

# Annual Drinking Water Quality Report

## East Hanover Township Water Department

For the Year 2025, Results from the Year 2024

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 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.

Some people may be more vulnerable to contaminants in drinking water than the general population. Immuno-compromised people such as people with cancer undergoing chemotherapy, people 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).

We have learned through our monitoring and testing that some contaminants have been detected.

<b>East Hanover Township Water Department Test Results</b>						
<b>PWS ID #NJ1410001</b>						
Contaminant	Violation Y/N	Level Detected	Units of Measurement	MC LG	MCL	Likely Source of Contamination
<b>Inorganic Contaminants:</b>						
Arsenic Test results Yr. 2023	N	Range = 1.12 – 1.43 Highest detect = 1.43	ppb	n/a	5	Erosion of natural deposits; runoff from orchards; runoff from glass and electronics production wastes
Barium Test results Yr. 2023	N	Range = 0.033 – 0.077 Highest detect = 0.077	ppm	2	2	Discharge of drilling wastes; discharge from metal refineries; erosion of natural deposits
Copper Test results Yr. 2023 Result at 90 <sup>th</sup> Percentile	N	0.102 No samples exceeded the action level. 30 samples. Range of detections: (ND – 0.157)	ppm	1.3	AL=1.3	Corrosion of household plumbing systems; erosion of natural deposits
Fluoride Test results Yr. 2023	N	Range = 0.12 Highest detect = 0.12	ppm	4	4	Erosion of natural deposits; water additive which promotes strong teeth; discharge from fertilizer and aluminum factories
Lead Test results Yr. 2023 Result at 90 <sup>th</sup> Percentile	N	ND No samples exceeded the action level. 30 samples. Range of detections: (All ND)	ppb	0	AL=15	Corrosion of household plumbing systems, erosion of natural deposits
Nitrate (as Nitrogen) Test results Yr. 2024	N	Range = 0.38 – 1.5 Highest detect = 1.5	ppm	10	10	Runoff from fertilizer use; leaching from septic tanks, sewage; erosion of natural deposits
Nickel Test results Yr. 2023	N	Range = 4.22 – 5.03 Highest detect = 5.03	ppb	N/A	N/A	Erosion of natural deposits
<b>Radioactive Contaminants:</b>						
Combined Radium 228 & 226 Test results Yr. 2024	N	Range = 1.5 Highest detect = 1.5	pCi/l	0	5	Erosion of natural deposits
<b>PFAS Per- and Polyfluoroalkyl Substances:</b>						
PFOA Perfluorooctane Acid Test results Yr. 2024	N	Range = 6 - 14 Highest detect = 14 Highest Average = 13	ppt	N/A	14	Discharge from industrial, chemical, and manufacturing factories, release of aqueous film forming foam.
PFOS Perfluorooctane Sulfonic Acid Test results Yr. 2024	N	Range = ND – 6 Highest detect = 6 Highest Average = 6	ppt	N/A	13	Discharge from industrial, chemical, and manufacturing factories, release of aqueous film forming foam.
<b>Disinfection Byproducts:</b>						
TTHM Total Trihalomethanes Test results Yr. 2024	N	Range = ND - 46 Highest LRAA = 35	ppb	N/A	80	By-product of drinking water disinfection
HAA5 Haloacetic Acids Test results Yr. 2024	N	Range = ND - 11 Highest LRAA = 8	ppb	N/A	60	By-product of drinking water disinfection

For Total Haloacetic Acids (HAA5s) and Total Trihalomethanes (TTHMs), which are disinfection byproducts, compliance is based on a Locational Running Annual Average (LRAA), calculated at each monitoring location. The LRAA calculation is based on four completed quarters of monitoring results.

Regulated Disinfectants	Level Detected	MRDL	MRDLG
Chlorine Test results Yr. 2024	Range = 0.7 – 0.8 ppm Average = 0.8 ppm	4.0 ppm	4.0 ppm

**Chlorine:** Water additive used to control microbes.

Secondary Contaminant	Level Detected	Units of Measurement	RUL
Sodium – Test Results Yr. 2023	Range = 28 - 75	ppm	50

We slightly exceeded the Secondary Recommended Upper Limit (RUL) 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.

