



BRODHEAD CREEK REGIONAL AUTHORITY

NEWSLETTER 2018

BCRA Infrastructure Investments

We all depend upon the utility infrastructure that supports the communities in which we live. “Infrastructure” refers to the basic components needed to build and operate a system. The Brodhead Creek Regional Authority is responsible for the infrastructure associated with its Water Treatment Plant and Water Distribution System. The BCRA is also responsible, at its Wastewater Treatment Plant, for treating the wastewater flows from the collection systems of participating owner municipalities. This water and wastewater infrastructure is considered essential, and it operates continuously, 24/7.

Monroe County is growing, and to keep pace with this growth the BCRA regularly invests in its infrastructure. This investment requires anticipation of future demands, the design of solutions to meet those demands, the financing of desired solutions, the oversight and participation necessary to bring projects from conception to completion, and the continuous maintenance of new and existing works.

Here is a list of current and recently completed infrastructure investments:

- The expansion and upgrade of the Wastewater Treatment Plant on 4th St. in Stroudsburg.
- The extension of the Water Distribution System to the Kalahari Resort at Pocono Manor, in Tobyhanna Township, including the construction of two pump stations, two storage tanks, and 3 miles of pipeline.
- The construction of two water storage tanks in Stroud Township.
- The construction of an additional pump station in Stroud Township.
- An upgrade to the Water Treatment Plant computer control system.
- The construction of a new well water source, including a membrane filtration plant, in Stroud Township.
- The extension of the Water Distribution System to serve Pocono Mountain East School District and to provide additional water service to Sanofi Pasteur.
- The future extension of the Water Distribution System to supply the Lehigh Valley Health Network facility, to be built at the old Summit Resort in Tannersville.
- The future acquisition and connection to the Pocono/Jackson Joint Water Authority System.

Only one percent of all the world's water can be used for drinking. Nearly 97 percent of the world's water is salty or otherwise undrinkable, and the other two percent is locked away in ice caps and glaciers.

BCRA Board of Directors

John H. Parker, Jr., Chairman (representing Hamilton Township) – Mr. Parker resides in Saylorsburg with his wife Mary Louise who is an attorney. He also serves on the boards of Monroe County Industrial Development Authority, Pocono Mountain Industrial Park and Hamilton Township Zoning and Hearing Board.

Charles A Garris, Treasurer (representing Smithfield Township) – Mr. Garris is a local businessman and a former employee of the Patterson-Kelley Co. Mr. Garris is a Monroe County Commissioner and has served as a councilman and as Mayor of the Borough of East Stroudsburg. He was also a member and past Chairman of the Board of Directors of the Pocono Medical Center.

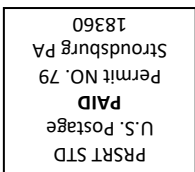
Wm. Taylor Wenck, Secretary (representing Stroud Township) – Mr. Wenck is a certified financial planner who resides in Stroud Township with his wife Maureen. He is a Financial Professional Emeritus with Prudential/Pruco Securities. He also serves as Chairman of the Stroud Township Planning Commission.

Eric Scelza, Board Member (representing the Borough of Stroudsburg) – Mr. Scelza is a computer and business consultant for mid to large companies. He resides in Stroudsburg with his wife, Jennifer and his two sons, Jamison and Reagan. Mr. Scelza served 10 years on Stroudsburg Borough Council, including serving on the Sewer, Park and Recreation, Finance, and Policies boards.

Thomas Wise, Vice Chairman (representing Pocono Township) – Mr. Wise is a mechanical engineer and a former executive of SPX Heat Transfer, with thirty-three years of manufacturing experience serving the power market worldwide. He resides in Scotrun with his wife Kathleen and son Nathan. Currently, he is President of Pocono Sales Associates, an independent sales agency representing manufacturers in the Mid-Atlantic region.

