

WASHINGTON TOWNSHIP MUNICIPAL UTILITIES AUTHORITY

• WASTEWATER TREATMENT • PUBLIC WATER SUPPLY •

Drinking Water Quality Report 2026 Report for Test Results from 2025

We are pleased to present to you this year's Annual Drinking Water Quality Report. This report is designed to inform you about the quality of water and services we deliver to you every day. Our constant goal is to provide you with a safe and dependable supply of drinking water. Please share this information with all the other people who drink this water, especially those who may not have received this notice directly (for example, people in apartments, nursing homes, schools, and businesses). You can do this by posting this notice in a prominent location at the entrance of a public place or distributing copies by hand, mail or email, pursuant to section #3 of NJ P.L.2021, c.82 (c.58:12A-12.4 et seq.).

We are pleased to report that our drinking water is safe in accordance with federal & state requirements.

WHERE DOES MY WATER COME FROM?

The Washington Township MUA operates two separate water systems which supply water to portions of the Township. The map illustrates the location of the water systems that are operated by the WTMUA. All of the water supplied to our customers currently comes from a total of twelve (12) wells.

DEFINITIONS

In this report, you will find many terms and abbreviations you might not be familiar with. To help you better understand these terms, we have provided the following definitions:

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

Chlorine - Water additive used to control microbes.

Maximum Contaminant Level (MCL) - The "Maximum Allowed" MCL is 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.

Maximum Contaminant Level Goal (MCLG) - The "Goal" MCLG is 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. **MCL's are set at very stringent levels. To understand the possible health effects described for many regulated constituents, a person would have to drink 2 liters of water every day at the MCL level for seventy years to have a one-in-a-million chance of having the described health effect.**

Maximum Residual Disinfectant Level (MRDL) - 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.

Maximum Residual Disinfectant Level Goal (MRDLG) - 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 contamination.

Non-Detects (ND) - laboratory analysis indicates that the constituent is not present.

Parts per billion (ppb) or Micrograms per liter - one part per billion corresponds to one minute in 2,000 years, or a single penny in \$10,000,000.

Parts per million (ppm) or Milligrams per liter (mg/l) - one part per million corresponds to one minute in two years or a single penny in \$10,000.

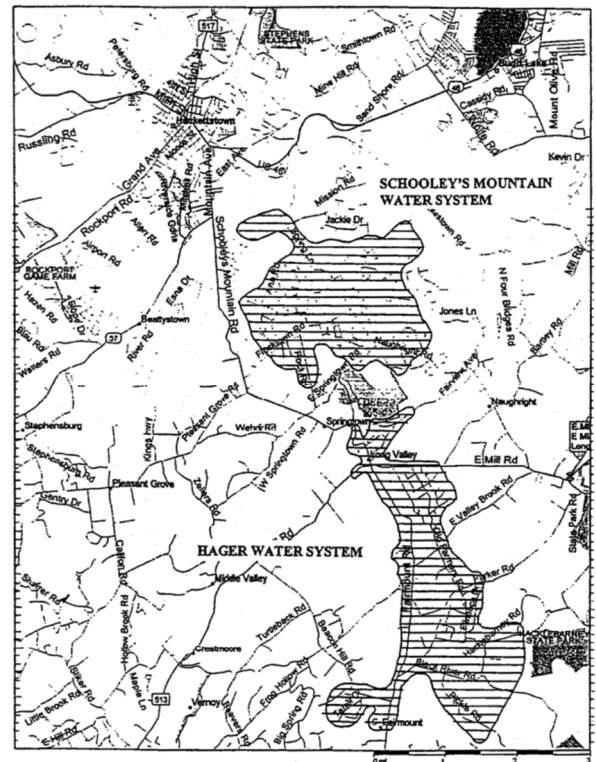
Parts per trillion (ppt) or nanogram per liter - one part per trillion corresponds to one minute in 20,000 years, or a single penny in \$100,000,000.

Picocuries per liter (pCi/L) - picocuries per liter is a measure of the radioactivity in water.

Recommended Upper Limit (RUL) - Recommended maximum concentration of secondary contaminants. RUL's are recommendations, not mandates.

Secondary Contaminant - Substances that do not have an impact on health. Secondary contaminants affect aesthetic qualities such as odor, taste or appearance. Secondary standards are recommendations, not mandates.

