

**THE MUNICIPAL
AUTHORITY
OF THE
TOWNSHIP OF
ROBINSON**

**2010
CONSUMER
CONFIDENCE
REPORT
("CCR")**

PWS – ID#5020045

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The Municipal Authority of the Township of Robinson (“MATR”) is pleased to present this year’s annual report concerning the quality of your drinking water. MATR is committed to providing our customers with a safe, dependable and plentiful supply of high-quality drinking water. The water produced and delivered by MATR continues to meet or exceed State and Federal requirements.

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

MATR is a member of the Partnership for Safe Water formed and administered by a number of national water organizations in cooperation with the United States Environmental Protection Agency (USEPA) and the Pennsylvania Department of Environmental Protection. This voluntary program’s mission is to maximize water treatment effectiveness beyond what the Safe Drinking Water regulations require. This collaborative experience will assist us in our goal of providing continuous improvement for our customers.

The Authority has committed to the enhancement of drinking water quality and operational excellence in water treatment. By making this commitment, the member utilities treatment practices will under go a rigorous review developed by national experts and include a four – phase, self-assessment and peer review process.

MATR began its participation in a Source Water Assessment Program during 2001. The program is designed to assess potential threats to the raw water supply (Ohio River) to contamination in an effort to ensure its safety and to reduce the cost of water treatment.

The potential sources of contamination for this surface water source include accidental pollution from industrial treatment plants, combined sewer overflows, and rupture of petroleum and gas pipelines. Non-point sources of potential contamination include discharges from recreational and commercial boating. Also, storm water runoff from transportation corridors and from urban / developed areas may lead to contamination.

WHERE YOUR WATER COMES FROM

MATR obtains its water supply from the back channel of the Ohio River at a point 12,000 feet downstream of the Emsworth Dam and 200 feet upstream from the confluence of Moon Run and the Ohio River. Intake lines located 12 feet below the river’s normal pool of 692 feet deliver raw water to an intake structure where it is pumped to the water treatment plant. In 2010, the average daily withdrawal from the river was 3.00 million gallons per day. MATR’s plant is currently capable of treating 6 million gallons of water per day. Treatment consists of three separate processes: (i) clarification, during which silt and clay are removed; (ii) filtration, where sand and gravel filters remove fine particles and microorganisms and (iii) disinfection, when chlorine is added to ensure the removal of any remaining harmful microorganisms. Additionally, during the treatment process, activated carbon and fluoride are added to enhance the taste of water and to prevent cavities in children’s teeth.

After the water is treated, it is pumped from the plant into the water distribution system for delivery to our customers. The water that is not consumed on a given day is stored in one of the Authority’s three storage tanks, which provide for both peak water demand and fire protection.

DESCRIPTION OF THE AUTHORITY’S WATER SYSTEM

The existing water distribution system facilities include about 84.25 miles of water lines ranging in size up to thirty inches, and related facilities including a 1.0 million gallon and a 1.5 million gallon elevated storage tank, and a 500,000 gallon standpipe. Additionally, the Authority maintains three metered connections with the system of Pennsylvania-American Water Company, three booster-pumping stations to pump water from the Pennsylvania-American Water System, two metered connections with Moon Township Municipal Authority, two metered connections with the Western Allegheny Municipal Authority and a connection with the Borough of Coraopolis Water System. Line sizes are predominantly six inch, eight inch and ten-inch diameter.

The water supply system services Robinson Township and provides for bulk sales of water to the Findlay Township Municipal Authority.

DISTRIBUTION SYSTEM OPTIMIZATION – EPA FIELD STUDY

In September 2008, MATR in conjunction with EPA and DEP engaged in a voluntary field study in an effort to improve drinking water quality beyond compliance levels and to enhance public health protection. One of the main objectives of the field event was to help review existing chlorine residual throughout the distribution system in an effort to assess meeting current Total Trihalomethane and Halocetic Acid levels and to prevent future exceedances of these levels mandated by the Disinfection by Products Rule.

WATER QUALITY CONTAMINANTS AND MONITORING

Water in its movement above and below ground is capable of dissolving common minerals and, where available, radioactive materials. In addition, water can absorb and dissolve substances resulting from animal or human activity.

Typical contaminants found in the Ohio River or raw water includes:

- **Microbial contaminants**, such as disease causing viruses and bacteria, which may come from sewage treatment plants, septic systems, agricultural livestock operations and wildlife.
- **Inorganic chemical contaminants**, such as salts and metals, which can be naturally occurring or result from urban storm water 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, storm water 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, storm water runoff, and septic systems.
- **Radioactive contaminants**, which can be naturally occurring or be the result of oil and gas production and mining activities.

