

# ANNUAL WATER QUALITY REPORT

Reporting Year 2024



***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.).

PWS ID#: 0514001



## 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.

## 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 Holly Beach, Estuarine, Cohansey, and Kirkwood aquifers.

## 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.

## Water Main Flushing

Water main flushing is performed each year during the first three or four weeks of April. Our water main flushing schedule can be found at [wildwoodnj.org/waterutility](http://wildwoodnj.org/waterutility).

## 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. Wildwood Water Utility 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 and wish to have your water tested, contact Wildwood Water Utility at (609) 846-0600. Information on lead in drinking water, testing methods, and steps you can take to minimize exposure is available at [epa.gov/safewater/lead](http://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 is available upon request. Please contact us if you would like more information about the inventory or any lead sampling that has been done.

## 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 <http://bit.ly/3Z5AMm8>.

## QUESTIONS?

For more information about this report, or for any questions relating to your drinking water, please call Robert Christman, Licensed Operator, at (609) 846-0600.

## 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 on their contaminant susceptibility.

NJDEP has completed and issued the Source Water Assessment Report and Summary for this public water system, which is available at [nj.gov/dep/watersupply/swap/index.html](http://nj.gov/dep/watersupply/swap/index.html) or by contacting the NJDEP, Bureau of Safe Drinking Water, at (609) 292-5550 or [watersupply@dep.nj.gov](mailto: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 it 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 through land acquisition, storm drain protection, or hazardous waste collection programs.

PATHOGENS			NUTRIENTS			PESTICIDES			VOLATILE ORGANIC COMPOUNDS			INORGANICS			RADIO-NUCLIDES			RADON			DISINFECTION BYPRODUCT PRECURSORS		
H	M	L	H	M	L	H	M	L	H	M	L	H	M	L	H	M	L	H	M	L	H	M	L
		17			17			17			17			17			17			17	17		

## 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 as the result of oil and gas production and mining activities.

To ensure that tap water is safe to drink, the U.S. Environmental Protection Agency (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 at (800) 426-4791 or visiting [epa.gov/safewater](http://epa.gov/safewater).





## 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 (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.

We participated in the fifth stage of the U.S. EPA’s Unregulated Contaminant Monitoring Rule (UCMR5) program by performing additional tests on our drinking water. UCMR5 sampling benefits the environment and public health by providing the U.S. EPA with data on the occurrence of contaminants suspected to be in drinking water to determine if it needs to introduce new regulatory standards to improve drinking water quality. Unregulated contaminant monitoring data is available to the public, so please feel free to contact us if you are interested in obtaining this information. If you would like more information on the U.S. EPA’s Unregulated Contaminant Monitoring Rule, please call the Safe Drinking Water Hotline at (800) 426-4791.

**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/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 at (800) 426-4791.**

REGULATED SUBSTANCES <sup>1</sup>									
SUBSTANCE (UNIT OF MEASURE)		YEAR SAMPLED	MCL [MRDL]	MCLG [MRDLG]	AMOUNT DETECTED	RANGE LOW-HIGH	VIOLATION	TYPICAL SOURCE	
Barium (ppm)		2023	2	2	0.0075	0.0045–0.016	No	Discharge of drilling wastes; discharge from metal refineries; erosion of natural deposits	
Chlorine (ppm)		2024	[4]	[4]	0.4	0.23–0.56	No	Water additive used to control microbes	
Combined Radium (pCi/L)		2023	5	0	1.5	<1–1.5	No	Erosion of natural deposits	
Cyanide (ppb)		2023	200	200	5.8	ND–5.8	No	Underground ore deposits	
Gross Alpha Particle Activity (pCi/L)		2023	15	0	3.21	ND–3.21	No	Natural decay of uranium in rocks and soil; natural cosmic ray bombardment in the atmosphere	
Haloacetic Acids [HAAs] (ppb)		2024	60	NA	5.7	1.7–8.7	No	By-product of drinking water disinfection	
Total Coliform Bacteria (positive samples)		2024	TT	NA	5	NA	No	Naturally present in the environment	
TTHMs [total trihalomethanes] (ppb)		2024	80	NA	32.6	14.8–53	No	By-product of drinking water disinfection	
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)		2023	1.3	1.3	0.13	0.0054–0.22	0/30	No	Corrosion of household plumbing systems; erosion of natural deposits
Lead (ppb)		2023	15	0	3.4	<0.69–57	1/30	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	52	36–77	No	Runoff/leaching from natural deposits
Hardness [as CaCO <sub>3</sub> ] (ppm)	2023	250	NA	78	61–130	No	Naturally occurring
Iron (ppb)	2024	300 <sup>2</sup>	NA	480	480–480	Yes	Leaching from natural deposits; industrial wastes
Manganese (ppb)	2024	50	NA	31	31–31	No	Leaching from natural deposits
pH (units)	2023	6.5–8.5	NA	7.28	6.94–7.6	No	Naturally occurring
Sodium (ppm)	2023	50	NA	37	17–45	No	Naturally occurring
Sulfate (ppm)	2023	250	NA	10	6–12	No	Runoff/leaching from natural deposits; industrial wastes
Total Dissolved Solids (ppm)	2023	500	NA	154	130–210	No	Runoff/leaching from natural deposits
Zinc (ppm)	2023	5	NA	0.02	0.01–0.03	No	Runoff/leaching from natural deposits; industrial wastes
UNREGULATED SUBSTANCES							
SUBSTANCE (UNIT OF MEASURE)	YEAR SAMPLED	AMOUNT DETECTED	RANGE LOW-HIGH	TYPICAL SOURCE			
Lithium (ppm)	2024	6.9	ND–12.9	Naturally occurring metal with numerous commercial uses, including batteries, foods, and pharmaceuticals			

<sup>1</sup> 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.

<sup>2</sup> Wildwood Water Utility has permission to sequester and therefore is allowed to have iron up to 600 ppb. The recommended upper limit for iron is based on unpleasant taste of the water and staining of laundry. Iron is an essential nutrient, but some people who drink water with iron levels well above the recommended upper limit could develop deposits of iron in a number of organs of the body.

# 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 (µg/L) (parts per billion):** One part substance per billion parts water (or micrograms per liter).

**ppm (mg/L) (parts per million):** One part substance per million parts water (or milligrams 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.

