

# ANNUAL WATER QUALITY REPORT

Reporting Year 2025



***Presented By***  
**Denville Water**

**Mayor: Thomas W. Andes**

**Business Administrator: Steven Ward**

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## Our Commitment

We are pleased to present to you this year's annual water quality report. This report is a snapshot of last year's water quality covering all testing performed between January 1 and December 31, 2025. Included are details about your sources of water, what it contains, and how it compares to standards set by regulatory agencies. Our constant goal is to provide you with a safe and dependable supply of drinking water. We want you to understand the efforts we make to continually improve the water treatment process and protect our water resources. We are committed to ensuring the quality of your water and providing you with this information because informed customers are our best allies.

## Where Does My Water Come From?

Our primary drinking water supply is from a groundwater source called the Early Mesozoic Basin Aquifer. The rock type in this aquifer is sandstone. We have five wells placed throughout the area that draw from this groundwater supply. In addition to our own wells, we purchase water from the Morris County Municipal Utilities Authority (MUA). The MUA operates six wells in Alamatong, located in Randolph and Chester Townships, and two wells in Flanders Valley, located in Mount Olive and Roxbury Townships. These wells draw from the Upper and Lower Stratified Glacier Drift and the Lower Leithsville limestone formations. Customers from the south side of town receive their drinking water solely from the MUA. Customers in all other areas receive their water from the Denville Water Department. Demand for good, safe drinking water is high; we provide our customers an average of two million gallons of water every day.

Our water supply is part of the Hackensack-Passaic watershed, which covers an area of about 1,123 square miles. One third of our watershed is covered by urban development, with the remainder under forest cover or used for agricultural purposes. We are entrusted to maintain this watershed property, ensuring a safe and dependable water supply for our customers. To learn more about our watershed, visit the U.S. EPA's How's My Waterway at [epa.gov/waterdata/how-s-my-waterway](http://epa.gov/waterdata/how-s-my-waterway).

## How Is My Water Treated and Purified?

Our groundwater supply is not exposed to air or subject to the direct pollution and contamination that a river or a reservoir may receive. In fact, because groundwater is the safest and of the highest quality available to meet the public health demand of water intended for human consumption, we are able to provide your water directly from the source. However, as an additional service to our customers, we initially process our water through an air stripper to remove volatile organic compounds like methyl tert-butyl ether (MTBE). Vyredox for manganese removal is conducted. Then we add chlorine (a precaution against any bacteria that may be present) before pumping the water to sanitized underground reservoirs and water towers and your home or business. We carefully monitor the amount of water additives, adding the lowest quantity necessary to protect the safety of your water without compromising quality or taste.

## Community Participation

You are invited to participate in our public forum and voice your concerns about your drinking water. We meet the first and third Tuesday of each month at 7:30 p.m. at Township Hall, One St. Mary's Place.

## Lead in Home Plumbing

Lead can cause serious health problems, especially for pregnant women and young children. Lead in drinking water is primarily from materials and components associated with service lines and home plumbing. Denville 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, or 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 it tested, contact Denville Township Water Department at (973) 625-8334. Information on lead in drinking water, testing methods, and steps you can take to minimize exposure is available at [epa.gov/safewater/lead](http://epa.gov/safewater/lead).



To address lead in drinking water, public water systems were required to develop and maintain an inventory of service line materials by October 16, 2024. Developing an inventory and identifying the location of lead service lines (LSL) is the first step for beginning LSL replacement and protecting public health. The lead service inventory may be accessed at [denvillenj.gov/departments/utilities\\_\(water\\_serwer\\_and\\_garbage\).php](http://denvillenj.gov/departments/utilities_(water_serwer_and_garbage).php). Please contact us if you would like more information about the inventory or any lead sampling that has been done.

## Which Household Activity Wastes the Most Water?

Most people would say the majority of water use comes from showering or washing dishes; however, toilet flushing is by far the largest single use of water in a home (accounting for 40% of total water use). Toilets use about 4–6 gallons per flush, so consider an ultra-low-flow (ULF) toilet, which requires only 1.5 gallons.

**QUESTIONS?** For more information about this report, or for any questions relating to your drinking water, please call Nicholas Petrillo, Licensed Water Treatment Operator, at (973) 625-8334.

## Source Water Assessment

The Source Water Assessment Plan (SWAP) is a program of the New Jersey Department of Environmental Protection (NJDEP) for the study of existing and potential threats to the quality of public drinking water sources throughout the state. Sources are rated depending on their contaminant susceptibility.