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



SUBSTANCES TO BE EXPECTED IN DRINKING 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. It can also 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 be naturally-occurring or result from urban storm water 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 storm water runoff and residential uses.
- **Organic chemical** contaminants, including synthetic and volatile organic chemicals which are byproducts of industrial processes and petroleum production. They can also come from gas stations, urban storm water runoff, and septic systems.
- **Radioactive** contaminants which can be naturally occurring or be the result of oil and gas production and mining activities.

In order to ensure that tap water is safe to drink, EPA prescribes regulations which limit the level 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 indicate that the water poses a health risk. More information about contaminants and potential health effects can be obtained by calling the Environmental Protection Agency's Safe Drinking Water Hotline at 1-800-426-4791.

MONITORING OF THE WATER

The Washington Township MUA routinely monitors for constituents in your drinking water according to Federal and State laws. 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 a monitoring waiver for asbestos.

ADDITIONAL TREATMENT

To ensure the continued quality of our water, we treat it in several ways. All water sources are treated with chemicals to adjust the natural pH of the water and provide disinfection of the source water. We also treat the water supplied to a portion of the Schooley's Mountain water system with polyphosphate to sequester iron and manganese to prevent dirty water and staining of laundry.

SPECIAL CONSIDERATIONS

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

PLEASE SHARE

Please share this information with all the other people who drink this water, especially those who may not have received this notice directly (for example, people in apartments, nursing homes, schools, and businesses). You can do this by posting this notice in a public place or distributing copies by hand or mail.

LANDLORD REPORT DISTRIBUTION REQUIREMENT

If you are a landlord, you must distribute this Drinking Water Quality Report 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 NJ P.L. 2021, c.82 (C.58:12A-12.4 et seq.).

QUESTIONS?

If you have any questions about this Report or concerning your water utility, please contact the WTMUA at 908-876-3145. If you want to learn more, please visit our web site at www.wtmua.org or attend any of our regularly scheduled WTMUA meetings at 46 East Mill Road, Long Valley. Meetings are mostly held on the first and third Wednesday of each month at 7:30 p.m. The public can join in person or remotely of which there are two options; Online Link – Google Meet or by telephone. A complete meeting schedule and information to join the meeting via Google Meet or telephone is posted on our website and the bulletin board outside the offices at 46 East Mill Rd.

WHAT'S IN MY WATER

The following tables show the results of our monitoring. 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, though representative, is more than one year old. We have learned through our monitoring and testing that some constituents have been detected. The EPA has determined that your water is safe at these levels.

Schooley's Mountain Test Results (PWS ID #NJ1438004)

Contaminant	Violation Y/N	Level Detected	Units of Measurement	MCLG	MCL	Likely Source of Contamination
Inorganic Contaminants:						
Antimony Test results Yr. 2024	N	Range = ND – 0.7 Highest detect = 0.7	ppb	6	6	Discharge from petroleum refineries; fire retardants; ceramics; electronics; solder
Barium Test results Yr. 2024	N	Range = 0.01 – 0.06 Highest detect = 0.06	ppm	2	2	Discharge of drilling wastes; discharge from metal refineries; erosion of natural deposits
Chromium Test results Yr. 2024	N	Range = 0.9 – 3.1 Highest detect = 3.1	ppb	100	100	Discharge from steel and pulp mills; erosion of natural deposits
Copper Result at 90 th Percentile Test results Yr. 2024	N	0.14 No samples exceeded the action level. 20 samples taken. Range of detections: (0.04 – 0.17)	ppm	1.3	AL=1.3	Corrosion of household plumbing systems; erosion of natural deposits
Lead Result at 90 th Percentile Test results Yr. 2024	N	ND No samples exceeded the action level. 20 samples taken. Range of detections: (All None Detect)	ppb	0	AL=15	Corrosion of household plumbing systems, erosion of natural deposits
Nitrate (as Nitrogen) Test results Yr. 2025	N	Range = 0.2 – 4.9 Highest detect = 4.9	ppm	10	10	Runoff from fertilizer use; leaching from septic tanks, sewage; erosion of natural deposits
Disinfection Byproducts:						
TTHM Total Trihalomethanes Test results Yr. 2025	N	Range = 1 – 6 Highest detect = 6	ppb	N/A	80	By-product of drinking water disinfection
HAA5 Haloacetic Acids Test results Yr. 2025	N	Range = ND – 3 Highest detect = 3	ppb	N/A	60	By-product of drinking water disinfection
PFAS Per- and Polyfluoroalkyl Substances:						
PFOS Perfluorooctane Sulfonic Acid Test results Yr. 2025	N	Range =ND – 8.2 Highest detect = 8.2 Highest Average = 7.7	ppt	N/A	13	Discharge from industrial, chemical, and manufacturing factories, release of aqueous film forming foam.
PFOA Perfluorooctane Acid Test results Yr. 2025	N	Range = 2.4 – 7.4 Highest detect = 7.4 Highest Average = 6.8	ppt	N/A	14	Discharge from industrial, chemical, and manufacturing factories, release of aqueous film forming foam.
Secondary Contaminant		Level Detected	Units of Measurement		RUL	
Sodium Test results Yr. 2024		Range = 19 – 66	ppm		50	
Manganese Test results Yr. 2024		Range = ND – 67	ppb		50	
Regulated Disinfectants		Level Detected	MRDL		MRDLG	
Chlorine Test results Yr. 2025 Chlorine: Water additive used to control microbes.		Range = 0.5 – 1.0 ppm Average = 0.5 ppm	4.0 ppm		4.0 ppm	

