Waldwick Water Department
19 Industrial Park
Waldwick, NJ 07463

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Licensed Operator
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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 by 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.).

Consumer Confidence Report 2025

(Sampling Results are from 2024)

OVERVIEW

We are pleased to present you with this year's Annual Quality Water 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 your quality of water.

The Water Department routinely monitors for contaminants 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 through December 31st, 2024.

If you have any questions about this report or any other questions concerning your water utility, please contact the Water Department at 201-652-5300 x 240. 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. Meetings are held on the second and fourth Tuesdays of each month at 7:30 p.m. Another great way of monitoring your water system is to log onto the NJDEP "Drinking Water Watch" website, which has water sampling schedules as well as a host of other information specific to this system.

Please see the last page for information on the water clarity and taste issues some customers have reported.

DEFINITIONS

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

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 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.

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

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

Maximum Residual Disinfectant Level (MRDL) - The highest level of a disinfectant allowed in drinking water. There is convincing evidence that addition of a disinfectant is necessary for control of microbial contaminants.

Maximum Residual Disinfectant Level Goal (MRDLG) - The level of a drinking water disinfectant below which there is no known or expected risk to health. MRDLGs do not reflect the benefits of the use of disinfectants to control microbial contamination.

DEFINITIONS (continued)

New Jersey Recommended Upper Limit (RUL) - Drinking water measurements for substances that do not have an impact on health. These reflect aesthetic qualities such as odor, taste, or appearance. These secondary standards are recommendations, not mandates.

Non-Detect (ND) - Laboratory analysis indicates that the constituent is not present above the detection limit.

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 (µg/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.

BACKGROUND AND HEALTH NOTES

The Waldwick water system is supplied with water from six wells that 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, and are all located in the Borough.

The water supplied by the Waldwick Water Department, as in all "groundwater" systems in the northern New Jersey area, 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 residents can help change the hardness of the water is to install an in-home water softener.

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 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 byproducts of industrial processes and petroleum production, and can also come from gas stations, urban stormwater 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.

SOURCE WATER ASSESSMENT PROGRAM

The New Jersey Department of Environmental Protection (NJDEP) has completed and issued the Source Water Assessment Report and Summary for the Waldwick Water Department, which is available at nj.gov/dep/watersupply/swap/ or by contacting NJDEP's Bureau of Safe Drinking Water at (609) 292-5550 or Watersupply@DEP.nj.gov. 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 listed below.

The table below illustrates the susceptibility rating for the eight contaminant categories 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 eight contaminant categories are defined at the bottom of this page.

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, the NJDEP may customize (change existing) monitoring schedules based on the susceptibility ratings.

Susceptibility Rating for Waldwick Water Department Drinking Water Sources

	Contaminant Category																							
Sources	Pathogens			Nutrients			Pesticides			Volatile Organic Compounds			Inorganics			Radionuclides			Radon			Disinfection By-product 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
Six (6) Wells		4	2	3	3			2	4	6			3	3		2	4		6			2	4	

Pathogens: Pathogens include bacteria, protozoa, and viruses. Pathogens from animal and human waste present a risk to human health. Point sources of pathogens include combined sewer overflows, individual septic systems, effluent from sewage-treatment plants, and landfill leachate. Nonpoint sources include runoff from livestock facilities and discharge from multiple septic systems.

Nutrients: The nutrient contaminant category focused on nitrate. Nitrate can occur naturally in the environment or can originate from human sources. Nitrate can adversely affect environmental quality, human health, and the efficiency of drinking-water-treatment plants. An important point source of nitrate is effluent from sewage treatment plants. Nonpoint sources of nitrate include discharge from multiple septic systems, facilities where animal waste is stored, and runoff from agricultural and residential land where fertilizers are applied.

Volatile Organic Compounds (VOCs): VOCs are the most common organic contaminants in groundwater in New Jersey. VOCs include chemicals that are used as solvents, degreasers, refrigerants, and gasoline components. VOCs are present in household products, such as air fresheners and cleaning products. They are used extensively for industrial purposes, such as in 2 the manufacturing of paints, plastics, and toiletries.

