af's In Your Waters

Testing and Treatment Basics for Healthy Communities



Your water is our mission.

Mara Tippett <u>mtippett@raritanheadwaters.org</u> 908-234-1852 Ext 401

What Does



Science

• We monitor the health of surface water and groundwater, plants, and animals in the region to identify trends, discover problem areas, and measure the success of our programs.

Raritan

Headwaters





• We craft education programs about water, wildlife conservation, and responsible stewardship practices for children of all ages, teachers, municipalities, home/landowners, and visitors.

Advocate

 As The Watershed Watchdog, we identify key water-related issues at all levels of government. We educate politicians to ensure they understand the environmental ramifications of the decisions before them. We also alert our membership to actions they can take to protect their water and environment.



Preserve & Steward

 Our cleanup program engages hundreds of volunteers to remove tons of trash every year from our streams. We help preserve land with our partners. We manage our preserved lands using nationally recognized best management practices. Accredited through the Land Trust Alliance 2018.

Protecting water in our rivers, our streams and our homes.

North & South Branch Raritan Region

- ♦470 square miles: 43% of the Raritan Basin
- 3 Counties: Hunterdon, Somerset & Morris
- includes all or parts of 38 municipalities
- home to nearly 250,000 people
- ♦ 34% Urban, 22% Ag, 45% Forest & Wetland
- our rivers provide drinking water to more than 1.5 million citizens downstream
- part of the Highlands Water Supply





North Branch: Headquarters
Fairview Farm Wildlife Preserve
2121 Larger Cross Road, Bedminster

South Branch: Well Testing Program 124 Main Street, Flemington



Seminar Series: Watershed Tools for Local Leaders

- Share and apply key science, planning, and regulatory tools
- Partner on projects to identify, protect, and restore water resources
- For upcoming seminar topics & dates visit
 <u>www.raritanheadwaters.org</u>

Climate Resilient Municipalities: Controlling Stormwater, Protecting Streams & Maintaining Water Quality

Dr.Chris Obropta, Rutgers University Dr. Kristi MacDonald and Bill Kibler, RHA

Thursday, May 16

2-4pm Clarence Dillon Library 2336 Lamington Rd., Bedminster Twp.

For more info. please email: kmacdonald@raritanheadwaters.org







From: Public Notification Handbook for Public Water Systems, USEPA Office of Water, USEPA Publication 570/9-89-002 September 1989 Raritan Headwaters







Community Water Systems: Public Water



Private Wells in New Jersey

- NJ Population: 8.9 million (2015 est.)
 - **13%** of the population (1,150,000 people) have private wells for their drinking water supply.
- An estimated 400,000 private (domestic) wells in New Jersey.
- No federal regulations cover private wells.
- Before 2002: state regulations applied only to newly-constructed wells.





Groundwater Contamination



DRINKING WATER PROTECTION IN NEW JERSEY

NJ Private Well Test Act-2002

- Requires testing of private residential wells when sold or leased
- Additional testing for:
 - 1,2,3-trichloropropane (TCP)
 - 1,2-dibromomethane (EDB)
 - 1,2-dibromo-3-chloropropane (DBCP)
 - PFOA
 - Arsenic
 - Uranium
 - Gross Alpha

What your water could have looked like before the SDWA was est. in 1974...

Safe Drinking Water Act-1974

- Requires periodic testing by public water utilities for a number of contaminants
- Established Drinking Water Quality Institute (DWQI)



Deanna Doster

Project Coordinator Garden State Laboratories, Inc. ddoster@gslabs.com





Private Well Testing Act: Overview and New Additions



Garden State Laboratories, Inc. BACTERIOLOGICAL AND CHEMICAL TESTING Analytical Excellence Since 1943



NJ Private Well Testing Act

- Became effective 9/16/2002.
- Real estate with wells. <u>Untreated</u> well water must be tested during real estate transactions for up to 35 parameters (county-dependent).
- Testing done by private, state-certified labs. Cost paid by seller or buyer.
- Results provided to client and submitted electronically to the NJDEP.
- No action required if a parameter limit is "exceeded" (a right-to-know law).