NJDEP has completed and issued the source water assessment report and summary for this public water system, which is available at [nj.gov/dep/watersupply/swap/index.html](http://nj.gov/dep/watersupply/swap/index.html) or by contacting the NJDEP Bureau of Safe Drinking Water at (609) 292-5550 or [watersupply@dep.nj.gov](mailto:watersupply@dep.nj.gov).

If a system is rated highly susceptible for a contaminant category, it does not mean a customer is or will be consuming contaminated drinking water. The rating reflects the potential for contamination of source water, not the existence of contamination. Public water systems are required to monitor for regulated contaminants and install treatment if any contaminants are detected at frequencies and concentrations above allowable levels. As a result of the assessments, NJDEP may customize (change existing) monitoring schedules based on the susceptibility ratings.

Source water protection is a long-term dedication to clean and safe drinking water. It is more cost-effective to prevent contamination than to address contamination after the fact. Every member of the community has an important role in source water protection. NJDEP recommends controlling activities and development around drinking water sources, whether through land acquisition, stormwater drain protection, or hazardous waste collection programs. A source water protection plan that provides more information, such as potential sources of contamination, is available at the Morris County MUA office at 300 Mendham Road, Morris Township.

### Susceptibility Ratings for Denville Township Water Department

|         | Pathogens |   |   | Nutrients |   |   | Pesticides |   |   | Volatile Organic Compounds |   |   | Inorganics |   |   | Radionuclides |   |   | Radon |   |   | Disinfection Byproduct Precursors |   |   |
|---------|-----------|---|---|-----------|---|---|------------|---|---|----------------------------|---|---|------------|---|---|---------------|---|---|-------|---|---|-----------------------------------|---|---|
| SOURCES | 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-5 |           |   | 5 |           |   | 5 |            |   |   | 5                          |   |   |            | 1 | 4 |               | 5 |   | 2     | 3 |   | 3                                 | 2 |   |

### Susceptibility Ratings for the Morris County MUA Sources

| WELLS-8 |           |   |   |           |   |   |            |   |   |                            |   |   |            |   |   |               |   |   |       |   |   |                                   |   |   |
|---------|-----------|---|---|-----------|---|---|------------|---|---|----------------------------|---|---|------------|---|---|---------------|---|---|-------|---|---|-----------------------------------|---|---|
| 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-8 |           | 8 |   | 4         | 2 | 2 |            | 2 | 6 | 2                          |   | 6 |            | 1 | 7 | 1             | 6 | 1 | 2     | 6 |   | 5                                 | 3 |   |

## Substances That Could Be in Water

The sources of drinking water (both tap water and bottled water) include rivers, lakes, streams, ponds, reservoirs, springs, and wells. As water travels over the surface of the land or through the ground, it dissolves naturally occurring minerals and, in some cases, radioactive material and can pick up substances resulting from the presence of animals or from human activity. Contaminants that may be present in source water include:

Microbial Contaminants, such as viruses and bacteria, which may come from sewage treatment plants, septic systems, agricultural livestock operations, and wildlife;

Inorganic Contaminants, such as salts and metals, which can occur naturally in the soil or groundwater or may result from urban stormwater runoff, industrial or domestic wastewater discharges, oil and gas production, mining, or farming;

Pesticides and Herbicides, which may come from a variety of sources such as agriculture, urban stormwater runoff, and residential uses;

Organic Chemical Contaminants, including synthetic and volatile organic chemicals, which are by-products of industrial processes and petroleum production and can also come from gas stations, urban stormwater runoff, and septic systems; and

Radioactive Contaminants, which can occur naturally or be the result of oil and gas production and mining activities.

To ensure that tap water is safe to drink, the U.S. Environmental Protection Agency (U.S. EPA) prescribes regulations that limit the amount of certain contaminants in water provided by public water systems. Food and Drug Administration (FDA) 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 mean that water poses a health risk. More information about contaminants and potential health effects can be obtained by calling the Safe Drinking Water Hotline at (800) 426-4791 or visiting [epa.gov/safewater](http://epa.gov/safewater).

# Test Results

Our water is monitored for many different kinds of substances on a very strict sampling schedule, and the water we deliver must meet specific health standards. Here, we only show those substances that were detected in our water (a complete list of all our analytical results is available upon request). Remember that detecting a substance does not mean the water is unsafe to drink; our goal is to keep all detects below their respective maximum allowed levels.

The state recommends monitoring for certain substances less than once per year because the concentrations of these substances do not change frequently. In these cases, the most recent sample data is included, along with the year in which the sample was taken.

