

ANNUAL WATER QUALITY REPORT

Reporting Year 2024



Presented By
Montclair Water Bureau

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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 sources 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?

The Township of Montclair and the Borough of Glen Ridge obtain their water from the North Jersey District Water Supply Commission (NJDWSC). The Township of Montclair and Borough of Glen Ridge are partners in NJDWSC, which owns and operates the 29.6-billion-gallon Wanaque Reservoir and Treatment Plant and the 7-billion-gallon Monksville Reservoir. The Borough of Glen Ridge has three interconnections with Montclair through which it receives its water supply. The water is received by the Township of Montclair through its Grove Street Pumping Station and pumped throughout Montclair. The Montclair system also includes three municipal wells, one in each of the three pressure zones. The Glenfield and Lorraine wells ran in the spring and summer of 2024 with carbon absorbers. The Rand well will be updated with carbon absorbers in the near future. No wells will operate without carbon treatment.

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.

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

Level 1 Assessment Update

Coliforms are bacteria that are naturally present in the environment and are used as an indicator that other, potentially harmful, waterborne pathogens may be present or that a potential pathway exists through which contamination may enter the drinking water distribution system. We found coliforms, indicating the need to look for potential problems in water treatment or distribution. When this occurs, we are required to conduct assessments to identify problems and correct any problems that were found during these assessments.

During the past year, we were required to conduct one Level 1 assessment. One Level 1 assessment was completed. In addition, we were required to take corrective actions, and we completed one of these actions.

Tap vs. Bottled

Thanks in part to aggressive marketing, the bottled water industry has successfully convinced us all that water purchased in bottles is a healthier alternative to tap water. However, according to a four-year study conducted by the Natural Resources Defense Council (NRDC), bottled water is not necessarily cleaner or safer than most tap water. In fact, about 40 percent of bottled water is actually just tap water, according to government estimates.

The Food and Drug Administration (FDA) is responsible for regulating bottled water, but these rules allow for less rigorous testing and purity standards than those required by the U.S. EPA for community tap water. For instance, the high mineral content of some bottled waters makes them unsuitable for babies and young children. Further, the FDA completely exempts bottled water that's packaged and sold within the same state, which accounts for about 70 percent of all bottled water sold in the United States.

People spend 10,000 times more per gallon for bottled water than they typically do for tap water. If you get your recommended eight glasses a day from bottled water, you could spend up to \$1,400 annually. The same amount of tap water would cost about 49 cents. Even if you installed a filter device on your tap, your annual expenditure would be far less than what you'd pay for bottled water. For a detailed discussion on the NRDC study results, visit goo.gl/Jxb6xG.

QUESTIONS? For more information about this report, or for any questions relating to your drinking water, please call Michael Primavera, Director of Utilities, at (973) 744-4600.

Source Water Assessment

A 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 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.

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 through land acquisition, stormwater drain protection, or hazardous waste collection programs.

SOURCES	Pathogens			Nutrients			Pesticides			Volatile Organic Compounds			Inorganics			Radionuclides			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	
Wells - 3		3			3				3	3				3				3						3	
GUDI - 0																									
Surface Water Intakes - 0																									
NJDWSC - 5	5			5			2	3		5	5					5			5	5					

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.



We are 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. 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, 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 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 accessed at montclairnjsa.org. Please contact us if you would like more information about the inventory or any lead sampling that has been done.

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 is not hard to conserve water. Here are a few tips:

- Automatic dishwashers use three to six 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.

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 (973) 744-4600 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 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 at (800) 426-4791.

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.

Level 1 Assessment: A Level 1 assessment is a study of the water system to identify potential problems and determine (if possible) why total coliform bacteria have been found in our water system.

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).

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.

TON (Threshold Odor Number): A measure of odor in water.