IMPORTANT INFORMATION ABOUT SCHOOLEY'S MOUNTAIN DRINKING WATER

- The Schooley's Mountain System exceeded the secondary Recommended Upper Limit (RUL) for manganese which is based on staining of laundry. Manganese is an essential nutrient, and toxicity is not expected from levels which would be encountered in drinking water. Manganese is a naturally occurring element in soil, groundwater, and some surface waters. Manganese is considered harmless to health however it may give water an off taste or color, cause splotchy yellow stains on laundry, and clog water systems.
- The Schooley's Mountain System slightly exceeded the Recommended Upper Limit for sodium. 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 (RUL) may be of concern to individuals on a sodium restricted diet.

Hager System Test Results (PWSID #NJ1438003)						
Contaminant	Violation Y/N	Level Detected	Units of Measurement	MC LG	MCL	Likely Source of Contamination
Inorganic Contaminants:						
Barium Test results Yr. 2024	N	Range = 0.01 – 0.05 Highest detect = 0.05	ppm	2	2	Discharge of drilling wastes; discharge from metal refineries; erosion of natural deposits
Chromium Test results Yr. 2024	N	Range = 2.6 – 3.5 Highest detect = 3.5	ppb	100	100	Discharge from steel and pulp mills; erosion of natural deposits
Copper Result at 90 th Percentile Test results Yr. 2024	N	0.069 No samples exceeded the action level. 20 samples taken. Range of detections: (ND – 0.077)	ppm	1.3	AL=1.3	Corrosion of household plumbing systems; erosion of natural deposits
Lead Result at 90 th Percentile Test results Yr. 2024	N	ND No samples exceeded the action level. 20 samples taken. Range of detections: (All None Detect)	ppb	0	AL=15	Corrosion of household plumbing systems, erosion of natural deposits
Nitrate (as Nitrogen) Test results Yr. 2025	N	Range = 1.1 – 3.3 Highest detect = 3.3	ppm	10	10	Runoff from fertilizer use; leaching from septic tanks, sewage; erosion of natural deposits
Disinfection Byproducts:						
TTHM Total Trihalomethanes Test results Yr. 2025	N	Range = 6 – 16 Highest detect = 16	ppb	N/A	80	By-product of drinking water disinfection
HAA5 Haloacetic Acids Test results Yr. 2025	N	Range = 2 – 3 Highest detect = 3	ppb	N/A	60	By-product of drinking water disinfection
PFAS Per- and Polyfluoroalkyl Substances:						
PFOS Perfluorooctane Sulfonic Acid Test results Yr. 2025	N	Range = ND – 3.8 Highest detect = 3.8	ppt	N/A	13	Discharge from industrial, chemical, and manufacturing factories, release of aqueous film forming foam
PFOA Perfluorooctane Acid Test results Yr. 2025	N	Range = ND – 4.7 Highest detect = 4.7	ppt	N/A	14	Discharge from industrial, chemical, and manufacturing factories, release of aqueous film forming foam
Secondary Contaminant		Level Detected	Units of Measurement		RUL	
Sodium Test results Yr. 2024		Range = 14 – 55	ppm		50	
Regulated Disinfectants		Level Detected	MRDL		MRDLG	
Chlorine Test results Yr. 2025		Range = 0.4 – 1.0 ppm Average = 0.7 ppm	4.0 ppm		4.0 ppm	

