AQUA℠

An Essential Utilities Company

2024 Califon System Water Quality Report*
PWSID#: NJ1004001

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

About Your Drinking Water

Aqua New Jersey (Aqua) is pleased to provide you with important information about your drinking water in this 2024 Consumer Confidence Report. The report summarizes the quality of water provided in 2024 - including details about water sources, what the water at your tap contains, and how it compares to standards set by regulatory agencies. We are pleased to report that we were in compliance with all water quality regulations (MCL/AL) in 2024. Although the report lists only those regulated substances that were detected in your water, we test for more than what is reported. This report is only a summary of our testing during 2024.

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 microbial contaminants are available from the Safe Drinking Water Hotline at 800.426.4791.

Contaminant	Year Sampled	MCL	MCLG	Range Detected	Highest Level Detected	Compliance Achieved	Typical Source
Inorganic Contaminants							
Barium (ppm)	2024	2	2	ND - 0.014	0.014	Yes	Erosion of natural deposits
Nitrate (ppm)	2024	10	10	ND – 2.1	2.1	Yes	Runoff from fertilizer use; leaching from septic tanks, sewage; erosion of natural deposits
Fluoride (ppm)	2024	4	4	0.12 - 0.16	0.16	Yes	Erosion of natural deposits
Disinfectants - The range is for all individual sample results. The highest level detected is the highest RAA.							
Chlorine (ppm)	2024	MRDL = 4	MRDLG = 4	1.03 – 2.08	1.60	Yes	Water additive used to control microbes
Volatile Organics – All values are in ppb.							
Xylenes (total) (ppb)	2024	1,000	1,000	0.7	0.7	Yes	Discharge from petroleum factories; discharge from chemical factories
Treatment By-products - Range is for individual sample results. Highest Level Detected is highest LRAA for all sample locations.							
TTHMs [Total Trihalomethanes] (ppb)	2024	80	NA	2.5	2.5	Yes	By-product of drinking water chlorination
Haloacetic Acids [HAAs] (ppb)	2024	60	NA	1.1	1.1	Yes	By-product of drinking water disinfection
PFAs – All values are in ppt. The range is for all individual sample results. The highest level detected is the highest RAA.							
PFOA (ppt)	2024	14	14	ND – 3.2	3.2	Yes	Perfluorinated aliphatic carboxylic acid; used for its emulsifier and surfactant properties in or as fluoropolymer (such as Teflon), Fire-Fighting foams, cleaners, cosmetics, greases and lubricants, paints, polishes, adhesives, and photographic films.

Aqua New Jersey - Califon System, PWSID#: NJ1004001

Fluoride: Fluoride may help prevent tooth decay if administered properly to children but can be harmful in excess. Customers in this System receive water from unfluoridated supplies. For more information about fluoride in your tap water, call Aqua at 877.WTR.AQUA (877.987.2782). This information may be helpful to you, your pediatrician, or your dentist in determining whether fluoride supplements or treatment are appropriate.

Secondary Contaminants	Year Sampled	Recommended Upper Limit (RUL)	Range Detected	Highest Level Detected	Typical Source
Iron (ppm)	2024	RUL = 0.3	0.033 – 0.21	0.21	Erosion of natural deposits
Hardness (ppm)	2024	RUL = 250	82 – 118	118	
Manganese (ppm)	2024	RUL = 0.05	<0.01 – 0.02	0.02	
Sodium (ppm)	2024	RUL = 50	15.8 – 18.1	18.1	Erosion of natural deposits; use of sodium containing water treatment chemicals

Tap water samples were collected from homes in the service area for lead and copper testing.

Contaminant	Year Sampled	Action Level	MCLG	Amount Detected (90th percentile)	Homes Above Action Level	Range of tap sampling results	Compliance Achieved	Typical Source
January – June 2024								
Copper (ppm)	2024	1.3	1.3	0.39	0	ND – 0.45	Yes	Corrosion of household plumbing
Lead (ppb)	2024	15	0	0	1	ND – 45	Yes	
July – December 2024								
Copper (ppm)	2024	1.3	1.3	0.25	0	ND – 0.39	Yes	Corrosion of household plumbing
Lead (ppb)	2024	15	0	0	1	ND - 29	Yes	

Lead can cause serious health problems, especially for pregnant women and young children. 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.

Lead in drinking water is primarily from materials and components associated with service lines and home plumbing. Aqua NJ 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 AquaNJ_Lead@aquaamerica.com. 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*. Aqua NJ has prepared a Service Line Inventory and it is available at www.aquawater.com/leadmap.

Testing is essential because you cannot see, taste or smell lead in drinking water. *If lead was detected, the 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 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.).*

Violation(s):
2024-4090 & 2025-4093: Lead Consumer Notice – Aqua NJ submitted the Lead Copper Reporting form to the NJDEP after the required deadline. All sampling and consumer notices were completed in a timely manner. There is no further action for this violation.

2024-4092: Follow-up or Routine Tap M/R - All samples were collected in a timely manner, but due to an issue with the certified lab, the NJDEP did not receive the results by the required due date. Aqua NJ is working with the certified lab to ensure that all samples are uploaded in a timely fashion.