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



REGULATED SUBSTANCES ¹									
				Montclair		North Jersey District Water Supply Commission			
SUBSTANCE (UNIT OF MEASURE)	YEAR SAMPLED	MCL [MRDL]	MCLG [MRDLG]	AMOUNT DETECTED	RANGE LOW-HIGH	AMOUNT DETECTED	RANGE LOW-HIGH	VIOLATION	TYPICAL SOURCE
Alkalinity (ppm)	2024	NA	NA	181	22–340	32.0	NA	No	Naturally present in the environment
Alpha Emitters (pCi/L)	2022	15	0	11.1	NA	NA	NA	No	Erosion of natural deposits
Antimony (ppb)	2024	6	6	NA	NA	0.637	ND–0.637	No	Discharge from petroleum refineries; Fire retardants; Ceramics; Electronics; Solder
Arsenic (ppb)	2023	5	0	1.99	1.56–2.42	NA	NA	No	Erosion of natural deposits; Runoff from orchards; Runoff from glass and electronics production wastes
Barium (ppm)	2023	2	2	0.315	0.285–0.345	0.00577 ²	ND–0.00577 ²	No	Discharge of drilling wastes; Discharge from metal refineries; Erosion of natural deposits
Chlorine (ppm)	2024	[4]	[4]	0.93	0.12–1.74	2.15	0.72–3.58	No	Water additive used to control microbes
Chromium (ppb)	2023	100	100	0.917	0.909–0.925	NA	NA	No	Discharge from steel and pulp mills; Erosion of natural deposits
Fluoride (ppm)	2023	4	4	<0.25	NA	NA	NA	No	Erosion of natural deposits; Water additive that promotes strong teeth; Discharge from fertilizer and aluminum factories
Gross Alpha Emitters (pCi/L)	2022	15	0	11.1	NA	NA	NA	No	Erosion of natural deposits
Haloacetic Acids [HAAs] (ppb)	2024	60	NA	35.7	18.33–53.0	22	18.6–25.4	No	By-product of drinking water disinfection
Nitrate (ppm)	2024	10	10	2.83	2.5–3.16	0.119	ND–0.119	No	Runoff from fertilizer use; Leaching from septic tanks, sewage; Erosion of natural deposits
Perfluorononanoic Acid [PFNA] (ppt)	2024	13	NA	<2	NA	<2	NA	No	Discharge from industrial chemical factories
Perfluorooctanoic Acid [PFOA] (ppt)	2024	14	NA	<2	NA	3.63	ND–3.63	No	Used in the production of Teflon, firefighting foams, cleaners, cosmetics, greases and lubricants, paints, polishes, adhesives, and photographic films
Selenium (ppb)	2023	50	50	2.79	2.3–3.27	NA	NA	No	Discharge from petroleum and metal refineries; Erosion of natural deposits; Discharge from mines
Total Coliform Bacteria (positive samples)	2024	TT	NA	0	NA	0	NA	No	Naturally present in the environment
Total Coliform Bacteria (percent positive samples)	2024	<5% of monthly total sample	NA	0.00	NA	0.00	NA	No	Naturally present in the environment
Total Organic Carbon [TOC] (percent removal)	2024	TT	NA	NA	NA	1.2	1.0-1.5	No	Naturally present in the environment
TTHMs [total trihalomethanes] (ppb)	2024	80	NA	40.4	25.5–55.34	26.2	23.5–28.8	No	By-product of drinking water disinfection
Turbidity ³ (NTU)	2024	TT	NA	NA	NA	0.061	0.015-0.619	No	Soil runoff
Turbidity (lowest monthly percent of samples meeting limit)	2024	TT = 95% of samples meet the limit	NA	NA	NA	99.98	NA	No	Soil runoff