IMPORTANT INFORMATION ABOUT HAGER SYSTEM DRINKING WATER

- **The Hager System slightly exceeded the Recommended Upper Limit for sodium. 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 (RUL) may be of concern to individuals on a sodium restricted diet.**
- **Our water system recently violated drinking water standards. Although this was not an emergency, as our customers, you have a right to know what happened and what we did to correct this situation. We are required to monitor your drinking water for specific contaminants on a regular basis. Results of regular monitoring are an indicator of whether or not our drinking water meets health standards.**

NOV#21344:

What happened? During the period of December 1, 2025, to December 31, 2025, we were required to collect 4 samples for chlorine disinfectant residuals but only submitted 2 samples to the New Jersey Department of Environmental Protection and received a Notice of Violation (NOV#21344). Therefore, we could not monitor the quality of your drinking water for that specific period.

What should I do? There is nothing you need to do at this time. You do not need to boil your water or take other corrective actions.

What does this mean? This is not an emergency. If it had been, you would have been notified within 24 hours. Monitoring violations do not usually have direct health effects, but the oversight prevents us from confirming disinfectant levels in the distribution system during that timeframe.

What is being done? Since this violation occurred, our system has been in compliance since 2/27/2026. We have updated our monitoring schedule and internal reporting procedures to ensure all required samples are collected and submitted to the Department on time in the future.

NOV#21342:

What happened? During the period of December 1, 2025, to December 31, 2025, we were required to collect 4 samples for *Escherichia coli* (*E. coli*) but only submitted 2 samples to the New Jersey Department of Environmental Protection and received a Notice of Violation (NOV#21342). Therefore, we could not monitor the quality of your drinking water for that specific period.

What should I do? There is nothing you need to do at this time. You do not need to boil your water or take other corrective actions.

What does this mean? This is not an emergency. If it had been, you would have been notified within 24 hours. Monitoring violations do not usually have direct health effects, but the oversight prevents us from confirming the presence or absence of *E. coli* in the distribution system during that timeframe.

What is being done? Since this violation occurred, our system has returned to compliance. We have reviewed our monitoring requirements and updated our internal sampling schedule to ensure all required *E. coli* samples are collected and submitted to the Bureau of Safe Drinking Water via the E2 Reporting System in the future.

NOV#21341

What happened? For the monitoring period of July 1, 2025, to September 30, 2025, we inadvertently did not report Di(2-ethylhexyl) adipate samples to the New Jersey Department of Environmental Protection and received a Notice of Violation (NOV#21341).

What should I do? There is nothing you need to do at this time. You do not need to boil your water or take other corrective actions.

What does this mean? This is not an emergency. If it had been, you would have been notified within 24 hours. Monitoring violations do not usually have direct health effects, but the oversight prevents us from confirming the levels of Di(2-ethylhexyl) adipate in the water during that specific timeframe.

What is being done? The issue has since been corrected. We have worked with our laboratory to ensure the correct testing parameters are used for all future synthetic organic compound monitoring. Our system has returned to compliance, and we have updated our internal tracking to ensure all required results are submitted to the Bureau of Safe Drinking Water via the E2 Reporting System on schedule.

IMPORTANT INFORMATION ABOUT YOUR DRINKING WATER REPORTING

Reporting requirements not met for Washington Twp MUA-Hager and Washington Twp MUA-Schooley’s Mountain:

What happened? Our water system recently violated New Jersey drinking water requirements. Even though this was not an emergency, as our customers, you have a right to know what happened and what we are doing to correct this situation. We were required to submit a Lead Service Line Inventory, a Lead Service Line Replacement Plan, and a Lead Service Line Replacement Progress Report to the State by July 11, 2025. We inadvertently did not submit these documents by the required deadline and received Notices of Violation (Schooley’s Mountain: #11720, #11721 and #11722 - Hager: #21345, #21346 and #21347).

What does this mean? These are reporting violations; it is not an emergency, and there is nothing you need to do at this time.

