



Waldwick Water Department
19 Industrial Park
Waldwick, NJ 07463

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Consumer Confidence Report 2021

(Sampling Results are from 2020)

OVERVIEW

We are pleased to present you with this year's Annual Drinking Water Quality Report or Consumer Confidence Report. This report is designed to inform you about the quality of water and services that we deliver to you every day. 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 you receive high quality water.

The Water Department routinely monitors for constituents in your drinking water according to Federal and State laws. The table in this report shows the results of our monitoring for the period of January 1st thru December 31st, 2020. As water travels over the land or underground, it can pick up substances or contaminants such as microbes, inorganic and organic chemicals, and radioactive substances. All drinking water, including bottled drinking water, may be reasonably expected to contain at least small amounts of some constituents. It is important to remember that the presence of these constituents do not necessarily pose 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.

Water is the most valuable resource we have. The Waldwick Water Department works hard to provide high quality water to every tap. We ask that all our customers help us protect our water sources, which are the heart of our community, our way of life and our children's future.

If you have any questions about this report or any other questions concerning your water utility, please contact the Water Department Supervisor, Neil Moses, at 201-652-5987. We want our valued customers to be informed about their water utility and its water quality. If you want to learn more, please attend any of our regularly scheduled Borough Council meetings at the Waldwick Administration Building, 63 Franklin Turnpike. The Borough Council meeting schedule is posted on the Borough website and in our Municipal Calendar, or can be obtained by contacting the Municipal Clerk. Another great way of monitoring and keeping track of your water system is to log onto "Drinking Water Watch" on the NJDEP website, which has water sampling schedules as well as a host of other information specific to this water system.

DEFINITIONS

In this table, 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:

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

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 (ug/l) - One part per billion corresponds to one minute in 2,000 years, or a single penny in \$10,000,000.

Part per trillion (ppt) or Nanograms per liter (ng/l) - 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.

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

Maximum Contaminant Level Goal (MCLG) - The "Goal" 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.

Maximum Contaminant Level (MCL) - The "Maximum Allowed" 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 Residual Disinfectant Level (MRDL) - The highest level of a disinfectant allowed in drinking water. There is convincing evidence that the 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.

Secondary Maximum Contaminant Level (SMCL) - Federal drinking water measurements for substances that do not have an impact on health. These reflect 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.

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 a lifetime to have a one-in-a-million chance of having the described health effect.

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 a year old.

Lead

If present, elevated levels of 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 Waldwick Water Department is responsible for providing high quality drinking water, but cannot control the variety of materials used in all plumbing components. 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 2 minutes before using water for drinking and cooking. If you are concerned about lead in your water, you may wish to have your water privately 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 (1-800-426-4791) or at <http://www.epa.gov/safewater/lead>.

Sodium

For healthy individuals, the sodium intake from water is not important because a much greater amount of sodium comes from salt in the diet. However, sodium levels above the Recommended Upper Limit (RUL) may be a concern to individuals on a high sodium restricted diet.

PFAS

Per- and polyfluoroalkyl substances (PFAS) are a group of manmade chemicals that repel oil and water and are resistant to heat and chemical reactions. PFAS are used in the production of some non-stick cookware, in waterproof and stain proof coatings, in "leak-proof" coatings on food package materials, in fire-fighting foams, and in other uses. PFAS can enter drinking water through industrial release to water, air, or soil; discharges from sewage treatment plants; land application of contaminated sludge; and use of fire-fighting foam.

The New Jersey Department of Environmental Protection (NJDEP) has standards for three compounds within the PFAS class of chemicals: PFOS, PFOA, and PFNA. NJDEP first required monitoring of PFNA in the first quarter of 2019, and first required monitoring of PFOA and PFOS in the first quarter of 2021.

Some people who drink water containing PFOS in excess of the MCL over many years could experience problems with their immune system, kidney, liver, or endocrine system. For females, drinking water containing PFOS in excess of the MCL over many years may cause developmental effects and problems with the immune system, liver, or endocrine system in a fetus and/or an infant. Some of these developmental effects can persist through childhood.

Due to the potential health effects of PFOA and PFOS, we began voluntarily monitoring for these compounds beginning in 2019 when we started monitoring for PFNA. These results were provided to you in our Consumer Confidence Report last year. On February 9, 2021, we received notice that a water sample collected on January 18, 2021 showed that our system exceeds the standard, or maximum contaminant level (MCL), for PFOS at one of our supply wells, and Public Notices and informational updates have been sent in March, May, and June regarding this issue. This water supply well was removed from operation as soon as we were notified of the test results and remains offline pending treatment.

