

ANNUAL WATER QUALITY REPORT

Reporting Year 2024



Presented By



Landlords must distribute this information to every tenant as soon as practicable, but no later than three business days after receipt. Delivery must be done by hand, mail, or email, and by posting the information in a prominent location at the entrance of each rental premises, pursuant to section 3 of P.L. 2021, c. 82 (C.58:12A-12.4 et seq.).

Este informe contiene información muy importante sobre su agua potable. Tradúzcalo o hable con alguien que lo entienda bien.

Our Commitment

We are pleased to present to you this year's annual water quality report. This report is a snapshot of last year's water quality covering all testing performed between January 1 and December 31, 2024. Included are details about your source of water, what it contains, and how it compares to standards set by regulatory agencies. Our constant goal is to provide you with a safe and dependable supply of drinking water. We want you to understand the efforts we make to continually improve the water treatment process and protect our water resources. We are committed to ensuring the quality of your water and providing you with this information, because informed customers are our best allies.

Working Hard For You

Under the Safe Drinking Water Act (SDWA), the U.S. Environmental Protection Agency (U.S. EPA) is responsible for setting national limits for hundreds of substances in drinking water and also specifies various treatments that water systems must use to remove these substances. Each system continually monitors for these substances and reports to the U.S. EPA if they were detected in the drinking water. The U.S. EPA uses this data to ensure that consumers are receiving clean water.

This publication conforms to the regulation under the SDWA requiring water utilities to annually provide detailed water quality information to each of their customers. We are committed to providing you with this information about your water supply because customers who are well informed are our best allies in supporting improvements necessary to maintain the highest drinking water standards.

For more information about this report, or for any questions relating to your drinking water, please call the main office at (856) 663-0043 and ask for Director of Engineering Richard Spafford. Our office hours are 8:00 a.m. to 4:00 p.m., Monday through Friday, or visit us at mpwc.com.



Where Does My Water Come From?

The Merchantville-Pennsauken Water Commission (MPWC) pumps groundwater from 14 wells that tap the Potomac-Raritan-Magothy (PRM) aquifer and transmits it to the MPWC's six pumping stations. These wells vary in depth from 140 to 300 feet. The distribution system consists of 235 miles of piping. At the present time, a very small amount of water is purchased from New Jersey American Water Company (NJAWC), approximately 1 percent of our annual needs. NJAWC supplies water from three sources: surface water from the Delaware River and groundwater from the PRM and Wenonah-Mount Laurel aquifers. Information on NJAWC water quality can be found at newjerseyamwater.com.

MPWC prides itself on the aboveground water storage facilities that have been built through the years. These storage tanks greatly benefit our many customers. In total, MPWC has six aboveground water tanks. The total capacity of the aboveground storage tanks is 8 million gallons. This type of storage not only enhances water pressure, which is needed to take showers, sprinkle lawns, and fight fires, but it also provides over a full day's worth of water supply to our entire franchise area in case of an emergency situation.

MPWC is committed to keeping abreast of the most recent advancements in water treatment technologies through continuous training and education. Our management staff and treatment and transmission personnel attend training seminars and courses designed to keep us up to date and aware of better ways to serve our customers with the safest and best-tasting water possible.

MPWC has invested in the most current and modern methods for the treatment and transmission of your drinking water. In fact, we have hosted other water treatment professionals to showcase our facilities and share our success stories.

MPWC continues to invest in our infrastructure and work aggressively to live up to our mission of supplying the best product at the most affordable cost.

Community Participation

You are invited to participate in our public forum and voice any concerns about your drinking water. We meet the second Thursday of each month at 4:00 p.m. at 6751 Westfield Avenue, Pennsauken.



Substances That Could Be in 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 occur naturally in the soil or groundwater or may 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, 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 occur naturally or be the result of oil and gas production and mining activities.

In order to ensure that tap water is safe to drink, U.S. EPA prescribes regulations which 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 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 mean that water poses a health risk. More information about contaminants and potential health effects can be obtained by calling the Safe Drinking Water Hotline (800-426-4791) or visiting epa.gov/safewater.

Definitions

90th %ile: The levels reported for lead and copper represent the 90th percentile of the total number of sites tested. The 90th percentile is equal to or greater than 90% of our lead and copper detections.

AL (Action Level): The concentration of a contaminant which, if exceeded, triggers treatment or other requirements which a water system must follow.

