



ANNUAL WATER
QUALITY
REPORT

Water testing performed in 2006

Proudly Presented By:

MERCHANTVILLE~
PENNSAUKEN WATER
COMMISSION

WWW.MPWC.COM

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

此份有关你的食水报告,内有重要资料和讯息,请找他人为你翻译及解释清楚。

**Chi tiết này thật quan trọng.
Xin nhờ người dịch cho quý vị.**

이 안내는 매우 중요합니다.
본인을 위해 번역인을 사용하십시오.

Substances That Might Be in Drinking 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, 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 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 which 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.

Continuing Our Commitment

Once again we proudly present our annual water quality report. This edition covers all testing completed from January 1 through December 31, 2006. We are pleased to tell you that our compliance with all state and federal drinking water laws remains exemplary. As in the past, we are committed to delivering the best quality drinking water. To that end, we remain vigilant in meeting the challenges of source water protection, water conservation, and community education while continuing to serve the needs of all of our water users.

Every day we deliver, on average, six million gallons of water from our wells and our treatment plants. Our water quality professionals are focused on providing the highest quality water possible, and our results reflect that commitment. Our active participation in water industry associations allows us to keep abreast of the latest developments in water quality issues.

The water quality that we deliver to you 24 hours a day, 365 days a year, is an exceptional value for our consumers. Please be assured that the MPWC is working daily to keep its facilities and your water safe from any potential dangers. Please visit our Web site at www.mpwc.com for additional information.

Sincerely,

The Commissioners and Staff of MPWC

Community Participation

You are invited to participate in our public forum and voice your concerns about your drinking water. We meet the second Thursday of each month at 6:30 p.m. For meeting place, dates and times go to our web page – www.mpwc.com.

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 their findings to the U.S. EPA. The U.S. EPA uses this data to ensure that consumers are receiving clean water.

This publication conforms to the regulation under 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 Superintendent Whalen. Our office hours are 8:30 a.m. to 4:30 p.m. Monday through Friday.



Where Does My Water Come From?

The Merchantville-Pennsauken Water Commission pumps groundwater from 15 wells that tap the Potomac-Raritan-Magothy (PRM) Aquifer and transmits it to the MPWC's six treatment facilities. These wells vary in depth from 140 feet to 300 feet deep. The distribution system consists of 220 miles of piping. The quantity of water that we are able to pump during any given minute, day, month or year is strictly regulated by the New Jersey Department of Environmental Protection (NJDEP). In 1993 the NJDEP permanently reduced our permitted annual pumping capacity. Consequently, we must augment our well water supply from other sources.

Currently that source is NJ American Water Company (NJAWC). At the present time a very small amount of water is purchased annually, which represents approximately 0.02% of our annual needs. NJAWC supplies water from three sources: surface water from the Delaware River and groundwater from the PRM and Mt Laurel-Wenonah aquifers.

Source Water Assessment

Our Source Water Assessment Program (SWAP) Report and Summary is available at www.state.nj.us/dep/swap/ or by contacting the New Jersey Department of Environmental Protection (NJDEP), Bureau of Safe Drinking Water, at (609) 292-5550. A copy of the source water assessment performed on our 15 sources can be obtained by calling MPWC and asking for Superintendent Whalen.

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. Public water systems are required to monitor for regulated contaminants and to initiate treatment if any contaminants are detected at frequencies and concentrations above allowable levels. As a result of the assessments, NJDEP may customize or change the 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. The NJDEP recommends controlling activities and development around drinking water sources, whether it is through land acquisition, conservation easements, or hazardous waste collection programs. We will continue to keep you informed of SWAP's progress and developments. If you have any questions about these findings, please contact us during regular business hours.

Sampling Results

During the past year we have taken hundreds of water samples in order to determine the presence of any radioactive, biological, inorganic, volatile organic or synthetic organic contaminants. The table below shows only those contaminants that were detected in the water. **Although all of the substances listed here are under the Maximum Contaminant Level (MCL), we feel it is important that you know exactly what was detected and how much of the substance was present in the water.** The State of New Jersey allows us to monitor 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.