The water sampling results for Waldwick indicate that the concentrations of PFOA and PFOS in the local groundwater tapped by our wells are elevated above the recently implemented MCLs. In response, we are already in the engineering stages of treatment for our system and anticipate having water treatment facilities installed at each well facility in 2022. You will receive additional PFAS notification letters until the water treatment facilities are online.

Additional information regarding PFAS is available on the Borough's website, www.waldwicknj.org, under the Water Department.

Notice of Non-Compliance-Monitoring and Reporting Violation - DBPs

The Waldwick Water Department is 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. On July 1, 2020, the NJDEP increased the monitoring of Disinfection Byproducts (DBPs) due to a reported increase in our population above 10,000 people. DBP monitoring targets specific compounds which are formed during routine disinfection of water supplies. In general, systems served by groundwater wells, including Waldwick, have low concentrations of these compounds. The previous monitoring requirement was to collect two samples per year in the distribution system. Due to the population increase, the monitoring increased to quarterly sampling at four locations. Due to a misinterpretation of the new monitoring requirements, quarterly samples were only collected at the original two locations so we did not complete all monitoring or testing for DBPs during the periods 07/01/2020 to 9/30/2020 and 10/01/2020 to 12/31/2020, and therefore cannot be sure of the quality of the drinking water during that time.

This was not an emergency, no population is or was at risk and no action needs to be taken by you. If it had been an emergency, you would have been notified immediately. Starting in 2021, this situation was corrected and two additional monitoring locations have been selected and are now being monitored. The results from the new monitoring locations are similar to the very low levels detected in previous system monitoring. Please share this information with all the other people who drink this water, especially those who may not receive this notice directly (for example people in apartment, nursing homes, schools and businesses). You can do this by posting this notice in a public place or distributing copies by hand or mail. Any questions about this notice can be directed to the Waldwick Water Department at (201) 652-5300.

The following table is a list of sampling results from the year 2020. As directed by the EPA and/or DEP, some years we are required to sample for more or less contaminants than other years.

Some people may be more vulnerable to contaminants in drinking water than the general population. Immune-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 (1-800-426-4791).

C.C.R. Water Sampling Results For 2021 (Data is from 2020 except where noted per the regulations)

Contaminant	Violation Y/N	Limit	Unit of Measurement	Level Detected	Range	Sources
<u>Haloacetic Acids (Haa5)</u>						
Total Haa5	No	60	ug/L	1.5	1.1-1.9	By-product of drinking water disinfection
<u>Inorganics</u>						
Arsenic	No	5	ug/L	1	<1 - 2.84	Erosion of natural deposits; Runoff from orchards; Runoff from glass and electronics production wastes
Barium	No	2000	ug/L	403	242 - 530	Discharge of drilling waste; Discharge from metal refineries; Erosion of natural deposits
Chromium	No	100	ug/L	0.814	0.539 - 1.26	Discharge from steel and pulp mills; Erosion of natural deposits
Copper	No	1000	ug/L	8.13	2.56 - 15.3	Corrosion of household plumbing systems; Erosion of natural deposits
Nickel	No	n/a	ug/L	3.62	2.67 - 4.92	Erosion of natural deposits
Selenium	No	50	ug/L	<1.0	<1.0 to 1.28	Discharge from petroleum and metal refineries; Erosion of natural deposits; Discharge from mines.
<u>Nitrates</u>	No	10	mg/L	2.8	1.9 - 3.6	Runoff from fertilizer use; leaching from septic tanks, sewage; erosion of natural deposits
<u>Per - and polyfluoroalkyl substances</u>						
Perfluorononanoic acid (PFNA)	No	13	ng/L	2.8	<0.48 - 4.4	Discharge from industrial chemical factories
<u>Radiologicals (data from 2018 and 2020)</u>						
Gross Alpha	No	15	pCi/L	1.43	n/a	Erosion of natural deposits
Uranium	No	30	ug/L	2.53	<1 - 3.31	Erosion of natural deposits
<u>Total Coliforms (Bacteria)</u>	No	0	n/a	none	n/a	Naturally present in the environment
<u>Trihalomethanes (THM)</u>	No	80	ug/L	10.6	8.6 - 12.1	By-product of drinking water disinfection
<u>Volatile Organic Compounds(VOC)</u>	No	n/a	ug/L	undetected	n/a	Discharge from industries