REGULATED SUBSTANCES ¹

				Glen Ridge			
SUBSTANCE (UNIT OF MEASURE)	YEAR SAMPLED	MCL [MRDL]	MCLG [MRDLG]	AMOUNT DETECTED	RANGE LOW-HIGH	VIOLATION	TYPICAL SOURCE
Alkalinity (ppm)	2024	NA	NA	NA	NA	No	Naturally present in the environment
Alpha Emitters (pCi/L)	2022	15	0	NA	NA	No	Erosion of natural deposits
Antimony (ppb)	2024	6	6	NA	NA	No	Discharge from petroleum refineries; Fire retardants; Ceramics; Electronics; Solder
Arsenic (ppb)	2023	5	0	NA	NA	No	Erosion of natural deposits; Runoff from orchards; Runoff from glass and electronics production wastes
Barium (ppm)	2023	2	2	NA	NA	No	Discharge of drilling wastes; Discharge from metal refineries; Erosion of natural deposits
Chlorine (ppm)	2024	[4]	[4]	0.65	0.20–1.09	No	Water additive used to control microbes
Chromium (ppb)	2023	100	100	NA	NA	No	Discharge from steel and pulp mills; Erosion of natural deposits
Fluoride (ppm)	2023	4	4	NA	NA	No	Erosion of natural deposits; Water additive that promotes strong teeth; Discharge from fertilizer and aluminum factories
Gross Alpha Emitters (pCi/L)	2022	15	0	NA	NA	No	Erosion of natural deposits
Haloacetic Acids [HAAs] (ppb)	2024	60	NA	32.7	13.3–52.0	No	By-product of drinking water disinfection
Nitrate (ppm)	2024	10	10	NA	NA	No	Runoff from fertilizer use; Leaching from septic tanks, sewage; Erosion of natural deposits
Perfluorononanoic Acid [PFNA] (ppt)	2024	13	NA	NA	NA	No	Discharge from industrial chemical factories
Perfluorooctanoic Acid [PFOA] (ppt)	2024	14	NA	NA	NA	No	Used in the production of Teflon, firefighting foams, cleaners, cosmetics, greases and lubricants, paints, polishes, adhesives, and photographic films
Selenium (ppb)	2023	50	50	NA	NA	No	Discharge from petroleum and metal refineries; Erosion of natural deposits; Discharge from mines
Total Coliform Bacteria (positive samples)	2024	TT	NA	2	NA	No	Naturally present in the environment
Total Coliform Bacteria (percent positive samples)	2024	<5% of monthly total sample	NA	0	NA	No	Naturally present in the environment
Total Organic Carbon [TOC] (percent removal)	2024	TT	NA	NA	NA	No	Naturally present in the environment
TTHMs [total trihalomethanes] (ppb)	2024	80	NA	42.7	28.3–57.0	No	By-product of drinking water disinfection
Turbidity³ (NTU)	2024	TT	NA	NA	NA	No	Soil runoff
Turbidity (lowest monthly percent of samples meeting limit)	2024	TT = 95% of samples meet the limit	NA	NA	NA	No	Soil runoff