Call us at (973) 625-8334 to find out how to get your water tested for lead. Testing is essential because you cannot see, taste, or smell lead in drinking water.

We participated in the fifth stage of the U.S. EPA's Unregulated Contaminant Monitoring Rule (UCMR5) program by performing additional tests on our drinking water. UCMR5 sampling benefits the environment and public health by providing the U.S. EPA with data on the occurrence of contaminants suspected to be in drinking water to determine if it needs to introduce new regulatory standards to improve drinking water quality. Unregulated contaminant monitoring data is available to the public, so please feel free to contact us if you are interested in obtaining this information. If you would like more information on the U.S. EPA's Unregulated Contaminant Monitoring Rule, please call the Safe Drinking Water Hotline at (800) 426-4791.



## Important Health Information

Some people may be more vulnerable to contaminants in drinking water than the general population. Immunocompromised persons such as persons with cancer undergoing chemotherapy, persons who have undergone organ transplants, people with HIV/AIDS or other immune system disorders, some elderly, and infants can be particularly at risk from infections. These people should seek advice about drinking water from their health-care providers. U.S. EPA/Centers for Disease Control and Prevention (CDC) guidelines on appropriate means to lessen the risk of infection by *Cryptosporidium* and other microbial contaminants are available from the Safe Drinking Water Hotline at (800) 426-4791.

| REGULATED SUBSTANCES <sup>1</sup>   |              |            |              |                                       |                |                 |                |           |                                                                                                                          |
|-------------------------------------|--------------|------------|--------------|---------------------------------------|----------------|-----------------|----------------|-----------|--------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------|
|                                     |              |            |              | Township of Denville Water Department |                | MUA             |                |           |                                                                                                                          |
| SUBSTANCE (UNIT OF MEASURE)         | YEAR SAMPLED | MCL [MRDL] | MCLG [MRDLG] | AMOUNT DETECTED                       | RANGE LOW-HIGH | AMOUNT DETECTED | RANGE LOW-HIGH | VIOLATION | TYPICAL SOURCE                                                                                                           |
| Arsenic (ppb)                       | 2023         | 5          | 0            | 1.10                                  | ND–1.10        | NA              | NA             | No        | Erosion of natural deposits; Runoff from orchards; Runoff from glass and electronics production wastes                   |
| Barium (ppm)                        | 2023         | 2          | 2            | 0.02                                  | NA             | 0.1             | 0.001–0.1      | No        | Discharge of drilling wastes; Discharge from metal refineries; Erosion of natural deposits                               |
| Chlorine (ppm)                      | 2025         | [4]        | [4]          | 0.45                                  | 0.37–0.61      | NA              | NA             | No        | Water additive used to control microbes                                                                                  |
| Combined Radium (pCi/L)             | 2023         | 5          | 0            | 3.0                                   | 1.5–3.0        | NA              | NA             | No        | Erosion of natural deposits                                                                                              |
| Fluoride (ppm)                      | 2023         | 4          | 4            | 0.08                                  | ND–0.08        | 0.13            | NA             | No        | Erosion of natural deposits; Water additive that promotes strong teeth; Discharge from fertilizer and aluminum factories |
| Haloacetic Acids [HAA5] (ppb)       | 2025         | 60         | NA           | ND                                    | NA             | NA              | NA             | No        | By-product of drinking water disinfection                                                                                |
| Nickel (ppb)                        | 2023         | 100        | NA           | 5.50                                  | 2.00–5.50      | 0.6             | NA             | No        | Pollution from mining and refining operations; Natural occurrence in soil                                                |
| Nitrate + Nitrite (ppm)             | 2025         | 10         | 10           | 1.66                                  | 0.47–2.27      | NA              | NA             | No        | Runoff from fertilizer use; Leaching from septic tanks, sewage; Erosion of natural deposits                              |
| Nitrate (ppm)                       | 2025         | 10         | 10           | NA                                    | NA             | 3.01            | 0.80–3.01      | No        | Runoff from fertilizer use; Leaching from septic tanks, sewage; Erosion of natural deposits                              |
| Total Trihalomethanes [TTHMs] (ppb) | 2025         | 80         | NA           | 4.03                                  | ND–3.70        | NA              | NA             | No        | By-product of drinking water disinfection                                                                                |



