ANNUAL WATER QUALITY REPORT

Reporting Year 2021

Presented By
Wildwood Water Utility

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.

PWS ID#: 0514001

We've Come a Long Way

Once again, we are proud to present our annual water quality report covering the period between January 1 and December 31, 2021. In a matter of only a few decades, drinking water has become exponentially safer and more reliable than at any other point in human history. Our exceptional staff continues to work hard every day—at all hours—to deliver the highest-quality drinking water without interruption. Although the challenges ahead are many, we feel that by relentlessly investing in customer outreach and education, new treatment technologies, system upgrades, and training, the payoff will be reliable, high-quality tap water delivered to you and your family.

Water Conservation Tips

You can play a role in conserving water and save yourself money in the process by becoming conscious of the amount of water your household is using and looking for ways to use less whenever you can. It's not hard to conserve water. Here are a few tips:

- Automatic dishwashers use 15 gallons for every cycle, regardless of how many dishes are loaded. So get a run for your money and load it to capacity.
- Turn off the tap when brushing your teeth.
- Check every faucet in your home for leaks. Just a slow drip can waste 15 to 20 gallons a day. Fix it and you can save almost 6,000 gallons per year.
- Check your toilets for leaks by putting a few drops of food coloring in the tank. Watch for a few minutes to see if the color shows up in the bowl. It is not uncommon to lose up to 100 gallons a day from an invisible toilet leak. Fix it and you save more than 30,000 gallons a year.
- Use your water meter to detect hidden leaks. Simply turn off all taps and water-using appliances. Then check the meter after 15 minutes. If it moved, you have a leak.

Community Participation

You are invited to participate in our public forum and voice your concerns about your drinking water. We meet the second and fourth Wednesday of each month at 5:00 p.m. at City Hall, 4400 New Jersey Avenue, Wildwood.

Customer Bill of Rights

Your Customer Bill of Rights can be found at wildwoodnj.org/waterutility.

Alerts

Sign up for CODE RED to receive alerts for hydrant flushing, main break notifications, etc., at wildwoodnj.org. Also, please be sure that the water utility has a phone number in the system to contact you in case of an emergency, such as a leak notification.

Lead in Home Plumbing

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. We are responsible for providing high-quality drinking water, but we 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 two 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 at (800) 426-4791 or epa.gov/safewater/lead. To find out if you have copper, galvanized steel, or lead service on your property, please go to wildwoodnj.org.

Where Does My Water Come From?

Our water source is wells at the Rio Grande Pumping Station, located on Route 47 in Middle Township. These wells draw water from the Estuarine, Cohansey, and Kirkwood Aquifers.

QUESTIONS? For more information about this report, or for any questions relating to your drinking water, please call Michael McIntyre, Wildwood Water Utility's Director, at (609) 846-0600.

Substances That Could Be in Water

To ensure that tap water is safe to drink, the U.S. EPA prescribes regulations limiting the amount of certain contaminants in water provided by public water systems. U.S. Food and Drug Administration regulations establish limits for contaminants in bottled water that 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 these contaminants does not necessarily indicate that the water poses a health risk.

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, in some cases, radioactive material, and substances resulting from the presence of animals or from human activity. Substances 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, or wildlife;

Inorganic Contaminants, such as salts and metals, which can be naturally occurring 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 may also come from gas stations, urban stormwater runoff, and septic systems;

Radioactive Contaminants, which can be naturally occurring or may be the result of oil and gas production and mining activities.

For more information about contaminants and potential health effects, call the U.S. EPA's Safe Drinking Water Hotline at (800) 426-4791.

What are PFAS?

Per- and polyfluoroalkyl substances (PFAS) are a group of manufactured chemicals used worldwide since the 1950s to make fluoropolymer coatings and products that resist heat, oil, stains, grease, and water. During production and use, PFAS can migrate into the soil, water, and air. Most PFAS do not break down; they remain in the environment, ultimately finding their way into drinking water. Because of their widespread use and their persistence in the environment, PFAS are found all over the world at low levels. Some PFAS can build up in people and animals with repeated exposure over time.

The most commonly studied PFAS are perfluorooctanoic acid (PFOA) and perfluorooctane sulfonic acid (PFOS). PFOA and PFOS have been phased out of production and use in the United States, but other countries may still manufacture and use them.