Secondaries	RUL	Units	Average	Range	Sources
Alkalinity	n/a	mg/L	161	151 - 180	Natural characteristic
Calcium Hardness	50-250	mg/L	343	216 - 480	Natural mineral
Chloride	250	mg/L	203	101 - 313	Natural mineral - road salt
Corrosivity	1	mg/L	-0.46	-1.10 - 0.233	Natural characteristic
PH	6.5 - 8.5	pH	7.33	6.73 - 7.82	Natural characteristic
Sodium	50	mg/L	56.8	34.7 - 77.2	Natural mineral - road salt
Sulfate	250	mg/L	17.8	14.6 - 27.7	Natural mineral
Total Dissolved Solids (TDS)	500	mg/L	612	275 - 926	Erosion of natural mineral deposits
Zinc	5000	ug/L	3.33	2.28 - 4.63	Natural mineral
Iron / Manganese					
Iron	0.3	mg/L	<0.2	n/a	Natural mineral
Manganese	50	ug/L	<1.0	n/a	Natural mineral
Unregulated Contaminant Monitoring					
<u>Per - and polyfluoroalkyl substances (PFOS, PFOA)</u>					
		Units		Level Detected	Sources
Perfluorooctanesulfonic acid (PFOS)		ng/L		6 - 62	Used in the manufacture of fluoropolymers.
Perfluorooctanic acid (PFOA)		ng/L		12 - 25	Used in the manufacture of fluoropolymers.
Regulated Disinfectants					
		Level Detected		MRDL	MRDLG
Chlorine		Average = 0.20		4.0 ppm	4.0 ppm

The Safe Drinking Water Act regulations allow monitoring waivers to reduce or eliminate the monitoring requirements for asbestos and synthetic organic chemicals. Our system received monitoring waivers for both of these contaminants. The waiver from sampling for asbestos was granted since we do not have any asbestos cement piping components in our distribution system and our wells do not tap susceptible geological formations which may have natural asbestos. The waiver from sampling for synthetic organic chemicals is granted based on our vulnerability to having those compounds in the groundwater. The NJDEP approves these waivers on for applicable synthetic organic compounds on a 3-year cycle.

BACKGROUND

Our six wells draw their water from the Brunswick Aquifer. Our wells range in depth from 170 to 250 feet deep. These wells are owned and maintained by the Borough of Waldwick. We also do not receive water from any other systems or towns so we can regulate these wells easier than a large water company. This also means that when other towns or companies have water restrictions we may not, unless mandated by DEP.

The water supplied by the Waldwick Water Department tends to be very hard. This is a characteristic of pumping water out of the ground as opposed to pumping water from a lake or reservoir "surface water" systems. The only way you are able to change the hardness of the water supplied to you is to install a water softener.

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.state.nj.us/dep/swap or by contacting NJDEP's Bureau of Safe Drinking Water at (609) 292-5550. You may also contact your public water system to obtain information regarding your water system's Source Water Assessment. The water system's source water susceptibility ratings and a list of potential contaminant sources is attached at the end of this report.

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 EPA's Safe Drinking Water Hotline (1-800-426-4791).

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, 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 the 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 stormwater 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 contaminant in bottled water which must provide the same protection for public health.

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 TO CALL THE POLICE DEPARTMENT. HELP US PROTECT OUR RESOURCE. YOU ARE OUR EYES OUT IN THE COMMUNITY!

Throughout the year, Waldwick Water Department customers may occasionally experience discolored or cloudy water, some of the causes of this could be:

- Fire Hydrant usage due to Fire Department activity
- Fire Hydrant flushing(*conducted yearly, half of system in the spring and half of system in fall*)
- Water main breaks or shut downs due to leaks

If you experience discolored or cloudy water, let the water run before you use it. If it continues, please call the Waldwick Water Department at (201) 652-5300 ext. 240 during regular business hours 8:30 am to 4:00 pm, or after hours contact the Waldwick Police Department at (201) 652-5700.

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. Use a vegetable brush.
- Do not use water to defrost frozen foods; thaw foods 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 reduce energy use.
- Repair any and all leaks as soon as possible. A leaking toilet can waste over 200 gallons per day. To detect leaks in 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 now recycle their water.
- Avoid purchasing recreational water toys that require a constant stream of water.
- Use a pool cover to reduce evaporation when the 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.

Susceptibility Ratings for Waldwick 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 Source Water Assessment Program, radionuclides are more of a concern for groundwater 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			Radio-nuclides			Radon			Disinfection Byproduct Precursors		
	H	M	L	H	M	L	H	M	L	H	M	L	H	M	L	H	M	L	H	M	L	H	M	L
Wells - 7		4	2	3	3			2	4	6			3	3		2	4		6			2	4	
GUDI - 0																								
Surface water intakes - 0																								

- **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. Example 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.

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