The East Hanover Township Water Department and New Jersey American Water routinely monitor for contaminants in your drinking water according to Federal and State laws. The tables show the results of that monitoring for the period of January 1<sup>st</sup> to December 31<sup>st</sup>, 2024. The state allows monitoring for some contaminants less than once per year because the concentrations of these contaminants do not change frequently. Some of the data, though representative, are more than one year old.

**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.).**

We are committed to ensuring the quality of your water. The East Hanover Water Department's water supply comes from three deep groundwater wells. These wells draw water from a Buried Valley Aquifer, also known as the Passaic River Basin. During times of high demand, we purchase additional water from New Jersey American Water. The New Jersey Department of Environmental Protection (NJDEP) has completed and issued the Source Water Assessment Report and Summary 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 East Hanover Township Water Department's and New Jersey American Water's source water susceptibility ratings and a list of potential contaminant sources is included.

#### What are 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)

#### DEFINITIONS:

In the "Test Results" tables you may find some terms and abbreviations you might not be familiar with. To help you better understand these terms we've provided the following definitions:

Non-Detects (ND) - laboratory analysis indicates that the contaminant.

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 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 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.

Nephelometric Turbidity Unit (NTU) - nephelometric turbidity unit is a measure of the clarity of water. Turbidity in excess of 5 NTU is just noticeable to the average person.

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

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

Maximum Contaminant Level - 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 -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.

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.

Recommended Upper Limit (RUL) – Recommended maximum concentration of secondary contaminants. These reflect aesthetic qualities such as odor, taste or appearance. RULs are recommendations, not mandates.

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

Total Organic Carbon – Total Organ Carbon (TOC) has no health effects. However, TOC provides a medium for the formation of disinfection byproducts. The *Treatment Technique* for TOC requires that 35% - 45% of the TOC in the raw water is removed through the treatment processes.

Turbidity – Turbidity has no health effects. However, turbidity can interfere with disinfection and provide a medium microbial growth. Turbidity is measured as an indication of the effectiveness of the filtration process. The *Treatment Technique* for turbidity requires that no individual sample exceeds 1 NTU and 95% of the samples collected during the month must be less than 0.3 NTU.

**Treatment:** To supply East Hanover Township Water Department customers with the safest and highest quality drinking water, we disinfect our source water with chlorine to inactivate bacteria, airstrip it to remove volatile organic compounds, and filter it to remove manganese. A new treatment process has been implemented to reduce the effects of hard water. The process involves treating the water with polyphosphate that prevents the minerals associated with hardness from being deposited on pipes and fixtures. The treatment process is monitored daily to ensure that the proper dosages are added, and filtering is 100-percent efficient.

**Waivers:** 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. We received monitoring waivers for asbestos and synthetic organic chemicals.

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 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, and 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 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 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.

#### **Special considerations regarding children, pregnant women, nursing mothers, and others:**

Children may receive a slightly higher amount of a contaminant present in the water than do adults, on a body weight basis, because they may drink a greater amount of water per pound of body weight than do adults. For this reason, reproductive or developmental effects are used for calculating a drinking water standard if these effects occur at lower levels than other health effects of concern. If there is insufficient toxicity information for a chemical (for example, lack of data on reproductive or developmental effects), an extra uncertainty factor may be incorporated into the calculation of the drinking water standard, thus making the standard more stringent, to account for additional uncertainties regarding these effects. In the cases of lead and nitrate, effects on infants and children are the health endpoints upon which the standards are based.

#### **Sources of Lead in Drinking Water**

The East Hanover Township Water Department and New Jersey American Water are 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](http://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](http://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](http://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 973-888-6080 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 East Hanover Township Water Department 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; please contact Edward Schimminger, Superintendent of Public Works at 973-888-6080 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 East Hanover Township Water Department 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 on our website at <https://www.easthanovertownship.com> under Water & Sewer Department, or upon request.**

#### **UNREGULATED CONTAMINANT MONITORING RULE**

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 necessary. Every five years, the EPA issues a new list of no more than 30 unregulated contaminants to be monitored. If you are interested in examining the results, please contact New Jersey American Water's Customer Service Center Monday to Friday, 7a.m. to 7p.m. at 1-800-272-1325. More information on the UCMR process, which at this time includes monitoring for 29 PFAS analytes and lithium, is available at <https://www.epa.gov/dwucmr/fifth-unregulated-contaminant-monitoring-rule>.