Tap water samples were collected for lead and copper analyses from sample sites throughout the community

| SUBSTANCE<br>(UNIT OF MEASURE) | YEAR<br>SAMPLED | AL  | MCLG | AMOUNT DETECTED<br>(90TH %ILE) | RANGE LOW-HIGH | SITES ABOVE AL/<br>TOTAL SITES | VIOLATION | TYPICAL SOURCE                                                       |
|--------------------------------|-----------------|-----|------|--------------------------------|----------------|--------------------------------|-----------|----------------------------------------------------------------------|
| <b>Copper</b> (ppm)            | 2023            | 1.3 | 1.3  | 0.33                           | 0.028–0.514    | 0/30                           | No        | Corrosion of household plumbing systems; Erosion of natural deposits |
| <b>Lead</b> (ppb)              | 2023            | 15  | 0    | 12.70                          | ND–22          | 1/30                           | No        | Corrosion of household plumbing systems; Erosion of natural deposits |

## SECONDARY SUBSTANCES

|                                |                 |                 |      | Township of Denville Water<br>Department |                   | MUA                |                   |           |                     |
|--------------------------------|-----------------|-----------------|------|------------------------------------------|-------------------|--------------------|-------------------|-----------|---------------------|
| SUBSTANCE<br>(UNIT OF MEASURE) | YEAR<br>SAMPLED | RUL             | MCLG | AMOUNT<br>DETECTED                       | RANGE<br>LOW-HIGH | AMOUNT<br>DETECTED | RANGE<br>LOW-HIGH | VIOLATION | TYPICAL SOURCE      |
| <b>Sodium</b> (ppm)            | 2023            | 50 <sup>2</sup> | NA   | 88.00                                    | 28.00–88.00       | 57                 | 6–57              | No        | Naturally occurring |

## UNREGULATED SUBSTANCES

|                                            |                 | Township of Denville Water Department |                   | MUA                |                   |                   |
|--------------------------------------------|-----------------|---------------------------------------|-------------------|--------------------|-------------------|-------------------|
| SUBSTANCE<br>(UNIT OF MEASURE)             | YEAR<br>SAMPLED | AMOUNT<br>DETECTED                    | RANGE<br>LOW-HIGH | AMOUNT<br>DETECTED | RANGE<br>LOW-HIGH | TYPICAL<br>SOURCE |
| Chromium, Total (ppb)                      | 2023            | NA                                    | NA                | 0.8                | NA                | NA                |
| Perfluorobutanesulfonic Acid [PFBS] (ppt)  | 2025            | 3.74                                  | 1.37–7.31         | NA                 | NA                | NA                |
| Perfluorobutanoic Acid [PFBA] (ppt)        | 2025            | 3.44                                  | 2.17–4.63         | NA                 | NA                | NA                |
| Perfluoroheptanoic Acid [PFHpA] (ppm)      | 2025            | 2.53                                  | ND–4.69           | NA                 | NA                | NA                |
| Perfluorohexanesulfonic Acid (PFHxS) (ppt) | 2025            | 2.61                                  | 1.63–4.36         | NA                 | NA                | NA                |
| Perfluorohexanoic Acid [PFHxA] (ppt)       | 2025            | 3.57                                  | 1.78–5.47         | NA                 | NA                | NA                |
| Perfluorooctanesulfonic Acid (PFOS) (ppt)  | 2025            | 3.68                                  | 2.19–4.85         | 4.96               | ND–6.21           | NA                |
| Perfluorooctanoic Acid (PFOA) (ppt)        | 2025            | 10.30                                 | 4.70–15.30        | 7.67               | 2.36–9.21         | NA                |
| Perfluoropentanoic Acid [PFPeA] (ppt)      | 2025            | 4.33                                  | 1.68–8.19         | NA                 | NA                | NA                |

<sup>1</sup> Under a waiver granted on December 30, 1998, by the NJDEP, our system does not have to monitor for synthetic organic chemicals/pesticides because several years of testing have indicated that these substances do not occur in our source water. The Safe Drinking Water Act regulations allow monitoring waivers to reduce or eliminate the monitoring requirements for asbestos, volatile organic chemicals, and synthetic organic chemicals. Our system received monitoring waivers for synthetic organic chemicals and asbestos.

<sup>2</sup> 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 may be a concern to individuals on a sodium-restricted diet.

## Definitions

**90th %ile:** The levels reported for lead and copper represent the 90th percentile of the total number of sites tested. The 90th percentile is equal to or greater than 90% of our lead and copper detections.

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

**Herbicide:** Any chemical(s) used to control undesirable vegetation.

**MCL (Maximum Contaminant Level):** The highest level of a contaminant that is allowed in drinking water. MCLs are set as close to the MCLGs as feasible using the best available treatment technology.