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 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 | | | | NJAWC | | MPWC | | | |
|---|--------------|--------------|--------------|------------------------------|--------------------------|--------------------------|--|----------------|---|
| SUBSTANCE (UNIT OF MEASURE) | YEAR SAMPLED | MCL [MRDL] | MCLG [MRDLG] | AMOUNT DETECTED | | AMOUNT DETECTED | RANGE LOW-HIGH | VIOLATION | TYPICAL SOURCE |
| | | | | AMOUNT DETECTED | RANGE LOW-HIGH | | | | |
| 1,1,1-Trichloroethane (ppb) | 2006 | 30 | 30 | 0.7 | ND-0.7 | NA | NA | No | Discharge from metal degreasing sites and other factories |
| 1,1-Dichloroethane (ppb) | 2006 | 50 | NA | 1.2 | ND-1.2 | NA | NA | No | Discharge from metal degreasing sites and other factories |
| 1,1-Dichloroethylene (ppb) | 2006 | 2 | 2 | 0.06 | ND-0.06 | NA | NA | No | Discharge from industrial chemical factories |
| 1,2-Dichloroethane (ppb) | 2006 | 2 | 0 | 0.06 | ND-0.06 | NA | NA | No | Discharge from industrial chemical factories |
| 1,2-Dichloropropane (ppb) | 2006 | 5 | 0 | 0.08 | ND-0.08 | NA | NA | No | Discharge from industrial chemical factories |
| Alpha Emitters^{2,3} (pCi/L) | 2006 | 15 | 0 | 11 | ND-11.2 | 7 | 3-11 | No | Erosion of natural deposits |
| Barium (ppm) | 2006 | 2 | 2 | 0.011 | NA | NA | NA | No | Discharge of drilling wastes; Discharge from metal refineries; Erosion of natural deposits |
| Combined Radium² (pCi/L) | 2006 | 5 | 0 | 4 | ND-4.6 | 3.3 | 1.26-4.56 | No | Erosion of natural deposits |
| Dichloromethane (ppb) | 2006 | 3 | 0 | 0.06 | ND-0.06 | NA | NA | No | Discharge from pharmaceutical and chemical factories |
| Fluoride⁴ (ppm) | 2006 | 4 | 4 | 0.32 | ND-0.32 | 0.11 | ND-0.11 | No | Erosion of natural deposits; Water additive which promotes strong teeth; Discharge from fertilizer and aluminum factories |
| Haloacetic Acids [HAA] (ppb) | 2006 | 60 | NA | NA | NA | 2 | ND-2 | No | By-product of drinking water disinfection |
| Methyl tert-Butyl Ether (MTBE) (ppb) | 2006 | 70 | NA | 1.6 | ND-1.6 | 1.6 | ND-1.6 | No | Leaking underground gasoline and fuel tanks, gasoline and fuel oil spills |
| Nickel (ppm) | 2006 | 100 | 100 | 0.0013 | 0.0013-0.0013 | NA | NA | No | Pollution from mining and refining operations; natural occurrence in soil |
| Nitrate (ppm) | 2006 | 10 | 10 | 2.85 | ND-2.85 | 2 | ND-2 | No | Runoff from fertilizer use; Leaching from septic tanks, sewage; Erosion of natural deposits |
| Nitrite (ppm) | 2006 | 1 | 1 | 0.005 | ND-0.005 | NA | NA | No | Runoff from fertilizer use; Leaching from septic tanks, sewage; Erosion of natural deposits |
| TTHMs [Total Trihalomethanes] (ppb) | 2006 | 80 | NA | NA | NA | 2 | ND-2 | No | By-product of drinking water chlorination |
| Total Organic Carbon⁵ (ppm) | 2006 | TT | NA | 1.50 | 1.22-1.72 | NA | NA | No | Naturally present in the environment |
| Trichloroethylene (ppb) | 2006 | 1 | 0 | NA | NA | 0.5 | ND-0.5 | No | Discharge from metal degreasing sites and other factories |
| Uranium² (ppb) | 2006 | 30 | 0 | 9 | ND-14 | NA | NA | No | Erosion of natural deposits |
| Xylenes [total] (ppb) | 2006 | 1,000 | 1,000 | NA | NA | 1 | ND-1 | No | Discharge from petroleum factories; Discharge from chemical factories |
| cis-1,2-Dichloroethylene (ppb) | 2006 | 70 | 70 | 0.09 | ND-0.09 | NA | NA | No | Discharge from industrial chemical factories |
| Tap water samples were collected from 30 sample sites throughout the community | | | | | | | | | |
| SUBSTANCE (UNIT OF MEASURE) | YEAR SAMPLED | ACTION LEVEL | MCLG | AMOUNT DETECTED (90TH% TILE) | | SITES ABOVE ACTION LEVEL | VIOLATION | TYPICAL SOURCE | |
| | | | | AMOUNT DETECTED | SITES ABOVE ACTION LEVEL | | | | |
| Copper⁶ (ppm) | 2006 | 1.3 | 1.3 | 0.09 | 0 | No | Corrosion of household plumbing systems; Erosion of natural deposits; Leaching from wood preservatives | | |