- The Inventory is a record of the materials used in the service lines that deliver water to your home.
- The Replacement Plan outlines how we will remove and replace lead service lines over time.
- The Progress Report tracks our actual replacement activity.

What do I need to do? You do not need to boil your water or take other corrective actions.

What is being done? We are working with our engineering company to complete the above-mentioned reports for electronic submission to NJDEP.

UNREGULATED CONTAMINANTS

Unregulated contaminants are those for which the EPA has not established drinking water standards. The purpose of unregulated contaminant monitoring is to assist the EPA in determining the occurrence of unregulated contaminants in drinking water and whether future regulation is warranted.

RADON: In addition to monitoring for the constituents required by federal and state regulations, we monitored for radon in our source water supplies during 2006. We detected radon in the finished water supply at all but one of our source water supplies. There is no federal regulation for radon levels in drinking water. Of greater concern than the radon in the concentrations detected in the WTMUA’s source water supplies is the radon detected in indoor air. Radon entering the home through tap water will in most cases be a small source of radon in indoor air. Exposure to air transmitted radon over a long period of time may cause adverse health effects. If you are concerned about radon in your home, test the air in your home. Testing is inexpensive and easy. The Washington Township Health Department has radon test kits for purchase. You can contact them at 908-876-3650. For additional information, call the EPA’s Radon Hotline (800-55RADON) or NJDEP Radon Section (800-648-0394).

We have detected radon in the finished water supply

Non-Regulated Substance	Level Detected	Units	Likely Source
Radon	Range = ND – 2320	PCi/L	Erosion of natural deposits

PFOA AND PFOS: Perfluorooctanoic acid (PFOA) and perfluorooctane sulfonate (PFOS) are per- and polyfluoroalkyl substances (PFAS), previously referred to as perfluorinated compounds, or PFCs, that are man-made and used in industrial and commercial applications. PFOA was used as a processing aid in the manufacture of fluoropolymers used in non-stick cookware and other products, as well as other commercial and industrial uses based on its resistance to harsh chemicals and high temperatures. PFOS is used in metal plating and finishing as well as in various commercial products. PFOS was previously used as a major ingredient in aqueous film forming foams for firefighting and training, and PFOA and PFOS are found in consumer products such as stain resistant coatings for upholstery and carpets, water resistant outdoor clothing, and grease proof food packaging. Although the use of PFOA and PFOS has decreased substantially, contamination is expected to continue indefinitely because these substances are extremely persistent in the environment and are soluble and mobile in water. More information can be found at: [https://www.state.nj.us/dep/wms/bears/docs/2019-4-15-FAQs_PFOA-PFOS-websites-OLA%204-24-19SDM-\(003\).pdf](https://www.state.nj.us/dep/wms/bears/docs/2019-4-15-FAQs_PFOA-PFOS-websites-OLA%204-24-19SDM-(003).pdf)

Unregulated PFAS Per- and Polyfluoroalkyl Substances / Schooley's Mountain (PWS ID #NJ1438004):						
Contaminant:	Violation Y/N	Level Detected	Units of Measurement	MC LG	MCL	Likely Source of Contamination
PFBS Perfluorobutanesulfonic Acid Test results Yr. 2025	N	Range = ND – 3.6 Highest detect = 3.6 Highest Annual Average = 2.7	ppt	N/A	N/A	Discharge from industrial, chemical, and manufacturing factories, release of aqueous film forming foam.
PFHPA Perfluoroheptanoic Acid Test results Yr. 2025	N	Range = ND – 2.8 Highest detect = 2.8 Highest Annual Average = 1.2	ppt	N/A	N/A	
PFHXA Perfluorohexanoic Acid Test results Yr. 2025	N	Range = ND – 3.1 Highest detect = 3.1 Highest Annual Average = 1.9	ppt	N/A	N/A	

Unregulated PFAS Per- and Polyfluoroalkyl Substances / Hager System (PWSID #NJ1438003):						
Contaminant:	Violation Y/N	Level Detected	Units of Measurement	MC LG	MCL	Likely Source of Contamination
PFBS Perfluorobutanesulfonic Acid Test results Yr. 2025	N	Range = ND – 2 Highest detect = 2	ppt	N/A	N/A	Discharge from industrial, chemical, and manufacturing factories, release of aqueous film forming foam.