**MCLG (Maximum Contaminant Level Goal):** The level of a contaminant in drinking water below which there is no known or expected risk to health. MCLGs allow for a margin of safety.

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

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

**NA:** Not applicable.

**ND (Not detected):** Indicates that the substance was not found by laboratory analysis.

**pCi/L (picocuries per liter):** A measure of radioactivity.

**Pesticide:** Generally, any substance or mixture of substances intended for preventing, destroying, repelling, or mitigating any pest.

**ppb (parts per billion):** One part substance per billion parts water (or micrograms per liter).

**ppm (parts per million):** One part substance per million parts water (or milligrams per liter).

**ppt (parts per trillion):** One part substance per trillion parts water (or nanograms per liter).

**RUL (Recommended Upper Limit):** These standards are developed to protect aesthetic qualities of drinking water and are not health based.



## Count On Us

Delivering high-quality drinking water to our customers involves far more than just pushing water through pipes. Water treatment is a complex, time-consuming process. Because tap water is highly regulated by state and federal laws, water treatment plant and system operators must be licensed and are required to commit to long-term, on-the-job training before becoming fully qualified. Our licensed water professionals have a basic understanding of a wide range of subjects, including mathematics, biology, chemistry, and physics. Some of the tasks they complete on a regular basis include:

- Operating and maintaining equipment to purify and clarify water.
- Monitoring and inspecting machinery, meters, gauges, and operating conditions.
- Conducting tests and inspections on water and evaluating the results.
- Maintaining optimal water chemistry.
- Applying data to formulas that determine treatment requirements, flow levels, and concentration levels.
- Documenting and reporting test results and system operations to regulatory agencies.
- Serving our community through customer support, education, and outreach.

So the next time you turn on your faucet, think of the skilled professionals who stand behind each drop!

## Hard vs. Soft Water

Hard water contains higher levels of naturally occurring minerals, primarily calcium and magnesium. These minerals are not harmful to human health and can even contribute beneficial nutrients. However, hard water can cause scale buildup in pipes, appliances, and fixtures. Soft water has lower mineral content and allows soap to lather more easily. It also helps extend the life of water heaters, washing machines, and plumbing fixtures. Hardness levels vary widely depending on local geology and groundwater conditions. Some households choose to install water softeners to reduce scaling and improve appliance efficiency. It is important to note that water hardness is a quality issue, not a safety concern. Both hard and soft water supplied by public water systems meet all health-based drinking water standards.



## Why Save Water?

Although 80% of the Earth's surface is water, only 1% is suitable for drinking. The rest is either salt water or is permanently frozen, and we can't drink it, wash with it, or use it to water plants.

## Q&A

### Why can tap water have a taste?

Taste in drinking water is usually related to naturally occurring minerals, disinfectants, or seasonal changes in source water. While these characteristics may affect taste, they do not typically indicate a health risk.

### Why is water sometimes called the “original energy drink”?

Water helps regulate body temperature, supports digestion, and keeps joints moving—without sugar, calories, or caffeine.

### Can weather affect drinking water quality?

Heavy rain, drought, or seasonal changes can influence source water conditions. Water systems adjust treatment processes as needed to maintain water quality during changing environmental conditions.

### Why is maintaining water infrastructure important?

Pipes, pumps, and treatment facilities are critical for delivering safe drinking water. Regular maintenance and upgrades help prevent leaks, breaks, and service disruptions.

### What can customers do to help protect water quality?

Customers can help by reporting leaks, avoiding cross-connections, maintaining household plumbing, and staying informed through their annual water quality report.



## Safeguard Your Drinking Water

Protection of drinking water is everyone's responsibility. You can help protect your community's drinking water source in several ways:

- Eliminate excess use of lawn and garden fertilizers and pesticides – they contain hazardous chemicals that can reach your drinking water source.
- Pick up after your pets.
- If you have your own septic system, properly maintain it to reduce leaching to water sources, or consider connecting to a public water system.
- Dispose of chemicals properly; take used motor oil to a recycling center.
- Volunteer in your community. Find a watershed or wellhead protection organization in your community and volunteer to help. If there are no active groups, consider starting one. Use U.S. EPA's Adopt Your Watershed to locate groups in your community.
- Organize a storm drain stenciling project with others in your neighborhood. Stencil a message next to the street drain reminding people “Dump No Waste – Drains to River” or “Protect Your Water.” Produce and distribute a flyer for households to remind residents that storm drains dump directly into your local water body.