Pesticides: Pesticides are chemical substances and biological agents used to control weeds, insects, fungi, rodents, bacteria, and other pests. Exposure to some pesticides can cause harmful effects to humans. Common sources of pesticides include land applications in both agricultural and nonagricultural settings (nonpoint source) and manufacturing/distribution centers of pesticides (point source).

Inorganics: Inorganic constituents in the environment can be naturally occurring or the result of human activities. Sources include discharges from manufacturing plants, release from contaminated sites, past land uses, and geologic material. Examples of inorganic constituents are arsenic, cadmium, copper, lead, mercury, and asbestos.

Radionuclides: Radioactive substances that are both naturally occurring and man-made, such as radium and radon. Sources of radionuclides include the decay of naturally occurring minerals, leaching of subsurface material (for example rocks and sedimentary materials) into ground water, and improper disposal of radioactive waste.

Radon: Colorless, odorless, cancer-causing gas that occurs naturally in the environment. For more information go to https://www.nj.gov/dep/rpp/radon/index.htm or call (800) 648-0394.

Disinfection By-product (DBP) Precursors: Disinfection byproducts are formed when the disinfectants used to kill pathogens during the water-treatment process react with organic and inorganic compounds present in the water.

TEST RESULTS

Water Sampling Results for 2024 (Data are from 2024 except as noted)

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 (1-800-426-4791).

Contaminant	Violation Y/N	MCLG	NJDEP MCL	Units	Level Detected*	Range	Likely Source of Contamination
Inorganic Chemicals (Tested in 2023, except nitrate, which was tested in 2024)							
Arsenic	N	0	5	ppb or µg/L	3.55	ND - 3.55	Erosion of natural deposits; Runoff from orchards; Runoff from glass and electronics production wastes
Barium	N	2	2	ppm or mg/L	0.446	0.229 - 0.446	Discharge of drilling waste; discharge from metal refineries; erosion of natural deposits
Chromium	N	100	100	ppb or µg/L	1.58	1.02 - 1.58	Discharge from steel and pulp mills; Erosion of natural deposits
Nickel	N	NA	NA	ppb or µg/L	4.16	2.72 - 4.16	Erosion of natural deposits
Selenium	N	50	50	ppb or µg/L	2.96	1.09 - 2.96	Discharge from petroleum, metal refineries, and mines; Erosion of natural deposits
Nitrate	N	10	10	ppm or mg/L	3.88	1.73 - 3.88	Runoff from fertilizer use; Leaching from septic tanks, sewage; Erosion of natural deposits
Synthetic Organic Compounds							
Perfluorononanoic acid (PFNA)	N	NA	13	ppt or ng/L	4.37	ND - 4.23	Discharge from industrial chemical factories
Perfluorooctanic acid (PFOA)	**Y****	NA	14	ppt or ng/L	20.9	ND - 22.7	Discharge from industrial, chemical, and manufacturing factories, release of aqueous film forming foam.
Perfluorooctanesulfonic acid (PFOS)	N	NA	13	ppt or ng/L	7.51	ND - 8.83	Discharge from industrial, chemical factories, release of aqueous film forming foam
Radionuclides (Data from 2023 and 2024)							
Alpha Emitters	N	0	15	pCi/L	4.2	ND - 4.2	Erosion of natural deposits
Uranium	N	0	30	ppb or µg/L	4.0	1.99 - 4.0	Erosion of natural deposits
Combined Radium	N	0	5	pCi/L	1	ND - 1	Erosion of natural deposits
Disinfectant By-Products (DBPs)							
Total Trihalomethanes (TTHM)	N	n/a	80	ppb or µg/L	15.2	ND - 16.3	By-product of drinking water disinfection
Five Haloacetic Acids (HAA5)	N	n/a	60	ppb or µg/L	5.2	ND - 19.4	By-product of drinking water disinfection
Regulated Disinfectants		**MRDLG**	**MRDL**				
Chlorine	N	4	4	ppm or mg/L	0.21	0.05 - 0.40	Water additive used to control microbes

*Level Detected shows the highest test results used to determine compliance for the year 2024. For some contaminants, this level is the running annual average of data from the highest entry point.