Mara Tippett RHA Watershed Science, Ground Water <u>mtippett@raritanheadwaters.org</u> 908-234-1852 ext. 401





Many contamin are ODORLESS, **TASTELESS** and COLORLESS. Harmful bacteria, parasites, and viruses are invisible to the naked eye, so water which looks and tastes good may not necessarily be safe to drink.



Community Well Testing Program TestMyWell.org

Bridgewater Township WELL TESTING 2018

Pick up a test kit @ Bridgewater Twp Municipal Building, 100 Commons Way

October 13th

9am – noon This event will include brief presentations on water quality, please join us!



- RHA partners with municipalities throughout the region to offer residents the opportunity to test their well water.
- Testing is done by a state-certified laboratory for analysis.
- Test results come directly to us, and we share the results directly with residents.

The only way to know your well water is safe is to test it!



Community Well Testing Program



Well lest Purchase Kits Here

Oct 3 - 21 Mon-Thurs 9:00am - 1:00pm & 2:00 - 4:00

Oct 11 & 18 5:00 - 8:00pm

Readington Twp Office



Our community of private well owners is growing!

The RHA Well Testing Program continues to be a reliable resource for residents to monitor their drinking water.



Lebanon Twp. Community Well Testing Participation





18 wells tested in 201284 wells tested in 2017!



Mount Arlington Borough

Roxbury Township Mine Hill Township Mount Olive Township Randolph Township

Mendham Township Chester Borough Washington Township Mendham Borough Chester Township

Peapack-Gladstone Borough Lebanon Township Bernardsville Borough Hampton Borough Califon Borough Far Hills Borough Glen Gardner BoroughTewksbury Township

Bethlehem TownshipHigh Bridge Borough Bedminster Township

Clinton TownLebanon Borough Union Township Clinton Township

Alexandria Township Franklin Township Branchburg Township Raritan Borough

Frenchtown Borough Raritan Township Flemington Borough Kingwood Township Hillsborough Township

Delaware Township East Amwell Township

West Amwell Township

~1,200 wells tested annually

Watershed-wide Well Testing

45 years of helping private well owners test their water

 80% of residents in Raritan Headwaters region rely on well water

CWT Participating Municipalities

- Alexandria Township
- Bedminster Township
- Bernardsville Borough
- Bethlehem Township
- Branchburg Township
- Bridgewater Township
- Califon Borough
- Chester Township
- Chester Borough
- Clinton Township
- Delaware Township
- East Amwell Township
- Far Hills Borough
- Franklin Township

- Frenchtown Borough
- Hillsborough Township
- Kingwood Township
- Lebanon Township
- Mendham Township
- Mount Olive Township
- Peapack-Gladstone
- Raritan Township
- Readington Township
- Tewksbury Township
- Union Township
- Washington Township
- West Amwell Township



Wells Tested by Raritan Headwaters in 2018





VHAT WORKS? Convenience Residents find the program's accessibility and affordability appealing. This is key to increasing participation rates. Communication Township generated messages are an effective means of communicating with the public. Residents need reminders to test! Community Health professionals and groundwater professionals can work together to help well owners. Education Well owners come from every social, economic and educational class. Many homeowners are new to rural life and the responsibility that comes with a well. PARTICIPATION Support Emphasize Disseminate township partners convenience, information to the privacy and in communication public regarding efforts and affordability local contamination provide resources risks and the need to for education and test. outreach Work with partners in healthcare fields for broader reach

Informational Survey for Private Well Owners

Community Well Test Participant Pilot Study, Fall 2016

A Joint Project of Raritan Headwaters and Columbia University Superfund Research Program (Community Engagement and Research Translation Cores)

- 88% heard about the program through a township communication
- 64% tested through RHA out of convenience
- 70% of respondents have never tested their well for arsenic





Community Well Testing



Long-term Trend Analysis of Groundwater Data



A Preliminary Analysis of Trends in Contaminants in Private Well Water in the North and South Branch Raritan Watershed (1984-2015)