The UCMR 5 analytical results are publicly available through the EPA's UCMR 5 Data Finder. The table below provides information on the unregulated contaminants that were detected in the water system.

<sup>1</sup>Hazard Index or HI. The Hazard Index is an approach that determines the health concerns associated with mixtures of certain PFAS in finished drinking water. Low levels of multiple PFAS that individually would not likely result in adverse health effects may pose health concerns when combined in a mixture. The Hazard Index MCL represents the maximum level for mixtures of PFHxS, PFNA, HFPO-DA, and/or PFBS allowed in water delivered by a public water system. A Hazard Index greater than 1 requires a system to take action.

In 2023, U.S. EPA proposed drinking water standards for six PFAS chemicals – PFOA (4 ppt), PFOS (4 ppt) and GenX, PFBS, PFNA, and PFHxS as a group using a Hazard Index of 1. For more information on the U.S. EPA's proposed PFAS drinking water standards, including the Hazard Index, please visit <https://www.epa.gov/pfas>.

PFAS chemicals are unique, so two PFAS chemicals at the same level typically do not present the same risk. Therefore, you should not compare the results for one PFAS chemical against the results of another.

#### **About Our Monitoring Violation**

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 your drinking water meets health standards. During the period 07/01/24-12/31/2024, we "did not monitor or testing" for (corrosion control) pH, orthophosphate, and alkalinity, and therefore cannot be sure the quality of your drinking water during that time. Upon being notified of this violation by the DEP, we immediately analyzed our water supply. Results of the analysis have been received and properly recorded as required by the state and federal law. We do not believe that missing this monitoring requirement had any impact on public health and safety. We have already taken the steps to ensure that adequate monitoring and reporting will be performed in the future so that this oversight will not be repeated. Please share this information with all the people who drink this water, especially those who may not have received this notice directly.

### **IMPORTANT INFORMATION ABOUT YOUR DRINKING WATER East Hanover Township Water Department Fails to Meet Established Water Quality Parameter (WQP) Levels**

Our water system recently violated a New Jersey drinking water requirement, as our customers, you have a right to know what happened, what you should do, and what we are doing to correct the situation.

Our water system has corrosion control treatment installed and/or receives corrosion control treated water to help prevent lead and/or copper in the pipes from dissolving into the water. The corrosion control treatment was deemed optimized; and therefore, the New Jersey department of Environmental Protection (NJDEP) established optimal Water Quality Parameters (WQP) values, which are values the corrosion control treatment functions most effectively. We monitor for WQP values per federal regulations.

During the July 1, 2024 to December 31, 2024 monitoring period, our WQP sample results did not meet the optimal WQP values set by the NJDEP for 23 days. The water system cannot be below the minimum level(s) or outside the range(s) set by the NJDEP for more than nine (9) days.

In addition to monitoring optimal WQP values, our water system routinely monitors for lead and copper. The most recent monitoring conducted January 1, 2021 to December 3, 2023 demonstrated we are in compliance with the Federal action levels for lead and copper. If there is a lead action level exceedance, you will be notified accordingly.

### **What does this mean?**

This is not an emergency. If it had been, you would have been notified within 24 hours. This violation does not mean there is confirmed lead and/or copper in your drinking water. However, since corrosion control treatment is used to protect residents from lead and copper potentially leaching from internal pipes and solder, it is important to be aware of the health effects of lead and copper and steps you may take to reduce your exposure.

- 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.
- Copper is an essential nutrient, but some people who drink water containing copper in excess of the action level over a relatively short amount of time could experience gastrointestinal distress. Some people who drink water containing copper in excess of the action level over many years could suffer liver or kidney damage. People with Wilson's Disease should consult their personal physician.

*If you have a severely compromised immune system, have an infant, are pregnant, or are elderly, you may be at increased risk and should seek advice from your health care providers about your drinking water.*

Typically, lead and/or copper enters drinking water by leaching from pipes and plumbing components in [homes and/or building(s)]. We [have treatment installed and/or receive treated water] to reduce the wearing away of lead and/or copper leaching from pipes and plumbing components into the water and optimal WQP values set to ensure effectiveness of the treatment. Failure to meet the set values requires us to evaluate the currently installed treatment and operation thereof and take actions necessary to meet the optimal WQP values.

