contaminant	MinRDL	Lowest Level Detected	Range of Detections	Units	Sample Date	Violation Y/N	Sources of Contamination
Chlorine	0.40	0.85	0.85-3.59	ppm	2025	N	Water additive used to control microbes.

LEAD AND COPPER									
Contaminant	Action Level (AL)	MCLG	90th Percentile Value	Range of Detections	Units	Sample Date	# of Sites Above AL of Total Sites	Violation Y/N	Sources of Contamination
Copper	1.3	1.3	0.47	0.26-0.52	ppm	2025	0 out of 5	N	Corrosion of household plumbing systems; Erosion of natural deposits; Leaching from wood preservatives
Lead	15	0	0.0023	0-0.0046	ppb	2025	0 out of 5	N	Corrosion of household plumbing systems; Erosion of natural deposits

RADIOACTIVE CONTAMINANTS								
Contaminant	MCL in CCR Units	MCLG	Level Detected	Range of Detections	Sample Date	Units	Violation Y/N	Sources of Contamination
Combined Uranium	30	0	2.63	N/A	2025	µg/L	N	Erosion of natural deposits

PFAS CONTAMINANTS								
Contaminant	MCL in CCR Units	MCLG	Level Detected	Range of Detections	Sample Date	Units	Violation Y/N	Sources of Contamination
Perfluorooctane-sulfonic Acid (PFOS)	18	14	9.93	7.01-15.20	2025	ppt	N	Discharge from manufacturing facilities and runoff from land use activities
Perfluorooctan-oic Acid (PFOA)	14	8	12.01	9.23-16.91	2025	ppt	Y*	Discharge from manufacturing facilities and runoff from land use activities

*Buckingham Township is currently in the process of interconnecting the Fieldstone Water System and Cold Spring Water System. Construction is anticipated to be complete in 2026, after which the Fieldstone wells will be decommissioned.
Drinking water containing PFAS in excess of the MCL of 14 ng/L may cause adverse health effects, including developmental effects, neurobehavioral and skeletal effects.

Testing was conducted for a broad range of contaminants in 2025 which were not detected in our samples, including: nitrite, total coliform presence, gross alpha particle activity, radium-226, radium-228, vinyl chloride, and volatile organic compounds.

Unit Descriptions	
Terms	**Definitions**
ug/L	Number of micrograms of substance in one liter of water
ppm	Parts per million (ppm) or Milligrams per liter (mg/l)
ppb	Parts per billion (ppb) or micrograms per liter (µg/l)
pCi/L	Picocuries per liter – a measure of radioactivity.
NA	Not applicable
ND	Not detected
NR	Monitoring not required, but recommended.
Important Drinking Water Definitions	
Term	**Definition**
MCLG	Maximum Contaminant Level Goal – 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.
MCL	Maximum Contaminant Level – 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.
TT	Treatment Technique – A required process intended to reduce the level of a contaminant in drinking water.
AL	Action Level – The concentration of a contaminant which, if exceeded, triggers treatment or other requirements which a water system must follow.
Variances and Exemptions	State or EPA permission not to meet an MCL or a treatment technique under certain conditions.
MRDLG	Maximum Residual Disinfection Level Goal – 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.
MinRDL	Minimum Residual Disinfectant Level – The minimum level of residual disinfectant required at the entry point to the distribution system.
MRDL	Maximum Residual Disinfection Level – The highest level of a disinfectant that is allowed in drinking water. There is convincing evidence that addition of a disinfectant is necessary for control of microbial contaminants.
MNR	Monitored not regulated
MPL	State-assigned maximum permissible level

Secondary Contaminant Testing

EPA has established National Secondary Drinking Water Regulations (NSDWRs) that set non-mandatory water quality standards for 15 contaminants. EPA does not enforce these "secondary maximum contaminant levels" (SMCLs). They are established as guidelines to assist public water systems in managing their drinking water for aesthetic considerations, such as taste, color, and odor. These contaminants are not considered to present a risk to human health at the SMCL. The table below summarizes selected testing for Secondary Contaminants which has been performed on your water.

Other Information Constituents

Testing for unregulated constituents Calcium and Magnesium were conducted in 2023 as part of our routine operating procedure. Calcium was detected at levels of 26-34 ppm and magnesium was detected at 12.6-16.2 ppm. In 2022, silica was detected at 26.2-27.4 ppm. There are no standards established for levels of these constituents in drinking water.