HEALTH EFFECTS

Inorganic Contaminants

- Lead:**

Sources Of Lead in Drinking Water

The Washington Township Municipal Utilities Authority is responsible for providing high quality drinking water but cannot control the variety of materials used in plumbing components. Although most lead exposure occurs from inhaling dust or from contaminated soil, or when children eat paint chips, the U.S. Environmental Protection Agency (USEPA) estimates that 10 to 20 percent of human exposure to lead may come from lead in drinking water. Infants who consume mostly mixed formula can receive 40 percent to 60 percent of their exposure to lead from drinking water. Lead is rarely found in the source of your drinking water but enters tap water through corrosion, or wearing away, of materials containing lead in the water distribution system and household plumbing materials. These materials include lead-based solder used to join copper pipes, brass, and chrome-brass faucets, and in some cases, service lines made of or lined with lead. New brass faucets, fittings, and valves, including those advertised as “lead-free”, may still contain a small percentage of lead, and contribute lead to drinking water. The law currently allows end-use brass fixtures, such as faucets, with up to 0.25 percent lead to be labeled as “lead free”. However, prior to January 4, 2014, “lead free” allowed up to 8 percent lead content of the wetted surfaces of plumbing products including those labeled National Sanitation Foundation (NSF) certified. Visit the NSF website at www.nsf.org to learn more about lead-containing plumbing fixtures. Consumers should be aware of this when choosing fixtures and take appropriate precautions. When water stands in lead service lines, lead pipes, or plumbing systems containing lead for several hours or more, the lead may dissolve into your drinking water. This means the first water drawn from the tap in the morning, or later in the afternoon if the water has not been used all day, can contain fairly high levels of lead.

Steps You Can Take to Reduce Exposure to Lead in Drinking Water

For a full list of steps visit: <https://www.state.nj.us/dep/watersupply/dwc-lead-consumer.html>

Run the cold water to flush out lead. Let the water run from the tap before using it for drinking or cooking any time the water in the faucet has gone unused for more than six hours. The longer the water resides in plumbing the more lead it may contain. Flushing the tap means running the cold-water faucet. Let the water run from the cold-water tap based on the length of the lead service line and the plumbing configuration in your home. In other words, the larger the home or building and the greater the distance to the water main (in the street), the more water it will take to flush properly. Although toilet flushing or showering flushes water through a portion of the plumbing system, you still need to flush the water in each faucet before using it for drinking or cooking. Flushing tap water is a simple and inexpensive measure you can take to protect your health. It usually uses less than one gallon of water.

Use cold, flushed water for cooking and preparing baby formula. Because lead from lead-containing plumbing materials and pipes can dissolve into hot water more easily than cold water, never drink, cook, or prepare beverages including baby formula using hot water from the tap. If you have not had your water sampled or if you know, it is recommended that bottled or filtered water be used for drinking and preparing baby formula. If you need hot water, draw water from the cold tap and then heat it.

Do not boil water to remove lead. Boiling water will not reduce lead; however, it is still safe to wash dishes and do laundry. Lead will not soak into dishware or most clothes.

Use alternative sources or treatment of water. You may want to consider purchasing bottled water or a water filter. Read the package to be sure the filter is approved to reduce lead or contact NSF International at 800-NSF-8010 or www.nsf.org for information on performance standards for water filters.

Determine if you have interior lead plumbing or solder. If your home/building was constructed prior to 1987, it is important to determine if interior lead solder or lead pipes are present. You can check yourself, hire a licensed plumber, or check with your landlord.

Replace plumbing fixtures and service lines containing lead. Replace brass faucets, fittings, and valves that do not meet the current definition of “lead free” from 2014 (as explained above). Visit the NSF website at www.nsf.org to learn more about lead-containing plumbing fixtures.

Remove and clean aerators/screens on plumbing fixtures. Over time, particles and sediment can collect in the aerator screen. Regularly remove and clean aerators screens located at the tip of faucets and remove any particles.

Test your water for lead. Please call the Washington Township Health Department at 908-876-3650 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.

Get your child tested. Contact your local health department or healthcare provider to find out how you can get your child tested for lead if you are concerned about lead exposure. New Jersey law requires that children be tested for lead in their blood at both 1 and 2 years of age and before they are 6 years old if they have never been tested before or if they have been exposed to a known source of lead.