The United States Environmental Protection Agency (EPA) established regulations and standards to insure that public water is safe to drink. MATR tests for certain contaminants in the raw water source that will enable adjustments in the treatment process to minimize or eliminate those pollutants. As treatment progresses, additional tests are run to optimize the process, followed by the analyses of finished water from the plant (see Appendix A) and various locations in the distribution system. Furthermore, the Allegheny County Health Department performs annual filter plant performance evaluations. During this time their representatives monitor our overall plant operation and maintenance, filter process effectiveness, and personnel. Finished water samples are collected and sent to a certified laboratory for analysis of cryptosporidium and giardia, intestinal parasites common in raw water. These contaminants may be harmful to people with weakened immune systems (see Educational Information Page 4).

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. MATR 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>.

UNREGULATED CONTAMINANT MONITORING

Unregulated contaminants are those for which EPA has not established drinking water standards. The purpose of unregulated contaminant monitoring is to assist EPA in determining the occurrence of unregulated contaminants in drinking water and whether future regulation is warranted.

As part of the Unregulated Contaminant Monitoring Rule (UCMR), the Authority performed monitoring for the unregulated contaminants identified by EPA, for 4-four consecutive calendar quarters. None of the unregulated contaminants were detected in our drinking water.

Initial Distribution System Evaluation (IDSE):

As mandated by the USEPA, an Initial Distribution System Evaluation (IDSE) was required as part of Stage 2 Disinfectants and Disinfection Byproducts Rule (DBPR). IDSEs are an important part of the Stage 2 DBPR. It is a one-time study conducted by the Authority to identify possible distribution system locations with elevated concentrations of trihalomethane and haloacetic acids (HAAs). The Authority's range for Trihalomethane (TTHM's) was 5 ppb to 120 ppb. The range for Haloacetic Acids (HAA5) was 3 ppb to 24 ppb.

Cryptosporidium

Cryptosporidium is a microbial pathogen found in surface water throughout the United States. Although filtration removes Cryptosporidium, the most commonly-used filtration methods cannot guarantee 100 percent removal. Our monitoring indicates the presence of these organisms in our source water (Ohio River). Current test methods do not allow us to determine if the organisms are dead or if they are capable of causing disease. Ingestion of Crypto sporidium may cause cryptosporidiosis, an abdominal infection. Symptoms of infection include nausea, diarrhea and abdominal cramps. Most healthy individual can overcome the disease within a few weeks. However, immuno-people are at greater risk of developing life-threatening illness. We encourage immune-compromised individuals to consult their doctor regarding appropriate precautions to take to avoid infection. Cryptosporidium must be ingested to cause disease and it may be spread through means other than drinking water.

INTERCONNECTIONS/SOURCE WATER ASSESSMENT

The MATR has potable interconnections with the following public water systems.

- Pennsylvania American Water Company (PAWC) – Three (3) locations
- Moon Township Municipal Authority (MTMA) – One (1) location
- Coraopolis Borough Water System (CBWS) – One (1) location

These systems are utilized in the event that sufficient quantities of potable water are not available for our customers. Pertinent information on the quality of these suppliers is available from their Consumer Confidence Reports.

DEFINITIONS

The CCR includes definitions of key terms that consumers will need to understand the contaminant data in table Appendix A.

In the table you will find many terms and abbreviations you might not be familiar with. To help you better understand these terms we've provided the following definitions:

- Parts per million (ppm) or Milligrams per liter (mg/l) – one part per million, corresponds to one minute in two years, or a single penny in \$10,000.
- Parts per billion (ppb) or Micrograms per liter (mg/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 water.
- Millirems per year (mrem/yr) – measure of radiation absorbed by the body.
- Nephelometric Turbidity Unit (NTU) – nephelometric turbidity unit is a measure of the clarity of water.
- Maximum Contaminated 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 MCLG's 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 contamination.

- Minimum Residual Disinfection Level (MRDL) – The minimum level of residual disinfectant required at the entry point to the distribution system.
- Treatment Technique (TT) – A required process intended to reduce the level of a contaminant in drinking water.
- Action Level (AL) – The concentration of a contaminant, which, if exceeded, triggers treatment, or other requirements, which a water system must follow.

MONITORING COMPLIANCE:

During 2010 the Authority met all safe drinking water standards and performed all the required monitoring events. MATR is required to sample the raw water source for TOC and report results to DEP on a monthly basis.

While all TOC samples were submitted to the lab properly, the results of on sample event were not submitted to DEP by the due date. While this was considered a monitoring violation, there was no degradation of water quality. The Authority has taken the appropriate action to prevent a reoccurrence of this situation.