Copyright 2017, Brodhead Creek Regional Authority, 410 Mill Creek Road East Stroudsburg, PA 18301 (570) 421-3232

Printed on recycled paper



Brodhead Creek Regional Authority
410 Mill Creek Road
East Stroudsburg, PA 18301

2017 Consumer Confidence Report (page 2 of 2)

Contaminant	MCL	MCLG	Highest Level Detected	Range if applicable	Units	Sample Date	Violation Y/N	Sources of Contamination
Barium (IOC) DEP 1010	2	2	0.019	N/A	ppm	10/19/17	No	Discharge of drilling wastes; discharges from metal refineries; erosion of natural deposits.
Chlorine (Distribution Residual monthly average) DEP 0999	4	4	0.86	0.65 – 0.86	ppm	1/1/17 to 12/31/17	No	Water additive used to control microbes.
Trihalomethanes DEP 2950	80	n/a	16.5	9.74-16.5	ppb	2/15/17 5/16/17 8/15/17 11/14/17	No	By-product of drinking water chlorination.
Haloacetic Acids DEP 2456	60	n/a	12.1	6.5 – 12.1	ppb	2/15/17 5/16/17 8/15/17 11/14/17	No	By-product of drinking water disinfection.
Xylenes	10	n/a	0.0156	n/a	ppm	11/21/17	No	Discharge from petroleum factories. Discharge from chemical factories
Ethylbenzene	700	n/a	2.6	n/a	ppb	11/21/17	No	Discharge from petroleum refineries
Disinfection Residual	Minimum Disinfectant Residual	Lowest Level Detected		Range of Detection	Units	Sample Date	Violation	Sources of Contamination
Chlorine (Entry Point)	0.2 (plant) 0.4 (wells)	0.63 0.30		0.3 – 1.52	ppm	1/1/17 to 12/31/17	No	Water additive used to control microbes.
Lead & Copper	Action Level	MCLG	90 th percentile value	Units	No. of sites above action level	Sample Date	Violation Y/N	Possible Source(s) of Contamination
Lead DEP 1030	15	0	3.35	ppb	3	6/1/16 - 9/30/16	No	Corrosion of household plumbing.
Copper DEP 1022	1.3	1.3	0.309	ppm	1	6/1/16 - 9/30/16	No	Corrosion of household plumbing.
Contaminant	MCL			MCLG	Level Detected and Date	Violation? Y/N	Possible source(s) of contamination	
Turbidity DEP0100	TT= 1 NTU for single measurement. TT= at least 95% of monthly samples ≤ 0.3 NTU			0	100% for 2017	No	Soil Runoff	
Contaminant	Required removal %			Range of Removal Achieved %	No. of Quarters out of compliance	Violation? Y/N	Possible source(s) of contamination	
TOC (Total Organic Carbon) DEP 2920	35%			41.4%-44.7%	None	No	Naturally present in the environment.	

Glossary: PPM-Parts Per Million, PPB-Parts Per Billion, MCL-Maximum Contaminant Level, MCLG-Maximum Contaminant Level Goal, NTU-Nephelometric Turbidity Units, TT-Treatment Technique

Protecting Yourself from Utility Imposters

It has come to our attention that a scam is on the rise in surrounding counties, involving criminals posing as utility workers to gain access to a residence. The criminal will claim that they need to check an issue inside the home. Once inside, the imposter will attempt to divert the residents attention – usually by sending them to another room – while an accomplice robs the home. Many residents could find themselves a victim of theft due to the failure to recognize the differences between an imposter and a real BCRA employee.



If someone comes to your door claiming to be a water company employee, ask the worker to see their public works photo identification. Our workers also wear BCRA branded clothing, which is blue or brown in color and drive vehicles lettered “Brodhead Creek Regional Authority”. On most occasions, the customer will be contacted by the BCRA service team prior to the visit to set up an appointment. However, some emergency situations may not allow for advance notice of a BCRA visit.

Being able to see through the disguise of a fraudulent utility worker is your first line of defense. Our customers’ safety and security are important to the Brodhead Creek Regional Authority. We encourage this information be shared with everyone in your household, especially the young and elderly as they are often the target of such schemes. Should you have any questions about work being performed, please contact the BCRA office at (570) 421-3232. Remember to report suspicious activity to local law enforcement or the BCRA.

Has your water usage increased lately?

If your water usage has recently increased there are some things you may consider. The first thing to look for is an internal plumbing leak, which could be a broken pipe, leaking faucet or even a running toilet. These often-overlooked issues seem minuscule; however, they can make a considerable impact on your water usage. A dripping faucet can use as much as five gallons of water per day. You may also stop by the Brodhead Creek Regional Authority main office to pick up dye packs, free of charge to BCRA customers, with instructions to check for toilet leaks.

Also be mindful of the water used when watering plants, washing a car, or filling a pool. Remember that this water goes through your water meter before it comes out of the hose. Consider installing a timer for watering plants and set it to water early in the morning or the evening when the sun is not at its peak. These are just a few things to look into if your water usage has increased. If you have any questions or concerns about your usage please feel free to call the Brodhead Creek Regional Authority office at (570) 421-3232.