> Kristi MacDonald, PhD, and Melissa Mitchell Thomas, GIS Specialist Rantan Headwaters June 2015





Purpose:

- To determine whether water quality in private wells has changed
 - Analyze how the amount of category 1 contaminants, arsenic, nitrate, coliform bacteria, and lead have changed over the past 30 years
- Long-term trend analyses detect changes
 - that occur slowly or lag and cyclic trends
 - due to multiple stressors
 - response and recovery from rare or extreme events
- Identify causes of change





Maximum Contaminant Levels:

- Coliform zero
- Lead 0.015 mg/L
- Arsenic 0.005 mg/L (NJ)
- Nitrate 10 mg/L

- Gross Alpha 15 pCi/L
- Iron 0.3 mg/L
- Manganese 0.05 mg/L



List of Required Parameters for Private Well Testing

	Total Coliform	*E.coli	Nitrate	Iron	Manganese	рН	VOCs	Lead	Arsenic	Mercury	Gross Alpha Particle Activity	Uranium
Atlantic	Х	Х	Х	Х	Х	Х	Х	Х	Х	Х	x	
Bergen	Х	Х	Х	Х	Х	Х	Х	Х	Х		Х	Х
Burlington	Х	Х	Х	Х	Х	Х	Х	Х	Х	Х	х	
Camden	Х	Х	Х	Х	Х	Х	Х	Х	Х	Х	х	
Cape May	Х	Х	Х	Х	Х	Х	Х	Х	Х	Х	х	
Cumberland	Х	Х	Х	Х	Х	Х	Х	Х	Х	Х	х	
Essex	Х	Х	Х	Х	Х	Х	Х	Х	Х		Х	Х
Gloucester	Х	Х	Х	Х	Х	Х	Х	Х	Х	Х	х	
Hudson	Х	Х	Х	Х	Х	Х	Х	Х	Х		Х	Х
Hunterdon	Х	Х	Х	Х	Х	Х	Х	Х	Х		x	Х
Mercer	Х	Х	Х	Х	Х	Х	Х	Х	Х		x	Х
Middlesex	Х	Х	Х	Х	Х	Х	Х	Х	Х		х	Х
Monmouth	Х	Х	Х	Х	Х	Х	Х	Х	Х	Х	х	
Morris	Х	Х	Х	Х	Х	Х	Х	Х	Х		Х	Х
Ocean	Х	Х	Х	Х	Х	Х	Х	Х	Х	Х	х	
Passaic	Х	Х	Х	Х	Х	Х	Х	Х	Х		Х	Х
Salem	Х	Х	Х	Х	Х	Х	Х	Х	Х	Х	х	
Somerset	Х	Х	Х	Х	Х	Х	Х	Х	Х		Х	Х
Sussex	Х	Х	Х	Х	Х	Х	Х	Х	Х		Х	Х
Union	Х	Х	Х	Х	Х	Х	Х	Х	Х		Х	Х
Warren	Х	Х	Х	Х	Х	Х	Х	Х	Х		Х	Х

*E. Coli testing is required only if a sample tests positive for total coliform. See N.J.A.C. 7:9E-2.1(a)2.

- Commonly found in soil and surface water
- As well as in the intestines of animals and humans
- Indicator of Water Quality



- Defective well cap or casing
- Flooding
- Close proximity to septic tanks, drains or animal feedlots

- Health Symptoms include:
 - ✓ Mild digestive upset
 - ✓ Gastroenteritis (food poisoning)
 - ✓ Urinary tract infections



What to do?

- Regularly service septic system
- Maintain a properly functioning well
- If Positive:
 - ✓ Do not drink the water (use bottled) or boil water for 1 minute before using
 - ✓ Disinfect your well or call a plumbing professional
 ✓ UV light

Coliform Bacteria and E. coli

Watershed-Wide Results Fall 2017-Spring 2018

Coliform

Non-Detect (838) Failed (212)

Coliform Bacteria Failure Rates 2014-2017



How does bacteria infect a well?