Definitions:

- **Action Level (AL):** The concentration of a contaminant which, if exceeded, triggers treatment or other requirements which a water system must follow.
- **Locational Running Annual Average (LRAA):** The average of sample analytical results for samples taken at a particular monitoring location during the previous four calendar quarters under the Stage 2 Disinfectants and Disinfection Byproducts Rule.
- **Running Annual Average (RAA):** The average of a year of monthly or quarterly sample results
- **Maximum Contaminant Level (MCL):** 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 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.
- **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 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.
- **Treatment Technique:** A required process intended to reduce the level of a contaminant in drinking water.
- **NA:** Not applicable.
- **ND**: Not detected.
- **pCi/L, picoCuries/ Liter:** A unit of concentration for radioactive contaminants.
- **ppt:** A unit of concentration equal to one part per trillion
- **ppb:** A unit of concentration equal to one part per billion.
- **ppm:** A unit of concentration equal to one part per million.
- **PWSID:** Public water supply identification number.

Sources of Supply

Water for the Califon system, serving the Borough of Califon and Lebanon Township, comes from four wells located in Lebanon Township. The New Jersey Department of Environmental Protection (NJDEP) has completed and issued the Source Water Assessment Report and Summary for this public water system, which is available at www.nj.gov/dep/watersupply/swap or by contacting the NJDEP, Bureau of Safe Drinking Water at 609.292.5550.

Sources	Pathogens	Nutrients	Pesticides	Volatile Organic Compounds	Inorganics	Radionuclides	Radon	Disinfection Byproduct Precursors
4 Wells	Low to Medium	Medium to High	Low	Low	Low to Medium	Low to Medium	Medium to High	Medium

The sources overall have a low to medium risk of significant contamination. 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. If you have questions regarding the source water assessment report or summary please contact the Bureau of Safe Drinking Water at watersupply@dep.state.nj.us or 609.292.5550.

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 water poses a health risk. In order to ensure that tap water is safe to drink, 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. More information about contaminants and potential health effects can be obtained by calling the Environmental Protection Agency's (EPA) Safe Drinking Water Hotline at 800.426.4791.

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 radioactive material, and can pick up substances resulting from the presence of animals or from human activity.

Aqua New Jersey - Califon System, PWSID#: NJ1004001

Contaminants that may be present in source water include:

(A) Microbial contaminants, such as viruses and bacteria, which may come from sewage treatment plants, septic systems, agricultural livestock operations, and wildlife.

(B) Inorganic contaminants, such as salts and metals, which can be naturally occurring or result from urban storm runoff, industrial or domestic wastewater discharges, oil and gas production, mining, or farming.

(C) Pesticides and herbicides, which may come from a variety of sources, such as agriculture, stormwater runoff, and residential uses.

(D) Organic chemical contaminants, including synthetic and volatile organics, which are byproducts of industrial processes and petroleum production, and can also come from gas stations, urban stormwater runoff, and septic systems.

(E) 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, the Environmental Protection Agency (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.

Public Participation

Questions from our customers are welcomed and encouraged. For further information about this report or your water quality, please call Aqua New Jersey at **877.WTR.AQUA** (877.987.2782) or visit our website at AquaWater.com. We want our valued customers to be informed about their water utility.

How you can help conserve water:

Kitchen & Laundry Room
✓ Run full loads in your dishwasher and clothes washer. Save even more by using a shorter cycle. ✓ Check faucets and pipes for leaks. Even small leaks over a long period of time can add up to large amounts of water wasted.
Bathroom
✓ Check your toilets for leaks. Put a few drops of food coloring in your toilet tank. Do not flush the toilet. If color begins to appear in the bowl, you have a leak that should be repaired immediately. Toilet leaks can cause elevated water usage, which will increase both your water and sewer bill. ✓ Take shorter showers. You can waste five to ten gallons per minute. ✓ Install water–saving toilets, faucet aerators, and shower heads to reduce water consumption while showering. × **Don't** allow water to run while brushing your teeth, washing your hands, or shaving.
Outside
✓ Water your lawn in the early morning to prevent evaporation. Water your lawn long enough to soak down into the roots but less frequently. Watering your lawn frequently without soaking the roots will encourage a shallow root system. Watering your lawn in the evening may cause fungus growth. ✓ Water plants before 9 A.M. and after 7 P.M. ✓ Plant drought resistant trees and plants. There are many beautiful trees and plants that require far less water than other species. Put a layer of mulch around your plants and trees. Mulch will slow evaporation of moisture and discourage weed growth. ✓ Use a broom to clean driveways and sidewalks. Using a hose to wash driveways and sidewalks will result in wasted water. × **Don't** allow your garden hose to run while washing your car. Use the hose only to wet and rinse the car.

* This notice contains regulatorily required or recommended language, and nothing herein is, is intended as, nor should be construed as, a promise of or contract for payment or reimbursement of expenses incurred for any action you take on account of this notice.