Some products that may contain PFAS include:

- Some grease-resistant paper, fast food containers/wrappers, microwave popcorn bags, pizza boxes
- Nonstick cookware
- Stain-resistant coatings used on carpets, upholstery, and other fabrics
- Water-resistant clothing
- Personal care products (shampoo, dental floss) and cosmetics (nail polish, eye makeup)
- Cleaning products
- Paints, varnishes, and sealants

Even though recent efforts to remove PFAS have reduced the likelihood of exposure, some products may still contain them. If you have questions or concerns about products you use in your home, contact the Consumer Product Safety Commission at (800) 638-2772. For a more detailed discussion on PFAS, please visit atsdr.cdc.gov/pfas/index.html.

Susceptibility Ratings for Wildwood City Water Department Sources

The New Jersey Department of Environmental Protection (NJDEP) has completed and issued the Source Water Assessment Report and Summary for this public water system, which is available at state.nj.us/dep/swap/ or by contacting NJDEP's Bureau of Safe Drinking Water at (609) 292-5550 or watersupply@dep.nj.gov. You may also contact your public water system at (609) 846-0600.

The table below illustrates the susceptibility ratings for the seven contaminant categories (and radon) for each source in the system. The table provides the number of wells and intakes that rated high (H), medium (M), or low (L) for each contaminant category. For susceptibility ratings of purchased water, refer to the specific water system's source water assessment report.

The seven contaminant categories are defined at the bottom of this page. NJDEP considered all surface water highly susceptible to pathogens; therefore, all intakes received a high rating for the pathogen category. For the purpose of the Source Water Assessment Program, radionuclides are more of a concern for groundwater than surface water. As a result, surface water intakes' susceptibility to radionuclides was not determined, and they all received a low rating.

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 or change existing monitoring schedules based on the susceptibility ratings.

Pathogens: Disease-causing organisms such as bacteria and viruses. Common sources are animal and human fecal wastes.

Nutrients: Compounds, minerals, and elements that aid growth that are both naturally occurring and human-made. Examples include nitrogen and phosphorus.

Volatile Organic Compounds: Human-made chemicals used as solvents, degreasers, and gasoline components. Examples include benzene, methyl tertiary butyl ether (MTBE), and vinyl chloride.

Pesticides: Human-made chemicals used to control pests, weeds, and fungus. Common sources include land application and manufacturing centers of pesticides. Examples include herbicides such as atrazine and insecticides such as chlordane.

Inorganics: Mineral-based compounds that are both naturally occurring and human-made. Examples include arsenic, asbestos, copper, lead, and nitrate.

Radionuclides: Radioactive substances that are both naturally occurring and human-made. Examples include radium and uranium.

Radon: Colorless, odorless, cancer-causing gas that occurs naturally in the environment. For more information, go to nj.gov/dep/rpp/radon/index.htm or call (800) 648-0394.

Disinfection By-product Precursors: A common source is naturally occurring organic matter in surface water. Disinfection by-products are formed when the disinfectants (usually chlorine) used to kill pathogens react with dissolved organic material (for example, leaves) present in surface water.

	PATHOGENS			NUTRIENTS			PESTICIDES			VOLATILE ORGANIC COMPOUNDS			INORGANICS			RADIO-NUCLIDES			RADON			DISINFECTION BYPRODUCT PRECURSORS		
SOURCES	H	M	L	H	M	L	H	M	L	H	M	L	H	M	L	H	M	L	H	M	L	H	M	L
Wells - 17			17			17			17			17			17			17			17	17		
GUID-0																								
Surface water intakes-0																								

Test Results

Our water is monitored for many different kinds of substances on a very strict sampling schedule. Also, the water we deliver must meet specific health standards. Here, we 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 often than once per year because the concentrations of these substances do not change frequently. In these cases, the most recent sample data are included, along with the year in which the sample was taken.

We are required to monitor your drinking water for specific contaminants on a regular basis. Results of regular monitoring are an indicator of whether your drinking water meets health standards. During the third quarter of 2021, we did not monitor or test for total trihalomethanes (TTHMs) or haloacetic acids (HAAs) in the correct location for three of the four locations. The samples were taken the following month in the correct locations and found to be within NJDEP parameters. Since TTHMs and HAAs were not sampled in three of the proper locations in July 2021, we did not complete all monitoring or testing for TTHMs or HAAs and therefore cannot be sure of the quality of your drinking water during that time. We have already taken steps to ensure that adequate monitoring and reporting will be performed in the future so that this oversight will not be repeated.

Call us at (609) 886-9231 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.