- Heavy rain events
- Problems with the well cap seal or casing
- Work was done recently on the well
- Water standing next to the well
- The well is shallow
- Septic system or animal waste close to the well





Readington Township Community Well Testing October, 2018 # wells tested = 170
No coliform bacteria detected=115
Coliform bacteria detected=55 (32%)



Observations show major increase in very heavy precipitation events over last 50 years defined as the heaviest 1 percent of all daily events from 1958 to 2010







Watershed-Wide Results Fall 2016-Spring 2017



- 2% of nitrates tests were at or above 10 mg/L
- 39% of nitrates tests were at or above 3 mg/L
- 76% of nitrates tests were at or above 1 mg/L





Figure 2. Outcrop showing metal-rich black shale between red beds in the Passaic For-mation near Flemington, NJ. Blue pencil shown for scale.



Arsenic

- Non-Detect ٠
- Present ٠
- Failed ٠





Figure 1. Location of the Piedmont Physiographic Province (shaded area in upper illustration) and color-shaded relief map (lower illustration) of northern New Jersey





Arsenic Exceedances* Overall 8.9% of wells exceeded the NJ MCL and 3.0% exceed the Federal MCL

Province	Exceedance of NJ Standard (5 ug/l)	Exceedance of Federal Standard (10 ug/l)
Valley and Ridge	2.0%	0.5%
Highlands	1.1%	0.5%
Piedmont	17.1%	5.7%
Coastal Plain	1.0%	0.6%

*Current through March 2014



Arsenic's Effects on the Human Body

Nervous System

Impaired intellectual function Impaired motor function Neuropathy

Cardiovascular System

Coronary heart disease Hypertension Heart attack

Renal System

Kidney cancer Bladder cancer

Skin

Skin lesions Skin cancer

Endocrine System

Diabetes Impaired glucose tolerance in pregnant women

Respiratory System

Pulmonary tuberculosis Bronchiectasis Lung cancer

Liver cancer

Developmental Process

Increased cancer risk as adults Increased infant mortality Neurological impairment Reduced birth weight

Percent of Tested Wells that Exceed Specific MCLs in NJ





Gundersen and Szabo,1995



Source: U.S. Environmental Protection Agency

- 5% of wells over Gross Alpha MCL of 15 pCi/L (117 wells tested this year)
- No MCL set for radon in NJ. EPA Action Standard= 4,000 pCi/L
- Radon range is 0-62,142 pCi/L watershed wide since 2011 (575 tests for radon in water)
 - Mean concentration of radon was 2,292 pCi/L





"Beyond Flint: Excessive lead levels found across all 50 states"

"Public health emergency declared in St. Joseph, Louisiana; water being tested for lead" "Arsenic, lead levels could crush property values in N.J. town, suit says"

Health Impacts of Lead

CLEAN WATER ACTION

Exposure to high levels of lead can cause severe damage to the brain, blood and kidneys. Children under six are most at risk from lead poisoning. Even low levels of lead exposure have been found to permanently reduce cognitive ability and cause hyperactivity in children.

CHILDREN

Brain Behavior problems, lower IQ, hearing loss, learning disabilities

> **Body** decreased bone and muscle growth

Blood Anemia

Nervous System Damage

ADULTS

Brain Memory loss, lack of concentration, headaches, irritability, depression.

> Digestive System Constipation, nausea and poor appetite

Nervous System Damage including numbness and pain in the extremities



Body Fatigue, joint and muscle pain

Cardiovascular High blood pressure

Kidneys Abnormal function and damage

Reproductive System

Men: Decreased sex drive and sperm count, and sperm anomalies. Women: Spontaneous miscarriage

Kidneys Abnormal function and damage





Watershed-Wide Results Fall 2016-Spring 2017









https://www.wrc.umn.edu/chloride

Volatile Organic Compounds Found in the Home



s e, g 		1. adhesives	7. dves		
		2. air fresheners	8. liquid cleaners		
		3. drapes	9. markers		
		4. floor polishes	10. paint		
		5. glue	11. toilet cleaners		
		6. carpet backing			
	Ŀ.	•			