Have an electrician check your wiring. If grounding wires from the electrical system are attached to your pipes, corrosion may be greater. Check with a licensed electrician or your local electrical code to determine if your wiring can be grounded elsewhere. DO NOT attempt to change the wiring yourself because improper grounding can cause electrical shock and fire hazards.

Water softeners and reverse osmosis units will remove lead from water but can also make the water more corrosive to lead solder and plumbing by removing certain minerals; therefore, the installation of these treatment units at the point of entry into homes with lead plumbing should only be done under supervision of a qualified water treatment professional.

Health Effects of Lead

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. The Washington Township Municipal Utilities Authority 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, 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 the Washington Township Health Department at 908-876-3650. For information on lead in drinking water, testing methods, and steps you can take to minimize exposure is available at <http://www.epa.gov/safewater/lead>.

Exposure to lead in drinking water can cause serious health effects in all age groups. Infants and children can have decreases in IQ and attention span. Lead exposure can lead to new learning and behavior problems or exacerbate existing learning and behavior problems. The children of women who are exposed to lead before or during pregnancy can have increased risk of these adverse health effects. Adults can have increased risks of heart disease, high blood pressure, kidney or nervous system problems.

In July 2021, P.L.2021, Ch.183 (Law) was enacted, requiring all community water systems to replace lead service lines in their service area within 10 years. Under the law, the Washington Township Municipal Utilities Authority is required to notify customers, non-paying consumers, and any off-site owner of a property (e.g., landlord) when it is known they are served by a lead service line*. Our service line inventory is available upon request.

• **Nitrate:**

Nitrate 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

Secondary Contaminants

- **Iron:** Aesthetic and cosmetic effects only.
- **Manganese:** Aesthetic and cosmetic effects only.
- **Sodium:** For healthy individuals, sodium intake from water is not critical because a much greater intake of sodium is due to salt in the diet. However, sodium levels above the recommended upper limit may be of concern to individuals on sodium restricted diets.

PROTECTION OF WATER RESOURCES

The New Jersey Department of Environmental Protection has completed and issued the Source Water Assessment Reports and Summaries for these public water systems, which are available at <https://www.nj.gov/dep/watersupply/swap/index.html> or by contacting NJDEP's Bureau of Safe Drinking Water at (609) 292-5550. The source water assessment performed on our sources determined the following which is illustrated in the table below. This table shows the susceptibility ratings for the seven contaminant categories (and radon) for each source in our systems. The table provides the number of wells that rated high (H), medium (M), or low (L) for each contaminant category. The seven contaminant categories are defined below the tables.

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 to install treatment if any contaminants are detected at frequencies and concentrations above allowable levels.

SCHOOLEY'S MOUNTAIN WATER SYSTEM																								
	Pathogens			Nutrients			Pesticides			Organic			Inorganics			Radionuclides			Radon			Disinfection Byproduct Precursors		
Susceptibility Rating	H	M	L	H	M	L	H	M	L	H	M	L	H	M	L	H	M	L	H	M	L	H	M	L
Number of Wells	1	1	6	6	1	1		3	5			8			8	1	6	1	7	1			8	

HAGAR WATER SYSTEM																								
	Pathogens			Nutrients			Pesticides			Organic			Inorganics			Radionuclides			Radon			Disinfection Byproduct Precursors		
Susceptibility Rating	H	M	L	H	M	L	H	M	L	H	M	L	H	M	L	H	M	L	H	M	L	H	M	L
Number of Wells	1	5		4	2			2	4			6			6	2	4		6			2	4	

- **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 man-made. Examples include nitrogen and phosphorus.
- **Volatile Organic Compounds:** Man-made chemicals used as solvents, degreasers, and gasoline components. Examples include benzene, methyl tertiary butyl ether (MTBE), and vinyl chloride.
- **Pesticides:** Man-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 man-made. Examples include arsenic, asbestos, copper, lead, and nitrate.
- **Radionuclides:** Radioactive substances that are both naturally occurring and man-made. Examples include radium and uranium.
- **Radon:** Colorless, odorless, cancer-causing gas that occurs naturally in the environment. For more information go to: <http://www.nj.gov/dep/rpp/radon/index.htm> or call (800) 648-0394.
- **Disinfection Byproduct Precursors:** A common source is naturally occurring organic matter in surface water. Disinfection byproducts are found when the disinfectants (usually chlorine) used to kill pathogens react with dissolved organic material (for example leaves) present in surface water.