Contaminant	Detected Level	SMCL	Noticeable Effects above SMCL
Sulfate (2023)	27-28 ppm	250 ppm	salty taste
Iron (2023)	0-0.12 ppm	0.3 ppm	rusty color; sediment; metallic taste; reddish or orange staining
Manganese (2023)	0-0.007 ppm	0.05 ppm	black to brown color; black staining; bitter metallic taste

Information about Lead

Lead can cause serious health problems, especially for pregnant women and young children. Exposure to lead in drinking water can decrease IQ and attention span in infants and children. Lead exposure can lead to new learning and behavior problems or exacerbate existing learning and behavior problems. Children of women who are exposed to lead before pregnancy can have increased risk of these adverse health effects. Adults can have increased risks of heart disease, high blood pressure, kidney or nervous system problems. Lead in drinking water is primarily from materials and components associated with service lines and home plumbing. Buckingham Township is responsible for providing high quality drinking water and removing lead pipes but cannot control the variety of materials used in plumbing components in your home. 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 an American National Standards Institute accredited certifier to reduce lead in drinking water. If you are concerned about lead in your water and wish to have your water tested, contact Buckingham Township at 215-794-8834 or contact@buckinghampa.org. Information on lead in drinking water, testing methods, and steps you can take to minimize exposure is available at http://www.epa.gov/safewater/lead.

A Service Line Inventory has been completed for your water system in accordance with EPA regulations. The inventory identifies the material composition of service lines in our distribution system. Our records indicate that there are **no lead service lines** in our system. You can view the Service Line Inventory online at: www.Buckinghampa.org/2025-CCR-Fieldstone-Water

A printed copy is also available at **Buckingham Township Administration Building** 4613 Hughesian Drive Buckingham, PA 18912 by calling our office at (215) 794-8834.

Information about Copper

Copper is an essential nutrient, but some people who drink water containing copper in excess of the action level over a relatively short amount of time could experience gastrointestinal distress. Some people who drink water containing copper in excess of the action level over many years could suffer liver or kidney damage. People with Wilson's Disease should consult their personal doctor.

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.

Information about Barium: While your drinking water meets EPA's standard for barium, it does contain low levels of barium. EPA's standard balances the current understanding of barium's possible health effects against the costs of removing barium from drinking water. The EPA continues to research the health effects of low levels of barium which is a chemical known at high concentrations when consumed over many years to have adverse health effects such as increase in blood pressure in humans.

Information about Uranium

Some people who drink water containing uranium in excess of the MCL over many years may have an increased risk of getting cancer and kidney toxicity.

Information about PFOA and PFOS

PFAS are a large class of man-made synthetic chemicals that were created in the 1930s and 1940s for use in many industrial and manufacturing applications. PFAS have been widely used for their unique properties that make products repel water, grease and stains, reduce friction and resist heat. Because of their unique chemical structure, PFAS readily dissolve in water and are mobile, are highly persistent in the environment and bioaccumulate in living organisms over time. PFAS are referred to as "forever chemicals," because they do not readily break down when exposed to air, water, or sunlight. The primary means of distribution of PFAS throughout the environment has been through the air, water, biosolids, food, landfill leachate and fire-fighting activities. Exposure to these chemicals are known to cause a number of adverse health effects in laboratory animals and in humans. Exposure can occur when fish caught in waters contaminated with PFAS are eaten, foods packaged in PFAS coated materials are consumed, soil and dust polluted with PFAS are unintentionally ingested, or products made with PFAS chemicals are handled. Drinking water containing PFAS in excess of the MCL may cause adverse health effects, including decreased immune response.

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 human activity.

Other Violations

We are required to monitor drinking water for disinfection byproducts on a regular basis. Results of regular monitoring are an indicator of whether or not our drinking water meets health standards. During 2025, we were late in reporting PFOA and PFOS during quarter 2. Compliance for this violation was achieved. All results of samples taken were below the allowable level except for PFOA, which Buckingham is in the

process of interconnecting the Fieldstone and Cold Spring Systems and decommission the Fieldstone wells as stated above; please be advised drinking water containing PFOA in excess of the MCL of 14 ng/L may cause adverse health effects, including developmental effects (neurobehavioral and skeletal effects). No further action is required at this time.

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.

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 run-off 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 run-off, 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 prescribe regulations which limit the amount of certain contaminants in water provided by public water systems. FDA and DEP regulations establish the limits for contaminants in bottled water which must provide the same protection for public health. Drinking water, included 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 (800-426-4791).