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.

MCLG (Maximum Contaminant Level Goal): 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.

MRDL (Maximum Residual Disinfectant Level): 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.

MRDLG (Maximum Residual Disinfectant 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.

NA: Not applicable.

ND (Not detected): Indicates that the substance was not found by laboratory analysis.

pCi/L (picocuries per liter): A measure of radioactivity.

ppb (parts per billion): One part substance per billion parts water (or micrograms per liter).

ppm (parts per million): One part substance per million parts water (or milligrams per liter).

ppt (parts per trillion): One part substance per trillion parts water (or nanograms per liter).

RUL (Recommended Upper Limit): These standards are developed to protect aesthetic qualities of drinking water and are not health based.

Lead in Home Plumbing

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. MPWC 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, or 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 MPWC at (856) 663-0043. Information on lead in drinking water, testing methods, and steps you can take to minimize exposure is available at epa.gov/safewater/lead.



To address lead in drinking water, public water systems were required to develop and maintain an inventory of service line materials by October 16, 2024. Developing an inventory and identifying the location of lead service lines (LSL) is the first step for beginning LSL replacement and protecting public health. The lead service inventory may be found at MPWC.com. Please contact us if you would like more information about the inventory or any lead sampling that has been done.

Test Results

Our water is monitored for many different kinds of substances on a very strict sampling schedule, and the water we deliver must meet specific health standards. Here, we only show those substances that were detected in our water (a complete list of all our analytical results is available upon request). Remember that detecting a substance does not mean the water is unsafe to drink; our goal is to keep all detects below their respective maximum allowed levels.

The state recommends monitoring for certain substances less than once per year because the concentrations of these substances do not change frequently. In these cases, the most recent sample data is included, along with the year in which the sample was taken.

Call us at (856) 663-0043 to find out how to get your water tested for lead. Testing is essential because you cannot see, taste, or smell lead in drinking water.

Important Health Information

Some people may be more vulnerable to contaminants in drinking water than the general population. Immunocompromised 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. U.S. EPA/Centers for Disease Control and Prevention (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.

REGULATED SUBSTANCES

SUBSTANCE (UNIT OF MEASURE)	YEAR SAMPLED	MCL [MRDL]	MCLG [MRDLG]	AMOUNT DETECTED	RANGE LOW-HIGH	VIOLATION	TYPICAL SOURCE
Alpha Emitters (pCi/L)	2024	15	0	3.2	3.2–3.2	No	Erosion of natural deposits
Chlorine (ppm)	2024	[4]	[4]	0.72	0.2–0.72	No	Water additive used to control microbes
Combined Radium (pCi/L)	2024	5	0	1 ¹	1–1	No	Erosion of natural deposits
Fluoride (ppm)	2023	4	4	0.142	0.06–0.142	No	Erosion of natural deposits; Water additive which promotes strong teeth; Discharge from fertilizer and aluminum factories
Haloacetic Acids [HAAs] (ppb)	2024	60	NA	2.69	ND–2.69	No	By-product of drinking water disinfection
Nitrate (ppm)	2024	10	10	3.53	2.02–3.53	No	Runoff from fertilizer use; Leaching from septic tanks, sewage; Erosion of natural deposits
Perfluorononanoic Acid [PFNA] (ppt)	2024	13	NA	3.1	<0.2–3.1	No	Discharge from industrial chemical factories
Perfluorooctanesulfonic Acid [PFOS] (ppt)	2024	13	NA	9.1	<0.2–9.1	No	Used in the production of Teflon, firefighting foams, cleaners, cosmetics, greases and lubricants, paints, polishes, adhesives, and photographic films
Perfluorooctanoic Acid [PFOA] (ppt)	2024	14	NA	13	<0.2–13	No	Used in the production of Teflon, firefighting foams, cleaners, cosmetics, greases and lubricants, paints, polishes, adhesives, and photographic films
TTHMs [total trihalomethanes]–Stage 2 (ppb)	2024	80	NA	20.0	1.36–20.0	No	By-product of drinking water disinfection
Xylenes, total (ppb)	2024	1,000	1,000	2.35	<0.5–2.35	No	Discharge from petroleum factories; Discharge from chemical factories

Tap water samples were collected for lead and copper analyses from sample sites throughout the community

