



## 2012 Berkeley System Water Quality Report PWSID#: NJ1505002

*Este informe contiene información muy importante sobre su agua de beber.  
Tradúzcalo o hable con alguien que lo entienda bien.*

### About Your Drinking Water

Aqua New Jersey (Aqua) is pleased to provide you with important information about your drinking water in this 2012 Consumer Confidence Report. The report summarizes the quality of water provided in 2012 - including details about water sources, what the water at your tap contains, and how it compares to standards set by regulatory agencies. Although the report lists only those regulated substances that were detected in your water, we test for more than what is reported. This report is only a summary of our testing during 2012.

### Sources of Supply

Water for the Berkeley system, serving Berkeley Township, comes from three wells in the Kirkwood-Cohansey aquifer. 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](http://www.state.nj.us/dep/swap) or by contacting the NJDEP, Bureau of Safe Drinking Water at 609.292.5550.

Sources	Pathogens	Nutrients	Pesticides	Volatile Organic Compounds	Inorganics	Radionuclides	Radon	Disinfection Byproduct Precursors
3 Wells	Low	Low-medium	Low	Low	Low	High	Low	Medium

The sources overall have a low to medium risk of significant contamination. 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. If you have questions regarding the source water assessment report or summary, please contact the Bureau of Safe Drinking Water at [swap@dep.state.nj.us](mailto:swap@dep.state.nj.us) or 609.292.5550.

**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 water poses a health risk. More information about contaminants and potential health effects can be obtained by calling the Environmental Protection Agency's (EPA) Safe Drinking Water Hotline at 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 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:

- (A) Microbial contaminants, such as viruses and bacteria, which may come from sewage treatment plants, septic systems, agricultural livestock operations, and wildlife.
- (B) Inorganic contaminants, such as salts and metals, which can be naturally occurring or result from urban storm runoff, industrial or domestic wastewater discharges, oil and gas production, mining, or farming.
- (C) Pesticides and herbicides, which may come from a variety of sources, such as agriculture, stormwater runoff, and residential uses.
- (D) Organic chemical contaminants, including synthetic and volatile organics, which are byproducts of industrial processes and petroleum production, and can also come from gas stations, urban stormwater runoff, and septic systems.
- (E) 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, the Environmental Protection Agency (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.

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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 800.426.4791.

Contaminant	Year Sampled	MCL	MCLG	Range Detected	Highest Level Detected	Compliance Achieved	Typical Source
<b>Treatment Byproducts</b> - Range is for individual sample results. Highest Level Detected is highest RAA for all sample locations.							
Stage 1 TTHMs [Total Trihalomethanes] (ppb)*	2012	80	NA	ND - 8	3	Yes	Byproducts of drinking water disinfection
Stage 1 Haloacetic Acids [HAAs] (ppb)*	2012	60	NA	ND - 4	2	Yes	
Stage 2 TTHMs [Total Trihalomethanes] (ppb)*	2012	60	NA	ND - 16	NA	Yes	
Stage 2 Haloacetic Acids [HAAs] (ppb)*	2012	60	NA	ND - 6	NA	Yes	
<b>Disinfectants</b>							
Chlorine (ppm)	2012	MRDL = 4	MRDG = 4	0.1 - 0.3	0.3	Yes	Water additive used to control microbes
<b>Volatile Organics</b>							
Benzene (ppb)	2012	1	0	ND - 6	6	Yes	Leaching from pipelines, gas station storage tanks and landfills; Discharge from petroleum refineries; paints and coatings
<b>Radionuclides</b> - The range is for all individual sample results. Highest Level Detected is the highest RAA in 2011.							
Gross Alpha (pCi/L)	2011	15	0	ND - 6.4	6.4	Yes	Erosion of natural deposits
Combined Radium (pCi/L)	2011	5	0	ND - 1	1	Yes	
Uranium (ppb)	2011	30	0	ND - 1	1	Yes	

Stage 1 monitoring is no longer required and is superseded by Stage 2. The Stage 2 Locational Running Annual average cannot be calculated since Stage 2 monitoring began during the 2<sup>nd</sup> quarter of 2012.

The State allows us to monitor for some contaminants less than once a year because the concentrations of these contaminants do not change frequently. Some of our data, though representative, are more than one year old. 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 asbestos and synthetic organic chemicals.

Our water systems are designed and operated to deliver water to our customers' plumbing systems that complies with state and federal drinking water standards. This water is disinfected using chlorine, but it is not necessarily sterile. Customers' plumbing, including treatment devices, might remove, introduce or increase contaminants in tap water. All customers, and in particular operators of facilities like hotels and institutions serving susceptible populations (like hospitals and nursing homes), should properly operate and maintain the plumbing systems in these facilities. You can obtain additional information from the EPA's Safe Drinking Water Hotline at 800.426.4791.

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Tap water samples were collected for lead and copper analysis from homes in the service area.

Contaminant	Year Sampled	Action Level	MCLG	Amount Detected (90th%tile)	Homes Above Action Level	Compliance Achieved	Typical Source
Copper (ppm)	2011	1.3	1.3	0.03	0	Yes	Corrosion of household plumbing
Lead (ppb)	2011	15	15	ND	0	Yes	

*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. Aqua is responsible for providing high quality drinking water, but cannot control the variety of materials used in 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 or cooking. If you are concerned about lead in your water, you may wish to have your water 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 or at [www.epa.gov/safewater/lead](http://www.epa.gov/safewater/lead).*

Secondary Contaminants	Year Sampled	Recommended Upper Limit (RUL)	Range Detected	Highest Level Detected	Compliance Achieved	Typical Source
Iron (ppm)	2012	0.3*	0.3 - 1.5	1.5	No	Erosion of natural deposits
Aluminum** (ppm)	2012	0.2	0.2 - 2	2	No	

\*The MCL for iron may be raised to 0.6 mg/l if sequestering treatment is provided. Iron is sequestered with the approval of the New Jersey Department of Environmental Protection. 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. Recent monitoring shows that the wells are in compliance.

#### Definitions:

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

**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. Some levels are based on a running annual average.

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

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

**NA:** Not applicable.

**ND:** Not detected.

**pCi/L, picoCuries/Liter:** A unit of concentration for radioactive contaminants.

**ppb:** A unit of concentration equal to one part per billion.

**ppm:** A unit of concentration equal to one part per million.

**PWSID:** Public water supply identification number.

**Running Annual Average (RAA):** The average of a year of monthly or quarterly sample results.

**Public Participation:** Questions and concerns from our customers are welcomed and encouraged. For further information about this report or your water quality, please call Aqua New Jersey at **877.WTR.AQUA** (877.987.2782) or visit our website at [www.aquaamerica.com](http://www.aquaamerica.com). We want our valued customers to be informed about their water utility.