### **What should I do?**

**You do not need to use an alternate water supply (e.g., bottled water).** However, if you have specific health concerns, consult your doctor. Additionally, if you would like to reduce your potential exposure to lead and/or copper in drinking water, you may choose to take the following steps:

- Run water to flush out lead and/or copper. Run water for 15 – 30 seconds or until it becomes cold or reaches a steady temperature before using it for drinking or cooking if it hasn't been used for several hours.
- Use cold water for cooking and preparing baby formula. Do not cook with or drink water from the hot water tap; Lead dissolves more quickly into hot water. Do not use water from the hot water tap to make baby formula.
- Do not boil water. Boiling water will not reduce lead and/or copper levels.
- Regularly 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.

*For additional steps you may take to reduce your exposure to lead in drinking water, see <https://www.state.nj.us/dep/watersupply/dwc-lead-consumer.html>.*

### **What is being done?**

East Hanover Township Water Department has introduced extra monitoring at the point of entry where we receive treated water to guarantee compliance with NJDEP WQP limits, effective on June 26, 2025. We anticipate resolving the problem at the earliest compliance date of December 31, 2025.

For more information, please contact Edward Schimminger at 973-888-6080 or by email at [utilities@easthanovertownship.com](mailto:utilities@easthanovertownship.com)

*\*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.\**

This notice is being sent to you by East Hanover Township Water Department  
State Water System ID#: NJ1410001  
Date distributed: June 27, 2025

**UNREGULATED CONTAMINANT MONITORING RULE (UCMR5)**

Parameter	Year Sampled	Average Amount Detected	Range Low-High	Proposed U.S. EPA MCL	Hazard Index Calculation	Typical Source
Perfluorohexane sulfonic acid (PFHxS)	2023	0.1 ppt	ND to 4 ppt	9.0 ppt		
Hexafluoropropylene oxide dimer acid (HFPO-DA) (GenX chemicals)	2023	0 ppt	ND	10.0 ppt	0.02 ppt	
Perfluorobutanesulfonic acid (PFBS)	2023	0 ppt	ND	2000 ppt		Manufactured chemicals use grease, heat and water resistance
Perfluorononanoic acid (PFNA)	2023	0 ppt	ND	N/A		
Perfluoropentanoic acid (PFPeA)	2023	0.2 ppt	ND to 28 ppt	NA	NA	
Perfluorobutanoic acid (PFBA)	2023	0.5 ppt	ND to 6 ppt	NA	NA	
Perfluorohexanoic acid (PFHxA)	2023	1 ppt	ND to 40 ppt	NA	NA	
Perfluorooctanoic acid (PFOA)	2023	2 ppt	ND to 88 ppt	4.0 ppt	NA	
Perfluorooctanesulfonic acid (PFOS)	2023	0.3 ppt	ND to 6 ppt	4.0 ppt	NA	
Lithium	2023	3 ppb	ND to 28 ppb	NA	NA	Naturally occurring with multiple commercial uses



**Properties with an odd numbered street address may water on *Mondays, Wednesdays and Fridays***

**Properties with an even numbered street address may water on *Tuesdays, Thursdays and Saturdays***

**Watering is not permitted on *Sundays***

New Jersey American Water – Short Hills System is a public community water system consisting of 25 wells, 4 surface water intakes, 12 purchased ground water sources, 3 purchased surface water sources. Source water comes from the following aquifers and / or surface water bodies: Passaic River, Brunswick Aquifer System, and Canoe Brook.