SUBSTANCE (UNIT OF MEASURE)	YEAR SAMPLED	AL	MCLG	AMOUNT DETECTED (90TH %ILE)	RANGE LOW-HIGH	SITES ABOVE AL/TOTAL SITES	VIOLATION	TYPICAL SOURCE
Copper (ppm)	2024	1.3	1.3	0.166	0.016–0.29	0/30	No	Corrosion of household plumbing systems; Erosion of natural deposits
Lead (ppb)	2024	15	0	ND	ND–1.37	0/30	No	Corrosion of household plumbing systems; Erosion of natural deposits



SECONDARY SUBSTANCES

SUBSTANCE (UNIT OF MEASURE)	YEAR SAMPLED	RUL	MCLG	AMOUNT DETECTED	RANGE LOW-HIGH	VIOLATION	TYPICAL SOURCE
Chloride (ppm)	2023	250	NA	49	22–49	No	Runoff/leaching from natural deposits
pH (units)	2024	6.5-8.5	NA	8.4	6.6–8.4	No	Naturally occurring
Sodium (ppm)	2023	50	NA	32.3	8.28–32.3	No	Naturally occurring
Sulfate (ppm)	2023	250	NA	59.5	11.2–59.5	No	Runoff/leaching from natural deposits; Industrial wastes
Zinc (ppm)	2023	5	NA	0.154	ND–0.154	No	Runoff/leaching from natural deposits; Industrial wastes

UNREGULATED SUBSTANCES

SUBSTANCE (UNIT OF MEASURE)	YEAR SAMPLED	AMOUNT DETECTED	RANGE LOW-HIGH	TYPICAL SOURCE
1,4-Dioxane (ppb)	2023	3.2	0.4–3.2	NA
Bromodichloromethane (ppb)	2024	2.36	<0.5–2.36	NA
Bromoform (ppb)	2024	8.5	<0.5–8.5	NA
Chloroform (ppb)	2024	0.97	<0.5–0.97	NA
Dibromochloromethane (ppb)	2023	9.26	1.03–9.26	NA
Perfluorohexanesulfonic Acid (PFHxS) (ppt)	2024	8.4	<0.2–8.4	NA

¹ Based on quarterly monitoring, determined on annual running average.

About Our Violation

As a result of an administrative oversight in January 2024, we did not notify NJDEP within the required time that we had wells out of service. This was a reporting violation only. At no time did this incident pose a threat to public health and safety, nor did it have any impact on the high-quality drinking water provided to our customers.

Variations and Exemptions

Under a waiver granted on February 20, 2025, by NJDEP, our system does not have to monitor for synthetic organic chemicals/pesticides because several years of testing have indicated that these substances do not occur in our source water. The SDWA regulations allow monitoring waivers to reduce or eliminate the monitoring requirements for asbestos, volatile organic chemicals, and synthetic organic chemicals. Our system received monitoring waivers for synthetic organic chemicals and asbestos.

Source Water Assessment

Source Water Assessment Plan (SWAP) is a program of the New Jersey Department of Environmental Protection (NJDEP) for the study of existing and potential threats to the quality of public drinking water sources throughout the state. Sources are rated depending upon their contaminant susceptibility.

NJDEP has completed and issued the Source Water Assessment Report and Summary for this public water system, which is available at <https://www.nj.gov/dep/watersupply/swap/assessments.htm> or by contacting the NJDEP, Bureau of Safe Drinking Water, at (609) 292-5550 or watersupply@dep.nj.gov.

If a system is rated highly susceptible for a contaminant category, it does not mean a customer is or will be consuming contaminated drinking water. The rating reflects the potential for contamination of source water, not the existence of contamination. Public water systems are required to monitor for regulated contaminants and install treatment if any contaminants are detected at frequencies and concentrations above allowable levels. As a result of the assessments, NJDEP may customize (change existing) monitoring schedules based on the susceptibility ratings.

Source water protection is a long-term dedication to clean and safe drinking water. It is more cost-effective to prevent contamination than to address contamination after the fact. Every member of the community has an important role in source water protection. NJDEP recommends controlling activities and development around drinking water sources whether it is through land acquisition, stormwater drain protection, or hazardous waste collection programs.

	H:	M:	L:
Pathogens:		7	8
Nutrients:	5	10	
Pesticides:		1	14
Volatile Organic Compounds:	15		
Inorganics:	11	3	1
Radionuclides	15		
Radon		12	3
Disinfection By-Product Precursors		4	11

