Our Drinking Water Is Regulated

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 Gary Phillips at 610-406-6300 extension 6326.

Public Participation Opportunities

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 third Tuesday of the month at 4:00 PM at the RAWA main office, 1801 Kutztown Rd, Reading PA 19604.

Date:	Third Tuesday of each month
Time:	4 p.m.
Phone:	(610) 406-6300
Location:	RAWA Main Office 1801 Kutztown Rd. Reading, PA 19604

North Heidelberg Water Company
1801 Kutztown Road
Reading, PA 19604

North Heidelberg Water Company

PWS ID# 3060115

En Español

Este informe contiene información importante acerca de su agua potable. Haga que alguien lo traduzca para usted, ó hable con alguien que lo entienda.

2025 Annual Drinking Water Quality Report

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Source of Drinking Water

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.

Where Do We Get Our Drinking Water?

We operated on two wells in 2025. Well #1 is located along Par Lane off Chalet Drive. Well #2 is located next to the water storage tank on top of the old ski slope. In 2013, a committee was formed to implement a source water protection plan (SWPP) for both of the wells that provide water to the North Heidelberg Water System.

Meetings were held to gather local input, receive feedback about the project results and recommendations and to interact with government agencies

A Steering Committee meeting was held in May of 2015 to bring interested stakeholders together to discuss the North Heidelberg SWPP management options, and to provide an update on how the plan has been implemented. Education and Outreach was provided by RAWA's SWPP team to the residents located in the immediate proximity to Well #1 to discuss the importance of fertilizer application rates and response notifications in the event of a home heating oil release.

All of Drinking Water May Contain Contaminants

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 (1-800-426-4791).

Required Additional Health Information for Lead

Exposure to lead in drinking water can cause serious health effects in all age groups. Infants and children can have decreases in IQ and attention span. Lead exposure can lead to new learning and behavior problems. The children of women who are exposed to lead before or during 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 is not present in the drinking water when it leaves our well pumps and underground pipes. Water can leach lead from brass or chromed-plated brass faucets and fixtures in the home. If you have questions about your drinking water or think you have lead in your plumbing, contact us at (610) 406-6300 or info@readingareawater.com.

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, test methods, and steps you can take to minimize exposure is available from the Safe Drinking Water Hotline @ 1-800-426-4791 or at ***https://www.epa.gov/safewater/lead***

Lead & Copper Pipes

RAWA needs your help to complete an inventory of all water service line pipes connected to the public system. Check your home for lead pipes, then complete the ONLINE SURVEY to tell us what you find, no matter what type of pipes you find.
https://www.readingareawater.com/lead-pipe-survey-results

RAWA has compiled a Service Line Inventory. It can be viewed at
https://trinnex.cloud/leadcast/publicMap?tenantName=rawa

People Who May Be More Vulnerable to Contaminants

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 (1-800-426-4791).

Source Water Protection

The Reading Area Water Authority is a leader in protecting their drinking water sources. RAWA engages wellhead protection steering committees, education for residents regarding where their water originates and the importance of source water protection, partners with local school teachers, and promotes the protection of private drinking supplies within adjacent municipalities through the Master Well Owner Network.

Berks County Water and Sewer Association

In 2017, the Berks County Water and Sewer Association (BCWSA), with assistance from the Berks County Planning Commission (BCPC), the Pennsylvania Department of Environmental Protection, and other partners developed a comprehensive Source Water Protection Program for the entire county. RAWA participated in this initiative, after completing an individual source water protection plan in 2017. The goal is to work collaboratively to protect drinking water sources in Berks County like groundwater wells, springs and surface waters like rivers, creeks and lakes. A Source Water Protection Coordinator will assist all participating water systems sustain the watershed improvement strategies described in the SWP Plan such as public outreach, assistance with protection projects and reporting. The Berks County Water Source Water Protection Program will assist us in keeping our raw water, the single most important ingredient in providing service, protected from pollutants.

2025 Test Results

PWS ID# 3060115

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, 2025. The State allows us to monitor for some contaminants less than once per year because the concentrations of these contaminants do not change frequently. The date has been noted on the sampling results table.

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	1.8	1.23-1.8	ppm	Jul 2025	N	Water additive used to control microbes.
TTHM	80	NA	23.5	18.3-23.5	ppb	Aug 2025	N	By-product of drinking water disinfection
Gross Alpha parti-cle activity	15	0	1.67	1.67	pCi/L	Jan 2025	N	Erosion of natural deposits

**Based on the monthly average of all sites tested*

Entry Point 101 Disinfectant Residual

Contaminant	Minimum Disinfectant Residual	Lowest Level Detected	Range of Detections	Units	Sample Date	Violation Y/N	Sources of Contamination
Chlorine	0.80	0.72**	0.72-2.04	ppm	Oct 2025	N	Water additive used to control microbes

** *A violation would occur if we failed to maintain the minimum entry point residual disinfectant for more than four hours. In October 2025, the entry point residual disinfectant was above the minimum required within four hours.*

Entry Point 101 Inorganic Chemicals

Chemical Contaminant	MCL in CCR units	MCLG	Highest Level Detected	Range of Detections	Units	Sample Date	Viola-tion Y/N	Sources of Contamination
Nitrate (as Nitrogen)	10.0	10.0	1.41	NA	ppm	Jan 2025	N	Runoff from fertilizer use: Leaching from septic tanks, sewage: Erosion of natural deposits

Entry Point 102 Disinfectant Residual

Contaminant	Minimum Disinfectant Residual	Lowest Level Detected	Range of Detections	Units	Sample Date	Violation Y/N	Sources of Contamination
Chlorine	0.40	1.27	1.27-2.24	ppm	Dec 2025	N	Water additive used to control microbes

Entry Point 102 Inorganic Chemicals

Chemical Contaminant	MCL in CCR units	MCLG	Highest Level Detected	Range of Detections	Units	Sample Date	Viola-tion Y/N	Sources of Contamination
Nitrate (as Nitrogen)	10.0	10.0	3.67	NA	ppm	Jan 2025	N	Runoff from fertilizer use: Leaching from septic tanks, sewage: Erosion of natural de-posits

Lead and Copper

Contaminant	Action Level (AL)	MCLG	90th Percentile Value	Units	# of Sites Above AL of Total Sites	Viola-tion Y/N	Sources of Contamination
Lead	15	0	0.9	ppb	0 out of 11	N	Corrosion of household plumbing.
Copper	1.3	1.3	0.133	ppm	0 out of 11	N	Corrosion of household plumbing.

In July 2025, to comply with the Lead and Copper Rule, North Heidelberg Water Company conducted one study of 11 samples. 0 out of 11 samples was found to be above the action level established for lead

Definitions

In the table you might find terms and abbreviations you are not familiar with. To help you better understand these terms we've provided the following 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)

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

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

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

ppq - parts per quadrillion, or picograms per liter

ppt - parts per trillion, or nanograms per liter