**New Jersey American Water – Short Hills System - Test Results**  
**PWS ID # NJ0712001**

Contaminant	Violation Y/N	Level Detected	Units of Measurement	MC LG	MCL	Likely Source of Contamination
<b>Microbiological Contaminants:</b>						
Total Organic Carbon Test results Yr. 2024	N	Range = 45 – 84% (25 – 65% Required)	ppm	N/A	TT % of removal	Naturally present in the environment.
Turbidity Test results Yr. 2024	N	Range = 0.02 – 0.40 99.98% samples < 0.3	NTU	0	TT = % of samples < 0.3	Soil runoff
<b>Inorganic Contaminants:</b>						
Arsenic Test results Yrs. 2023 & 2024	N	Range = ND – 2 Highest detect = 2	ppb	N/A	5	Erosion of natural deposits; runoff from orchards; runoff from glass and electronics production wastes
Barium Test results Yrs. 2023 & 2024	N	Range = ND – 0.3 Highest detect = 0.3	ppm	2	2	Discharge of drilling wastes; discharge from metal refineries; erosion of natural deposits
Chromium Test results Yrs. 2023 & 2024	N	Range = ND – 1 Highest detect = 1	ppb	100	100	Discharge from steel and pulp mills; erosion of natural deposits
Fluoride Test results Yr. 2024	N	Range = ND – 0.2 Highest detect = 0.2	ppm	4	4	Erosion of natural deposits; water additive which promotes strong teeth; discharge from fertilizer and aluminum factories
Nickel Test results Yr. 2024	N	Range = ND – 21 Highest detect = 21	ppb	N/A	N/A	Erosion of natural deposits
Nitrate (as Nitrogen) Test results Yr. 2024	N	Range = 0.1 – 5.0 Highest detect = 5.0	ppm	10	10	Runoff from fertilizer use; leaching from septic tanks, sewage; erosion of natural deposits
Selenium Test results Yrs. 2023 & 2024	N	Range = ND – 3 Highest detect = 3	ppb	50	50	Discharge from petroleum and metal refineries; erosion of natural deposits; discharge from mines
<b>Microbiological Contaminants:</b>						
Total coliform Bacteria Test results Yr. 2024	N	Range = ND – 1.5% Highest Detect = 1.5%	N/A	0	5% of monthly samples	Naturally present in the environment
<b>Radioactive Contaminants:</b>						
Gross Alpha Test results Yr. 2023	N	Range = ND – 14 Highest detect = 14	pCi/l	0	15	Erosion of natural deposits
Combined Radium 228 & 226 Test results Yr. 2023	N	Range = ND – 2 Highest detect = 2	pCi/l	0	5	Erosion of natural deposits
Combined Uranium Test results Yr. 2023	N	Range = ND – 4 Highest detect = 4	ppb	0	30	Erosion of natural deposits
<b>Volatile Organic Contaminants:</b>						
1,2 Dichlorobenzene Test results Yr. 2024	N	Range = ND – 0.8 Highest detect = 0.8	ppb	600	600	Discharge from industrial chemical factories
Tetrachloroethylene Test results Yr. 2024	N	Range = ND – 0.7 Highest detect = 0.7	ppb	0	5	Leaching from PVC pipes; discharge from factories and dry cleaners
<b>PFAS Per- and Polyfluoroalkyl Substances:</b>						
PFOA Perfluorooctane Acid Test results Yr. 2024	N	Range = ND – 10 Highest detect = 10	ppt	N/A	14	Discharge from industrial, chemical, and manufacturing factories, release of aqueous film forming foam.
PFOS Perfluorooctane Sulfonic Acid Test results Yr. 2024	N	Range = ND – 12 Highest detect = 12	ppt	N/A	13	Discharge from industrial, chemical, and manufacturing factories, release of aqueous film forming foam

Secondary Contaminant	Level Detected	Units of Measurement	RUL
Manganese Test results Yr. 2024	Range = ND - 69	ppb	50
Secondary Contaminant	Level Detected	Units of Measurement	RUL
Sodium Test results yr. 2024	Range = 6 - 128	ppb	50

New Jersey American Water exceeded the Recommended Upper Limit (RUL) 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 your diet. However, sodium levels above the RUL may be of concern to individuals on a sodium restricted diet.

New Jersey American Water exceeded the secondary Recommended Upper Limit (RUL) for Manganese. The secondary (RUL) for manganese 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.

**East Hanover Township Water Department- PWSID # NJ1410001**

East Hanover Township Water Department is a public community water system consisting of 3 wells

This system’s source water comes from the following aquifer: Buried Valley Aquifer, also known as the Passaic River Basin.