| SECONDARY SUBSTANCES | | | | NJAWC | | MPWC | | | |
|-----------------------------|--------------|------|------|-----------------|----------------|-----------------|----------------|-----------|---------------------|
| SUBSTANCE (UNIT OF MEASURE) | YEAR SAMPLED | SMCL | MCLG | AMOUNT DETECTED | RANGE LOW-HIGH | AMOUNT DETECTED | RANGE LOW-HIGH | VIOLATION | TYPICAL SOURCE |
| Sodium (ppm) | 2006 | 50 | NA | 55 | 9-55 | NA | NA | No | Naturally occurring |

| UNREGULATED SUBSTANCES | | | NJAWC | | MPWC | | | |
|--|--------------|-----------------|----------------|-----------------|----------------|-----------------------------------|--|--|
| SUBSTANCE (UNIT OF MEASURE) | YEAR SAMPLED | AMOUNT DETECTED | RANGE LOW-HIGH | AMOUNT DETECTED | RANGE LOW-HIGH | TYPICAL SOURCE | | |
| DCPA mono/di-acid degradate ⁷ (ppb) | 2003 | NA | NA | 1.2 | ND-2.6 | Herbicide used on grass and weeds | | |

¹ Under a waiver granted on December 30, 1998, by the State of New Jersey Department of Environmental Protection, 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.

² Footnote for New Jersey American Water Company: This level represents the highest average of all sampling points. Compliance is based on a running annual average of quarterly data.

³ Footnote for Merchantville-Pennsauken Water Commission: This level represents the highest annual quarterly average calculated from the data collected. Compliance is based on the running annual average.

⁴ The MPWC does not add fluoride to the water. The amount shown occurs naturally.

⁵ Data represents a ratio of actual to required removal values > 1.0 indicate that the treatment process removed more total organic carbon than required. Compliance is based on a running annual average.

⁶ Tap water samples were collected for lead and copper analysis from 30 homes throughout the service area. (Lead was not detected at the 90th percentile.)

⁷ MPWC's water system was sampled as part of a nationwide sampling program required as part of the Unregulated Contaminant Monitoring Rule (UCMR), and dacthal (DCPA) was one of the compounds in the sampling program. Dacthal is a trade name for an herbicide used on grass and weeds to protect fruit and vegetable crops. Dacthal is not a regulated compound. Based on information currently available for dacthal, the NJDEP has established an Action Level of 70 ppb.

Special Sodium Footnote

For healthy individuals, the sodium intake from water is not important, because a much greater intake of sodium takes place from salt in the diet. However, sodium levels above the recommended upper limit may be a concern to individuals on a sodium restricted diet.

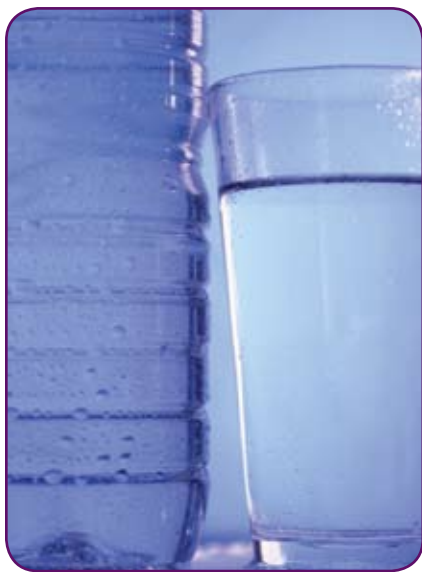


Table Definitions

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.

NTU (Nephelometric Turbidity Units): Measurement of the clarity, or turbidity, of water. Turbidity in excess of 5 NTU is just noticeable to the average person.

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).

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