Volatile Organic Compounds

Dichlorodifluoromethane Chloromethane Vinyl Chloride **Bromomethane** Chloroethane Trichlorofluoromethane 1,1-Dichloroethylene Methylene Chloride Methyl tert-Butyl Ether t-1,2-Dichloroethylene **Isopropyl Ether** 1,1-Dichloroethane 2,2-Dichloropropane cis-1,2-Dichloroethylene Chloroform Bromochloromethane 1,1,1-Trichloroethane 1,1-Dichloropropylene Carbon Tetrachloride

Benzene

1,2-Dichloroethane Trichloroethylene 1,2-Dichloropropane **Bromodichloromethane** Dibromomethane Toluene 1,1,2-Trichloroethane Tetrachloroethylene 1,3-Dichloropropane Dibromochloromethane 1,2-Dibromoethane Chlorobenzene Ethylbenzene 1,1,1,2-Tetrachloroethane o-Xylene m&p-Xylene Xylenes, total Styrene Isopropyl Benzene Bromoform

1,1,2,2-Tetrachloroethane 1,2,3-Trichloropropane n-Propyl Benzene Bromobenzene 1,3,5-Trimethyl Benzene 1,2,4-Trimethylbenzene sec-Butylbenzene p-Isopropyltoluene 1,3-Dichlorobenzene 1,4-Dichlorobenzene n-Butylbenzene 1,2-Dichlorobenzene 1,2-Dibromo-3-chloropropane 1,2,4-Trichlorobenzene Hexachlorobutadiene **Naphthalene** 1,2,3-Trichlorobenzene cis-1,3-Dichloropropylene

trans-1,3-Dichloropropylene tert-Butyl-Alcohol





NJ Private Well Testing Act Data Summary (Sep. 2002 to Apr. 2014)

New Jersey Department of Environmental Protection 🖉

Click a tab for more information then click a location on the map for data.





What Can We Do to Protect Groundwater Resources?



THANK YOU

and please don't forget to **TEST YOUR WATER**!

Mara Tippett mtippett@raritanheadwaters.org Testmywell.org



PUBLIC PARTICIPATION IN MCL DEVELOPMENT PROCESS



Federal and NJ State Primary and Secondary Drinking Water Standards as of February 2005

Inorganics

Volatile Organic Compounds

Contaminants	Maximum Contaminant Levels [MCL] [µg/l or ppb]	Contaminants L	Maximum Contaminant evels [MCL] [µg/l or ppb]		
Benzene	1"	Antimony	6		
Carbon Tetrachloride	2*	Arsenic	5*#		
1,2-Dichlorobenzene	600	Asbestos 7 X	(10º fibers/l > 10µm		
1,3-Dichlorobenzene	600*	Barium	2,000		
1,4-Dichlorobenzene	75	Beryllium	4		
1,1-Dichloroethane	50*	Cadmium	5		
1,2-Dichloroethane	2*	Chromium	100		
1,1-Dichloroethylene	2*	Copper	1,300*"[AL]		
cis-1,2-Dichloroethyle	ne 70	Cyanide	200		
trans-1,2-Dichloroethy	dene 100	Fluoride	4,000		
1,2-Dichloropropane	5	Lead	15""[AL]		
Ethylbenzene	700	Mercury	2		
Methyl tertiary Butyl E	ther 70*	Nickel	+		
Methylene Chloride	3*	Nitrate[as nitrogen]	10,000		
Monochlorobenzene	50*	Nitrite	1,000		
Naphthalene	300*	[combined nitrate/ni	trite 10,000]		
Styrene	100	Selenium	50		
1,1,2,2-Tetrachloroett	nane 1"	Thallium	2		
Tetrachloroethylene	1*	**An [A] 1 action level is not an MCL. It is a			
Toluene 1,000		noint at which remedia	dial action is to take place		
1,2,4-Trichlorobenzer	e 9*	point at which remedie	a accorr is to take place.		
1,1,1-Trichloroethane	30*	+No MCL - Monitoring	Required		
1,1,2-Trichloroethane 3"		# Effective January 23	# Effective January 23, 2008		
Trichloroethylene	1*	" Encouve oundary 20, 2000			
Vinyl Chloride	2	* N.J. MCL [A-280]			
Xylenes [total]	1,000*	N.S. MOL [A200]			

* N.J. MCL [A-280]

Key: One milligram per iter [mg/i] = one part per million = one cent in \$10,000 or one second in 12 days. One microgram per liter [ug/l] = one part per billion = one cent in \$10,000,000 or one second in 32 years.