This system can purchase water from the following water system: New Jersey American Water

**Susceptibility Ratings for East Hanover Township Water Department Sources**

The table below illustrates the susceptibility ratings for the seven contaminant categories (and radon) for each source in the system. The table provides the number of wells and intakes that rated high (H), medium (M), or low (L) for each contaminant category. For susceptibility ratings of purchased water, refer to the specific water system’s source water assessment report.

The seven contaminant categories are defined at the bottom of this page. DEP considered all surface water highly susceptible to pathogens, therefore all intakes received a high rating for the pathogen category. For the purpose of the Source Water Assessment Program, radionuclides are more of a concern for ground water than surface water. As a result, surface water intakes’ susceptibility to radionuclides was not determined and they all received a low rating.

**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. As a result of the assessments, DEP may customize (change existing) monitoring schedules based on the susceptibility ratings.

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		2	1	3					3	2		1	3				3		3			2	1	

- 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 formed when the disinfectants (usually chlorine) used to kill pathogens react with dissolved organic material (for example leaves) present in surface water.

**NJ American Water - Short Hills - PWSID # NJ0712001**

NJ American Water - Short Hills is a public community water system consisting of 25 wells, 4 surface water intakes, 12 purchased ground water sources, and 3 purchased surface water sources.

This system’s source water comes from the following aquifers and/or surface water bodies: Passaic River, Brunswick Aquifer, Canoe Brook , Glacial Sand and Gravel Aquifer System and Igneous and Metamorphic Rocks.

**Susceptibility Ratings for NJ American Water Company - Short Hills Division Sources**

The table below illustrates the susceptibility ratings for the seven contaminant categories (and radon) for each source in the system. The table provides the number of wells and intakes that rated high (H), medium (M), or low (L) for each contaminant category. For susceptibility ratings of purchased water, refer to the specific water system’s source water assessment report.

The seven contaminant categories are defined at the bottom of this page. DEP considered all surface water highly susceptible to pathogens, therefore all intakes received a high rating for the pathogen category. For the purpose of the Source Water Assessment Program, radionuclides are more of a concern for ground water than surface water. As a result, surface water intakes’ susceptibility to radionuclides was not determined and they all received a low rating.

**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. As a result of the assessments, DEP may customize (change existing) monitoring schedules based on the susceptibility ratings.

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 - 25	1	21	3	13	12			6	19	17		8	10	11	4		25		25			3	22	
Surface water intakes - 4	4			2	2			2	2		4		4				4				4	4		

If you have any questions about this report or concerning your drinking water, please contact Edward Schimminger, Superintendent of Public Works at 973-888-6080. Always feel free to attend one of the regularly scheduled Town Council Meetings which are held on the first Monday of each month at 7:00 pm, at 411 Ridgedale Avenue, East Hanover.

# BY THE NUMBERS

The number of Olympic-sized swimming pools it would take to fill up all of Earth's water

**800**  
**TRILLION**

**1¢**

The average cost for about 5 gallons of water supplied to a home in the U.S.

The amount of Earth's water that is salty or otherwise undrinkable, or locked away and unavailable in ice caps and glaciers.

**99%**

**50**  
**GALLONS**

The average daily number of gallons of total home water use for each person in the U.S.

The amount of Earth's surface that's covered by water.

**71%**

**330**  
**MILLION**

The amount of water on Earth in cubic miles.

The amount of Earth's water that is available for all of humanity's needs.

**1%**

**75%**

The amount of the human brain that contains water.

The number of gallons of water produced daily by public water systems in the U.S.

**34**  
**BILLION**

**1**  
**MILLION**

The number of miles of drinking water distributions mains in the U.S.

The amount of money spent annually on maintaining the public water infrastructure in the U.S.

**135**  
**BILLION**

**300**  
**MILLION**

The number of Americans who receive water from a public water system.

The age in years of the world's oldest water found in a mine at a depth of nearly two miles.

**2**  
**BILLION**

**151**  
**THOUSAND**

The number of active public water systems in the U.S.

The number of highly trained and licensed water professionals serving in the U.S.