A leaky faucet that drips at the rate of one drip per second can waste more than 3,000 gallons per year.

BEWARE OF THE F.O.G! (Fats, Oils & Grease)

Whether you have a public or private sewer system, it's a good idea to keep your drain pipes clean. A sewer backup into your home or business can be costly and is unlikely to be covered by insurance.

All property owners and renters should familiarize themselves with the costly nature of FOG. FOG is an acronym for fats, oil and grease. The issue of FOG is similar to the clogging of arteries within the human body. Just as your doctor may be concerned about your intake of fats, cooking oil, shortening and butter, you should be concerned about potential clogging of your sewer pipes.

As the above photo shows, grease poured down a sink or toilet will cling to the inside of your plumbing. Over time the grease will build up and clog the pipes completely. If wastewater cannot flow through the pipes, it will back up into your kitchen or basement. The primary failure of home septic systems is caused by grease and oil and can be expensive to repair.

The best way to control FOG is by prevention. Do not dispose of food and grease down the drain. By disposing of grease and food scraps properly you can help avoid expensive repairs and unnecessary service disruptions to your home, or business.



Billing System Update

The BCRA upgraded to a new billing system in November 2017 in an effort to provide better management of the overall billing process. In the fall of 2018, the BCRA will roll out the second phase of this new billing system, which is a Customer Portal. The Customer Portal will provide BCRA customers 24-hour access to their account(s) with e-Billing, AutoPay, and online statement features available in a cloud-based platform.

The BCRA will also be able to provide better customer communication with an Enhanced Notification System, which will provide real time updates, and alerts in the event of a service interruption, planned work, or boil advisories.

The BCRA will also be changing our general email address in the near future. Our current email address bcra@ptd.net will be changed to bcra@bcrawater.com. Additionally, we will be creating a new general email address for the Water Treatment Plant which will be bcrawtp@bcrawater.com.

Check our website www.bcrawater.com for more information and updates on when the new billing system features will be available to our customers, as well as the roll out of the new general email addresses for BCRA.

Americans now use 127% more water than in 1950, and about 95% of the water entering our homes goes down the drain. Encourage your family and friends to preserve water by only using 13 gallons in one day (it's harder than it sounds!).

Brodhead Creek Regional Authority (PWSID 2450034)

2017 Consumer Confidence Report (Page 1 of 2)

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 this information for you or speak with someone who understands the information in this report.

Water System Information – This report shows water quality data for 2017. If you have any questions about this report, or concerning your water service, please contact Mr. David Horton, BCRA Manager at (570) 421-3232 or Mr. Dean Johnson, Lead Operator at (570) 421-0998. We want you to be informed about your drinking water. If you want to learn more please attend any of our regular scheduled meetings. Meetings are held on the 1st and 3rd Wednesday of each month at 12:00 pm (noon) at our office located at 410 Mill Creek Road. Customers may visit our website www.BCRAwater.com for additional information.

Sources of Water – The Brodhead Creek Regional Authority (BCRA) draws surface water from the Brodhead Creek and owns two on-site groundwater wells (well #1 and well #2). A third groundwater well has been constructed along the McMichael Creek and is currently undergoing testing and modifications. BCRA's water filtration plant is located at 410 Mill Creek Road. State licensed operators utilize a state-of-the-art treatment facility to ensure the quality of water, through filtration and other sophisticated treatment processes before it is distributed to our customers. The distribution system covers over 100 miles of water lines serving the Borough of Stroudsburg, Stroud Township, Pocono Township, Hamilton Township, Smithfield Township, and Tobyhanna Township. Over the past decade BCRA has invested approximately 6 million dollars in upgrading its treatment facility, developing sources, protecting it underground aquifers and establishing a wellhead protection program.

Some people may be more vulnerable to contaminants in drinking water than the general population. Immune-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 at (800) 426-4791.

Monitoring Your Water – We routinely monitor for contaminants in your drinking water according to federal and state laws. The table on the backside of this page shows the results of our monitoring for the period of 1/1/2017 to 12/31/2017. 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 dates have been noted on the sampling results table.

Required Lead Notice by EPA – 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. Brodhead Creek Regional Authority 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 to 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 are available from the Safe Drinking Water Hotline or at <http://www.epa.gov/safewater/lead>.

Information regarding Nitrates – Nitrates 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 advice from your health care provider.

Microbial Contaminates- In 2017 all distribution microbial samples were non-detects.

2017 Violations - No Violations for 2017.