Tap water samples were collected for lead and copper analyses from sample sites throughout the community												
				Montclair			North Jersey District Water Supply Commission					
Substance (Unit of Measure)	Year Sampled	AL	MCLG	Amount Detected (90th %ile)	Range Low-High	Sites Above AL/Total Sites	Amount Detected (90th %ile)	Range Low-High	Sites Above AL/Total Sites	Violation	Typical Source	
Copper (ppm)	2024	1.3	1.3	0.0785	<0.05–0.0912	0/30	0.112	ND–0.145	0/5	No	Corrosion of household plumbing systems; Erosion of natural deposits	
Lead (ppb)	2024	15	0	0.4301	0.4301–18.4	1/30	2.3	ND–0.00248	0/5	No	Lead service lines; Corrosion of household plumbing systems including fittings and fixtures; Erosion of natural deposits	
				Glen Ridge								
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	0.0727 ⁴	<0.04–0.925	0/33 ⁴	No	Corrosion of household plumbing systems; Erosion of natural deposits				
Lead (ppb)	2024	15	0	2.1 ⁴	<0.01–4.87	0/33 ⁴	No	Lead service lines; Corrosion of household plumbing systems including fittings and fixtures; Erosion of natural deposits				
SECONDARY SUBSTANCES												
					Montclair		North Jersey District Water Supply Commission		Glen Ridge			
Substance (Unit of Measure)	Year Sampled	RUL	MCLG	Amount Detected	Range Low-High	Amount Detected	Range Low-High	Amount Detected	Range Low-High	Violation	Typical Source	
ABS/L.A.S. (ppm)	2023	500	NA	<0.08	NA	<0.05 ²	NA	NA	NA	No	Common major components of synthetic detergents	
Aluminum (ppb)	2023	200	NA	<40	NA	18.7 ²	NA	NA	NA	No	Erosion of natural deposits; Residual from some surface water treatment processes	
Chloride (ppm)	2023	250	NA	157	156–158	33.8 ²	NA	NA	NA	No	Runoff/leaching from natural deposits	
Color (units)	2023	10	NA	<3	NA	2.0 ²	NA	NA	NA	No	Naturally occurring organic materials	
Copper (ppm)	2024	1.0	NA	0.047	0.0029–0.0912	0.0218	NA	NA	NA	No	Corrosion of household plumbing systems; Erosion of natural deposits	
Corrosivity (ppm)	2023	Non-corrosive	NA	0.055	0.035-0.074	NA	NA	NA	NA	No	Natural or industrially influenced balance of hydrogen, carbon, and oxygen affected by temperature and other factors	
Hardness [as CaCO3] (ppm)	2023	250	NA	350	342–360	52 ²	NA	NA	NA	No	Naturally occurring	
Iron (ppb)	2024	300	NA	<0.2	NA	<0.2	NA	NA	NA	No	Leaching from natural deposits; Industrial wastes	
Manganese (ppb)	2024	50	NA	<0.01	NA	<0.002	NA	NA	NA	No	Leaching from natural deposits	
Odor (TON)	2023	3	NA	1.5	1–2	<1 ²	NA	NA	NA	No	Naturally occurring organic materials	
pH (units)	2024	6.5-8.5	NA	7.51	6.85–8.17	7.93	6.5–8.5	NA	NA	No	Naturally occurring	
Sodium (ppm)	2023	50	NA	34	33.5–34.4	22.6 ²	NA	NA	NA	No	Naturally occurring	
Sulfate (ppm)	2023	250	NA	24.2	21.8–26.6	6.14 ²	NA	NA	NA	No	Runoff/leaching from natural deposits; Industrial wastes	
Total Dissolved Solids (ppm)	2023	500	NA	547	539–555	80 ²	NA	NA	NA	No	Runoff/leaching from natural deposits	
Zinc (ppm)	2023	5	NA	<0.04	NA	<0.01 ²	NA	NA	NA	No	Runoff/leaching from natural deposits; Industrial wastes	

UNREGULATED SUBSTANCES

SUBSTANCE (UNIT OF MEASURE)	YEAR SAMPLED	Montclair		North Jersey Water Supply Commission (NJDWSC)		Glen Ridge		TYPICAL SOURCE
		AMOUNT DETECTED	RANGE LOW-HIGH	AMOUNT DETECTED	RANGE LOW-HIGH	AMOUNT DETECTED	RANGE LOW-HIGH	
11-Chloroicosafuoro-3-Oxaundecane-1-Sulfonic Acid [11Cl-PF3OUdS] (ppb)	2024	<0.00194	<0.00185–<0.00203	<0.00184	NA	NA	NA	Used as a solvent, food additive, and in production of other chemicals
Perfluorobutanesulfonic Acid [PFBS] (ppb)	2024	<0.00194	<0.00185–<0.00203	<0.00184	NA	NA	NA	NA
Perfluorobutanoic Acid [PFBA] (ppb)	2024	0.0081	0.0075–0.0086	NA	NA	NA	NA	NA
Perfluorodecanoic Acid [PFDA] (ppb)	2024	<0.00194	<0.00185–<0.00203	<0.00184	NA	NA	NA	NA

¹ Under a waiver granted on December 30, 1998, by the 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 Sampled in 2024.

³ Turbidity is a measure of the cloudiness of the water. We monitor it because it is a good indicator of the effectiveness of our filtration system. The turbidity rule requires that 95% or more of the monthly samples must be less than or equal to 0.3 NTU (no sample may exceed 1 NTU).

⁴ Sampled in 2022.