Waldwick exceeded MCLs for PFOA during the first half of 2024 and quarterly public notices were mailed to all customers. **Permanent treatment for regulated PFAS compounds was put into service in July 2024. Reported PFOS maximum is based only on 2024 sample data. This was also considered a treatment technique (TT) issue, since permanent treatment was not installed within one year of the original exceedance, but this was resolved in July 2024 See more information regarding PFAS below.

TEST RESULTS – continued

Lead and Copper (2024)	Violation Y/N	Action Level (AL)	Units	90th Percentile	Range	Samples over the AL	Sources
Copper (Result at 90th Percentile)	N	1.3	ppm or mg/L	0.17	ND – 0.32	0	Corrosion of household plumbing systems; Erosion of natural deposits
Lead (Result at 90th Percentile)	N	15	ppb or µg/L	5.4	ND – 19.5	1	Corrosion of household plumbing systems; Erosion of natural deposits

Secondaries (2023 and 2024)	RUL	Units	Average	Range	Sources
Calcium Hardness	250	ppm or mg/L	332	222 - 450	Natural mineral
Chloride	250	ppm or mg/L	223	118 - 347	Natural mineral - road salt
pH	6.5 - 8.5	pH	7.26	6.66 - 7.88	Natural characteristic
Sodium	50	ppm or mg/L	54.1	30.3 - 90.9	Natural mineral - road salt
Sulfate	250	ppm or mg/L	17.8	14.1 - 26.6	Natural mineral
Total Dissolved Solids (TDS)	500	ppm or mg/L	599	429 - 733	Erosion of natural mineral deposits

Unregulated Contaminants Monitoring Rule (UCMR5)

During 2023, Waldwick Water participated in the fifth phase of the Unregulated Contaminant Monitoring as required by the USEPA. Unregulated contaminants are those for which the USEPA has not established drinking water standards. The purpose of the monitoring is to assist the USEPA in determining the occurrence of these compounds and whether or not future regulation is warranted. Detections from this monitoring are summarized in the following table, along with typical sources of these compounds. More information is available at https://www.epa.gov/dwucmr/fifth-unregulated-contaminant-monitoring-rule

Substance	Year Sampled	Units	Average	Range	Major Sources
Lithium	2023	ppb or µg/L	11.7	10.3 - 13.1	Naturally occurring metal that may concentrate in brine waters; lithium salts are used as pharmaceuticals, used in electrochemical cells, batteries, and in organic syntheses.
Perfluorobutanoic acid (PFBA)	2023	ppt or ng/L	10.36	5.5 – 24.3	PFAS are a group of synthetic chemicals used in a wide range of consumer products and industrial applications including: non-stick cookware, water-repellent clothing, stain resistant fabrics and carpets, cosmetics, firefighting foams, electroplating, and products that resist grease, water, and oil. PFAS are found in the blood of people and animals and in water, air, fish, and soil at locations across the United States and the world.
Perfluorobutanesulfonic acid (PFBS)	2023	ppt or ng/L	5.38	4.6 – 7	
perfluoroheptanoic acid (PFHpA)	2023	ppt or ng/L	6.13	4.8 – 7.1	
Perfluorohexanoic acid (PFHxA)	2023	ppt or ng/L	9.95	5.8 – 12	
Perfluorohexanesulfonic acid (PFHxS)	2023	ppt or ng/L	3.85	3.8 – 3.9	
Perfluorononanoic acid (PFNA)**	2023	ppt or ng/L	4.95	4.4 – 5.5	
Perfluorooctanoic acid (PFOA)**	2023	ppt or ng/L	21.2	19 – 23.3	
Perfluorooctanesulfonic acid (PFOS)**	2023	ppt or ng/L	9.43	8.3 – 10.2	
Perfluoropentanoic acid (PFPeA)	2023	ppt or ng/L	10.8	6.3 – 13.8	

**Regulated by the NJDEP – see "Test Results" table above. Note, these samples were collected prior to the activation of our PFAS Treatment effective July 2024. We are required to continue to report these results for 5 years.

