2019 Water Quality Report for FORSYTH TOWNSHIP

This report covers the drinking water quality for Forsyth Township, for the calendar year 2019. This information is a snapshot of the quality of the water that we provided to you in 2019. Included are details about where your water comes from, what it contains, and how it compares to Environmental Protection Agency (EPA) and state standards.

Your water comes from groundwater wells located in the East Escanaba River Aquifer

- **Contaminants and their presence in water:** 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)**.

- **Vulnerability of sub-populations:** 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 systems 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).

- **Sources of drinking water:** The sources of drinking water (both tap water and bottled water) include rivers, lakes, streams, ponds, reservoirs, springs, and wells. Our water comes from 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 and residential uses.
  - **Radioactive contaminants**, which are naturally occurring or may be the result of oil and gas production and mining activities.
  - **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.

***STATEMENT 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. Forsyth Township 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.

In order to ensure that tap water is safe to drink, EPA prescribes regulations that limit the amount of certain contaminants in water provided by public water systems. Food and Drug Administration regulations establish limits for contaminants in bottled water which provide the same protection for public health.

Water Quality Data

The table below lists all the drinking water contaminants that we detected during the 2019 calendar year. The presence of these contaminants in the water does not necessarily indicate that the water poses a health risk. Unless otherwise noted, the data presented in this table is from testing done January 1 – December 31, 2019. The State allows us to monitor for certain contaminants less than once per year because the concentrations of these contaminants are not expected to vary significantly from year to year. All of the data is representative of the water quality, but some are more than one year old.

Terms and abbreviations used below:

- 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 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.
- N/A: Not applicable
- ND: not detectable at testing limit
- ppb: parts per billion or micrograms per liter ppm: parts per million or milligrams per liter pCi/l: picocuries per liter (a measure of radioactivity).

Regulated Contaminant	MCL	MCLG	Level Detected	Sampled	Violation Yes / No	Typical Source of Contaminant
Arsenic (ppb)	10	0	2.0 (#6)	2018	No	Erosion of natural deposits; Runoff from pesticide use (orchards)
Barium (ppb)	2000	2000	10	2018	No	Erosion of natural deposits.
Nitrate (ppm)	10		ND to 0.19	8/19	No	Runoff from fertilizer use; leaching from septic tanks; erosion of natural deposits.
Fluoride (ppm)	4		0	2018	No	Erosion of natural deposits.
Unregulated Contaminant **						
Sodium (ppm)			1.6 – 3.2	2018	No	Erosion of natural deposits
Contaminant Subject to AL	**Action Level**		**90% of Samples ≤ This Level**			
Lead (ppb)	15		1	2018	No	Distribution piping and fixtures.
Copper (ppb)	1300		140	2018	No	Distribution piping and fixtures.

**Unregulated contaminants are those for which EPA has not established drinking water standards. Monitoring helps EPA to determine where certain contaminants occur and whether it needs to regulate those contaminants.

Microbiological Contaminants	MCL	MCLG	Level Detected	Sampled	Violation Y/N	Likely Source of Contamination
Total Coliform Bacteria	Presence of coliform bacteria in 5% of monthly samples	0	Coliform Bacteria Detected Princeton Tank	10/1	No	Naturally present in the environment

Total Coliform Bacteria	Presence of coliform bacteria in 5% of monthly samples	0	Coliform Bacteria Detected New Swanzy	10/1	No	Naturally present in the environment
Total Coliform Bacteria	Presence of coliform bacteria in 5% of monthly samples	0	Coliform Bacteria Detected Gwinn	10/1	No	Naturally present in the environment
Total Coliform Bacteria	Presence of coliform bacteria in 5% of monthly samples	0	Coliform Bacteria Detected Princeton Tank	10/2	No	Naturally present in the environment
Total Coliform Bacteria	Presence of coliform bacteria in 5% of monthly samples	0	Coliform Bacteria Detected Princeton	10/2	No	Naturally present in the environment
Total Coliform Bacteria	Presence of coliform bacteria in 5% of monthly samples	0	Coliform Bacteria Detected Princeton	10/2	No	Naturally present in the environment
Total Coliform Bacteria	Presence of coliform bacteria in 5% of monthly samples	0	Coliform Bacteria Detected New Swanzy	10/2	No	Naturally present in the environment
Total Coliform Bacteria	Presence of coliform bacteria in 5% of monthly samples	0	Coliform Bacteria Detected Gwinn	10/2	No	Naturally present in the environment
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We are committed to providing you safe, reliable, and healthful water. We are pleased to provide you with this information to keep you fully informed about your water. We will be updating this report annually, and will also keep you informed of any problems that may occur throughout the year, as they happen.

Routine bacteriological monitoring conducted in October, 2019 detected positive coliform tests throughout the water distribution system. Subsequent follow-up testing was negative for coliform, but in the interest of furnishing safe drinking water to the system, we have begun continual chlorine addition to the system
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Since the improvements which have been completed to the Gwinn Water System, we have compared the volume of water pumped from the wells in fiscal year 1916, prior to the water improvement project, to the volume of water pumped from the wells in fiscal year 1917, after completion of the project and found that the pumpage decreased by nearly 60%. This not only saves electrical costs for pumping water but also is reflected in savings in pumping sewage because much of the water main leakage infiltrated into the sewers.. This is reflected in a reduction of water pumped as well as associated electrical costs. It also reduced the volume of wastewater pumped to the lagoons because much of the water leaking from the water mains infiltrated into the sewer system.

For more information about your drinking water contact Eric Jansci at the township hall (906-346-9217). For more information about safe drinking water, visit the U.S. Environmental Protection Agency at www.epa.gov/safewater/.