Trihalomethanes 80 µg/l (ppb) running annual average

Total of Dichlorobromomethane, Chlorodibromomethane, Bromoform and Chloroform,

Haloaootio Aolds 60 µg/l ppb running annual average

Total of Monochioroacetic, Dichloroacetic, Trichloroacetic, Bromoacetic and Dibromoacetic acids.

Bromate (plants using ozone) 10 µg/l (ppb) running annual average

Chlorite (plants using chlorine dloxide) 1,000 µg/l (ppb) daily/follow-up monitoring

Radionuolides Combined radium 226/228 mcl is 5 picocuries/i (pCi/l); gross alpha particle radioactivity (including radium 226 but excluding radon and uranium) MCL is 15 pCW; beta/photon emitters MCL is 4 mrem/yr; uranium MCL is 30 µg/l.

Turbidity No more than 5% of the samples may exceed 0.3 NTU, nor any sample exceed 1 NTU.

Collform baoteria standards are based on the presence or absence of collforms in a sample. The number of samples collected by a public water system is determined by the size of the population served. A system collecting at least 40 samples/month can have collform in no more than 5% of the samples. A system collecting fewer than 40 samples/month can have no more than one collform positive. Any number exceeding these amounts triggers an MCL exceedence.

Contaminants	Maximum Contaminant Levels [MCL] [µg/l or ppb]
Alachlor	2
Aldicarb	+
Aldicarb Sulfone	+
Aldicarb Sulfoxide	+
Atrazine	3
Benzo[a]pyrene	0.2
Carbofuran	40
Chlordane	0.5*
Dalapon	200
Dibromochloropropar	ne [DBCP] 0.2
Di[2-ethylhexyl]adipa	te 400
Di[2-ethylhexyl]phtha	late 6
Dinoseb	7
Diquat	20
Endothall	100
Endrin	2
Ethylene dibromide [EDB] 0.05
Glyphosate	700
Heptachlor	0.4
Heptachlor Epoxide	0.2
Hexachlorobenzene	1
Hexachiorocyclopent	adiene 50
Lindane	0.2
Methoxychlor	40
Oxamyi	200
PCBS	0.5
Pentachiorophenoi	500
Picioram	500
Simazine	4
2 2 7 9 TODD (Diovir	1 2 1 104
2,3,7,0-1000 [DI0XIF	70
2,4-0 2.4.5.TP [Silvey]	50
etalogue formerel	

Synthetic Organic Compounds

* N.J. MCL [A-280]

+No MCL - Monitoring Required

For a detailed explanation of the Safe Drinking Water Program, refer to the Federal Safe Drinking Water Act regulations [40 CFR Parts 141, 142, 143] and the New Jersey Safe Drinking Water regulations [N.J.A.C. 7:10-1 et seq.].

Secondary Standards

[primarily aesthetic]			
Physical Characteristics	Recommended Upper Limit or Optimum Range		
Color	10 color units (standard cobalt scale)		
pН	6.5 to 8.5 (optimum range)		
Odor	3 Threshold odor number		
Taste	No objectionable taste		
Chemical Characteristics	Recommended Upper Limit [mg/l or ppm]		
ABS/L.A.S. Aluminum Chloride Fluoride Hardness (as CaCO3) Iron Manganese Silver Solium Sulfate Total dissolved solids Zinc	0.5 0.2 250 2. 250 0.3 0.05 0.1 50 250 500 5		



New Jersey Department of Environmental Protection

Division of Water Supply

Bureau of Safe Drinking Water

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