The state allows us to monitor 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.

Waivers - 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 a monitoring waiver for asbestos through 2028. Our system has previously received waivers for synthetic organic compounds and expects to receive a waiver for the current compliance period.

Iron - The recommended upper limit for iron is based on unpleasant taste of the water and staining of laundry. Iron is an essential nutrient, but some people who drink water with iron levels well above the recommended upper limit could develop deposits of iron in a number of organs of the body.

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.

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. Waldwick 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 Waldwick. 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.

For those served by a lead service line, flushing times may vary based on the length of the service line and plumbing configuration in your home. If your home is set back further from the street, a longer flushing time may be needed. To conserve water, other household water usage activities such as showering, washing clothes, and running the dishwasher are effective methods of flushing out water from a service line. To determine if you have a lead service line, contact us 201-652-5300 x 240.

Waldwick does not provide free lead testing of customer water but will provide a list of laboratories certified by the NJDEP for lead analyses of water samples. You can call us at 201-652-5300 x 240 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.

Waldwick is developing a service line inventory in compliance with New Jersey and USEPA requirements. The inventory is available at the Waldwick website, along with information on identifying your service line, at: https://www.waldwicknj.gov/departments/water.

What Can I Do to Reduce Exposure to Lead in Drinking Water?

- Determine if you have a lead service line or interior lead plumbing or solder. If there is a lead service line, replace it in full, from main to home. Contact your water system prior to replacing the lead service line on your property. To determine if you have a lead service line, contact us at 201-652-5300 x 240.
- Replace plumbing fixtures and service lines containing lead. New brass faucets, fittings, and valves, including those advertised as "lead-free," may contain lead and contribute to lead in drinking water. The law currently allows end-use brass fixtures, such as faucets, with up to 0.25% lead to be labeled as "lead free." Consumers should be aware of this when choosing fixtures and take appropriate precautions.
- Run the cold water to flush out lead. The longer the water resides in plumbing the more lead it contains.
- Flushing the tap means running the cold-water faucet for about 15 to 30 seconds. For those with lead service lines or until you determine if you are served by one, let the water run from the tap longer 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.
- Use cold water for cooking, drinking, and preparing baby formula as lead dissolves more easily into hot water.
- Do not boil water to remove lead. Boiling water will not reduce lead.
- Remove and clean aerators/screens on plumbing fixtures.
- REPEAT Test your water for lead.
- Look for alternative sources or treatment of water. You may want to consider purchasing bottled water or a water filter. Read the package to be sure the filter is approved to reduce lead or contact NSF International at 800-NSF-8010 or www.nsf.org for information on performance standards for water filters.

PFAS –Elevated Concentrations (first half of 2024, below detection starting in July 2024 with treatment in place) - Per- and polyfluoroalkyl substances (PFAS) are a group of manmade chemicals that have been used in industrial and commercial applications for over 70 years. 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.

As our customers, you have a right to know what happened, what you should do, and what we are doing to correct this situation. The Borough tests for three types of New Jersey regulated PFAS chemicals: PFNA, PFOA, and PFOS. As first reported to you in 2021, our water system violated the New Jersey drinking water standards for PFOA and PFOS which became effective in 2021. We were required to update and repeat public notification every quarter until permanent treatment was made operational, which occurred in July 2024.

PFOS concentrations exceeded the NJ MCL in February 2021 at one location. Temporary treatment was installed to treat the water at that location, and PFOS and PFOA concentrations at this location were below detection during 2023. PFOA first exceeded the NJ MCL in the third quarter of 2021. Since treatment was not installed within one year of the exceedance, this was considered a treatment technique violation. **Permanent treatment was brought online in July 2024 and the system is in compliance with NJDEP requirements.**

Note – now that treatment is operational, and Waldwick water is below detection in PFAS, the following information is just for your information

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.