Some people may be more vulnerable to contaminants in drinking water than the general population. Immunocompromised persons such as those with cancer undergoing chemotherapy, those who have undergone organ transplants, people with HIV/AIDS or other immune system disorders, some elderly, and infants may be particularly at risk from infections. These people should seek advice about drinking water from their health care providers. The U.S. EPA/CDC (Centers for Disease Control and Prevention) guidelines on appropriate means to lessen the risk of infection by *Cryptosporidium* and other microbial contaminants are available from the Safe Drinking Water Hotline at (800) 426-4791.

REGULATED SUBSTANCES [1]

SUBSTANCE (UNIT OF MEASURE)	YEAR SAMPLED	MCL [MRDL]	MCLG [MRDLG]	AMOUNT DETECTED	RANGE LOW-HIGH	VIOLATION	TYPICAL SOURCE
Chlorine (ppm)	2021	[4]	[4]	0.24	0.18–0.48	No	Water additive used to control microbes
Combined Radium (pCi/L)	2017	5	0	0.695	0.505–0.805	No	Erosion of natural deposits
Dibromochloropropane (ppt)	2021	200	0	ND	ND	No	Runoff/leaching from soil fumigant used on soybeans, cotton, pineapples, and orchards
Ethylene Dibromide (ppt)	2021	50	0	ND	ND	No	Discharge from petroleum refineries
Haloacetic Acids [HAAs]–Stage 2[2] (ppb)	2021	60	NA	5.7	2–6.8	No	By-product of drinking water disinfection
Nitrate (ppm)	2021	10	10	ND	ND	No	Runoff from fertilizer use; Leaching from septic tanks, sewage; Erosion of natural deposits
Perfluorononanoic Acid [PFNA] (ppt)	2021	13	NA	ND	ND	No	Discharge from industrial chemical factories
Perfluorooctanesulfonic Acid [PFOS] (ppt)	2021	13	NA	ND	ND	No	Used in the production of Teflon, firefighting foams, cleaners, cosmetics, greases and lubricants, paints, polishes, adhesives, and photographic film
Perfluorooctanoic Acid [PFOA] (ppt)	2021	14	NA	ND	ND	No	Used in the production of Teflon, firefighting foams, cleaners, cosmetics, greases and lubricants, paints, polishes, adhesives, and photographic film
Total Coliform Bacteria (positive samples)	2021	TT	NA	2.5%MAX	NA	No	Naturally present in the environment
TTHMs [total trihalomethanes]–Stage 2[2] (ppb)	2021	80	NA	33.1	5.1–39.9	No	By-product of drinking water disinfection

Tap water samples were collected for lead and copper analyses from sample sites throughout the community.[3]

SUBSTANCE (UNIT OF MEASURE)	YEAR SAMPLED	AL	MCLG	AMOUNT DETECTED (90TH %ILE)	SITES ABOVE AL/ TOTAL SITES	VIOLATION	TYPICAL SOURCE
Copper (ppm)	2020	1.3	1.3	0.12	0/30	No	Corrosion of household plumbing systems; Erosion of natural deposits
Lead (ppb)	2020	15	0	5	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
Iron (ppb)	2021	300	NA	260	260 -260	No	Naturally occurring
Manganese (ppb)	2021	50	NA	17	17–17	No	Leaching from natural deposits

UNREGULATED SUBSTANCES

SUBSTANCE (UNIT OF MEASURE)	YEAR SAMPLED	AMOUNT DETECTED	RANGE LOW-HIGH	TYPICAL SOURCE
1,2,3-Trichloropropane[4] (ppb)	2021	0.004	ND–0.10	Paint or varnish remover, cleaning and degreasing agent, solvent

[1] Under a waiver granted on December 30, 1998, 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 Safe Drinking Water Act 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.

[2] Samples were taken at an unapproved location in the required month but were taken in the correct locations the following month. All sampled and resampled results were less than the MCL.

[3] Wildwood Water Utility is required to conduct lead and copper sampling, including 30 samples between June and September, every three years. No samples taken exceeded the action level.

[4] One of seven locations had a result of 0.10 ppb in May, which was above the MCL. NJDEP was notified. This location was retested the following month and indicated no 1,2,3-trichloropropane above the laboratory detection limit (ND). This well was taken out of recharge and put into the system after the ND results were achieved.

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 that, if exceeded, triggers treatment or other requirements that 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.

TT (Treatment Technique): A required process intended to reduce the level of a contaminant in drinking water.