**199**  
**THOUSAND**



## THERE'S A LOT MORE TO YOUR WATER BILL THAN JUST WATER

It is simple to understand what your water bill pays for by easily turning on your faucets. The difficult perception is how water is transported to your home; the miles of pipeline concealed underground, the services that draw water from the source, the facilities where water is managed and treated, the researchers, engineers and repair crews working around the clock to ensure that water is continuously there when you need it. Your water expenditures are helping to shape a better tomorrow by supplementing needed improvements that will keep water fluent for all of us today with continued success for are future.



## HOW MUCH WATER DOES IT TAKE ?

You may be surprised to realize how much water we use every day. Typically each individual in the average residence served by the Township of East Hanover uses about 80 GALLONS of water every day. Here is a summary of how much water is used on average for common household tasks;



Washing machine	20 to 40 gallons per load
Hand washing dishes	Up to 20 gallons per load
Automatic dishwasher	6 to 12 gallons per load
Bath	20 to 50 gallons per bath
Shower	2 to 10 gallons per minute
Toilet	3 to 7 gallons per flush
Faucet	2 to 4 gallons per minute
Garden Hose (1/2 inch)	300 gallons per hour



### **WATER CONSERVATION TIPS (PLEASE READ SO WE ALL CAN CONSERVE OUR PRECIOUS WATER)**

- Do not let the water run while shaving or brushing teeth.
- Take short showers instead of baths, even try not running water while soaping up or shampooing.
- Never use your toilet as a wastebasket.
- Keep drinking water in the refrigerator instead of letting the faucet run until the water is cool.
- Wash fruits and vegetables in a basin.
- Do not use water to defrost frozen foods; thaw in the refrigerator overnight.
- Scrape rather than rinse dishes before loading into the dishwasher; wash only full loads.
- Add food waste to your compost pile instead of using the garbage disposal.
- Wash only full loads of laundry or use the appropriate water level or load size selection on the washing machine.
- Consider purchasing high-efficiency toilets or place a plastic container filled with water in the tank of your conventional toilet.
- Install low-flow faucet aerators and showerheads.
- Consider purchasing a high-efficiency washing machine that can save over 50% in laundry water as well as less energy use.
- Repair any and all leaks as soon as possible. A leaking toilet can waste over 200 gallons of water per day. To detect leaks in a toilet, add food coloring to the tank water. If the colored water appears in the bowl the toilet is leaking.
- Water the lawn or garden during the coolest part of the day (early morning is best). Do not water on windy days.
- Water trees and shrubs, which have deep root systems, longer and less frequently than shallow-rooted plants that require smaller amounts of water more often.
- Set sprinklers to water lawn or garden – not the sidewalk or street.
- Use soaker hoses or trickle irrigation systems for trees and shrubs.
- Install moisture or rain sensors on sprinkler systems.
- Use mulch around shrubs and garden plants to reduce evaporation.
- Remove thatch and aerate turf to encourage movement of water to the root zone.
- Raise your lawn mower cutting height, longer grass blades help shade each other, reduce evaporation, and inhibit weed growth.
- Minimize or eliminate fertilizing, which promotes new growth needing additional watering.
- When there are water restrictions, use the water from dehumidifiers or air condition condensers to water plants or gardens.
- Sweep driveways, sidewalks and steps instead of hosing them off.
- Get your car washed at a car wash instead of doing it yourself; most of them recycle their water.
- Avoid purchasing recreational water toys that require a constant stream of water.
- Use a pool cover to reduce evaporation when pool is not being used.
- Do not install or use ornamental water features unless they recycle the water.
- And the number one use of our most valuable resource is: **LANDSCAPE IRRIGATION** in the growing season can account for **75 %** of your water use.

*PLEASE HELP TO KEEP WATCH OVER **OUR** VALUABLE RESOURCE. IF YOU SHOULD SEE ANYONE USING A FIRE HYDRANT THAT IS NOT AN OFFICIAL BOROUGH VEHICLE OR A FIRE TRUCK, OR IF YOU ARE NOT SURE, PLEASE DON'T HESITATE IN CALLING THE POLICE DEPARTMENT. **HELP US PROTECT OUR RESOURCE. YOU ARE OUR EYES OUT IN THE FIELD!***

**TOWNSHIP OF EAST HANOVER**

411 Ridgedale Avenue  
East Hanover, NJ 07936

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