People who drink water containing PFOA in excess of the MCL over time could experience problems with their blood serum cholesterol levels, liver, kidney, immune system, or, in males, the reproductive system. Drinking water containing PFOA in excess of the MCL over time may also increase the risk of testicular and kidney cancer. For females, drinking water containing PFOA in excess of the MCL over time may cause developmental delays in a fetus and/or an infant. Some of these developmental effects may persist through childhood.

What should I do?

- If you have specific health concerns, a severely compromised immune system, have an infant, are pregnant, or are elderly, you may be at higher risk than other individuals and should seek advice from your health care providers about drinking this water.
- The New Jersey Department of Health advises that infant formula and other beverages for infants, such as juice, should be prepared with bottled water when PFOA and/or PFOS is elevated in drinking water.
- Pregnant, nursing, and women considering having children may choose to use bottled water for drinking and cooking to reduce exposure to PFOA and/or PFOS.
- Other people may also choose to use bottled water for drinking and cooking to reduce exposure to PFOA and/or PFOS or a home water filter that is certified to reduce levels of PFOA and/or PFOS. Home water treatment devices are available that can reduce levels of PFOA and/or PFOS. For more specific information regarding the effectiveness of home water filters for reducing PFOA and/or PFOS, visit the National Sanitation Foundation (NSF) International website, http://www.nsf.org/.
- Boiling your water will not remove PFOA and/or PFOS.

More information regarding PFOA and PFOS can be found on the Borough Water Department Webpage: https://www.waldwicknj.org/departments/water or at https://dep.nj.gov/pfas/about/.

Please share this PFAS 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.

For more information, please contact the Borough of Waldwick Water Department at 201-652-5300 x 240, or info@waldwicknj.org, or at 63 Franklin Turnpike, Waldwick, NJ 07463.

Iron and Manganese – 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 01/01/2024 – 12/31/2024 compliance period, we did not complete all monitoring or testing for iron and manganese, and therefore cannot be sure of the quality of your water during that time. However, these are secondary contaminants, and historic monitoring in the system, and monitoring at the entry to the system at each plant has shown these below detection

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.

Discolored or Cloudy Water

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 twice a year)*
* Water main breaks or shutdowns 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 Clarity Issues:

The Waldwick Water Department is aware that water clarity and taste issues have been reported periodically since at least August 2024. **All required sampling and additional diagnostic sampling indicate that the water continues to be safe to drink.**

The Waldwick water department urges all residents who are experiencing water quality issues, who have experienced water quality issues in the past, to report their experiences to the Borough. It is imperative that we have a complete, accurate, and current picture of the situation as we work to address the issues. Please report these issues via phone at 201-652-5300 ext. 228, via email to Steven Neale at sneale@waldwicknj.gov, or via the online form here: https://www.waldwicknj.gov/waterclarityissues.

We have prepared the following summary of our awareness of the issues below:

- A water main break occurred on June 10th, 2024 – the break was repaired by June 12th, the Boil Water Advisory was lifted by June 13th, and subsequent flushing was performed. The repair and flushing should have resolved this period of discolored water.
- Startup of the new PFAS Treatment systems was performed in early July 2024. Treatment to remove PFAS compounds was added to satisfy EPA and NJDEP requirements. As treatment was brought online, some locations have required routine maintenance. This increased maintenance resulted in wells running in a different pattern than prior to these new treatment systems being brought online.
- As part of implementing the PFAS system, hydrant flushing was implemented in late July 2024 to remove any areas of older/untreated water.
- By late August, investigations were conducted to address customer complaints. These investigated potential water main leaks or other potential causes. Samples collected in early September indicated slightly elevated iron concentration, but tested negative for coliform, indicating that the water mains were intact. Elevated iron can cause an unpleasant taste of the water and staining of the laundry.
- In Early September, Waldwick Water completed a program of water main flushing around the area of customer complaints.
- Late September through December, additional water main flushing was conducted, in response to new complaints and as part of routine system maintenance.
- Starting in January 2025, the Water Department began working with the water engineering firm to assist with investigation of potential sources and to help develop a plan to identify, address, and correct the issue. In the 1st and 2nd quarter of 2025, they have been developing a hydraulic model of our system, and reviewing water quality information as part of this process.

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!**