EDUCATIONAL INFORMATION

1. 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 INFECTION. 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.
2. 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 EPA's Safe Drinking Water Hotline (800) 426-4791.

CONCLUSION

We are grateful for the opportunity to provide you with clean, quality drinking water. In order to maintain a dependable water supply we sometimes need to make improvements that will benefit all of our customers. These improvements sometimes necessitate an increase in the rates we charge for service. Thank you for your understanding.

MATR has provided you with significant information about its water quality for the past calendar year. We direct your attention to the attached Appendix A of contaminants monitored by MATR during that period. We encourage your review of the data and invite inquiries about any part of this report. Should you have any questions concerning the report, you are encouraged to contact Anthony T. Lenze, Executive Director, or Kent Lockridge, Operations Manager, at (412) 923-2411.

Public participation in decisions about our drinking water is encouraged at our Board meetings, which are held in our office the second Wednesday of each month at the MATR office located at 4192 Campbells Run Road Pittsburgh, PA 15205. The office's mailing address is P.O. Box 15539, Pittsburgh, PA 15244-0539. Annual CCR's are also posted on our website: www.robinsონwater.com

Water Quality Data for water systems in Allegheny County can be found on the Internet at www.achd.net/pdw/waterreports.html.

APPENDIX A

MICROBIOLOGICAL CONTAMINANTS						
Contaminant (Unit of Measurement Date)	Violation Yes/No	Level Detected	Range	MCLG	MCL	Likely Source of Contamination
Turbidity (See Footnote A)	No	0.17	.04-0.17	0	TT=95% of all monthly samples taken must be equal or less than .3 NTU	Soil erosion
RADIOACTIVE CONTAMINANTS						
Contaminant (Unit of Measurement Date)	Violation Yes/No	Level Detected	Range	MCLG	MCL	Likely Source of Contamination
Gross Alpha (pCi/L) (11/02)	No	0.4	B	0	15	Erosion of Natural Deposits
INORGANIC CONTAMINANTS						
Contaminant (Unit of Measurement Date)	Violation Yes/No	Level Detected	Range	MCLG	MCL	Likely Source of Contamination
Barium (ppm) (2/02)	No	0.05	B	2	2	"Discharge of drilling wastes, discharge from metal refineries, erosion of natural deposits"
Nitrate (ppm) (4/08)	No	0.63	B	10	10	"Runoff from fertilizer use, leaching from septic tanks, sewage, erosion of natural deposits"
Fluoride (ppm) (2/02)	No	1.17	B	2	2	"Erosion of natural deposits; water additive which promotes strong teeth, discharge from fertilizer and aluminum factories"
Copper (ppm) (7/10)	No	0.08	C	1.3	AL = 1.3	Corrosion of household plumbing systems; erosion of natural deposits
Lead (ppm) (7/10)	No	0.013	C	0	AL = 15	Corrosion of household plumbing systems; erosion of natural deposits

DISINFECTION BY-PRODUCTS

Contaminant (Unit of Measurement) Date)	Violation Yes/No	Level Detected	Range	MCLG	MCL	Likely Source of Contamination
Total Trihalomethanes (ppb)	No	76	14-115	0	80	“By-product of drinking water chlorination”
Total Trihalomethanes (ppb) (D)	No	67	29-91	0	80	By-product of drinking water chlorination”
Total Haloacetic Acids (ppb)	No	11.0	2.9-11	0	60	“By-product of drinking water chlorination”
Total Haloacetic Acids (ppb) (D)	No	15	13--18	0	60	“By-product of drinking water chlorination”
Chlorine (Entry Point)	No	0.49	0.49-2.47	MRDL=4	MRDL=4	Water additive used to control microbes
Chlorine (Distribution)	No	0.05	.05-1.65	MRDL=4	MRDL=4	Water additive used to control microbes
Total Organic Carbon (% removal)	No	35%	35%-54%	“% required is 35”	NA	Naturally decaying vegetation

Key:

AL = Action Level

TT = Treatment Technique

MCL = Maximum Contaminant Level

MCLG = Maximum Contaminant Level Goal

MRDL = Maximum Residual Disinfectant Level

MRDLG = Maximum Residual Disinfectant Level Goal.

NA = Not Applicable

ND = None Detected

NTU = Nephelometric Turbidity Units

ppm = Parts per million or milligrams per liter (mg/l)

ppb = Parts per billion or micrograms per liter (ug/l)

mrem/yr = millirems/year

Pci/L = picoburies per liter

Footnotes:

A) All monthly samples taken were less than .3 NTU

B) Only one sample taken

C) Thirty (30) homes sampled - none exceeded the action level

D) Analysis required by Initial Distribution System Evaluation

The Municipal Authority of the
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