

HARRISON WATER DEPARTMENT CONSUMER CONFIDENCE REPORT 2019 FOR THE YEAR 2018 NJDEP PWSID# 0904001

***** *IMPORTANT INFORMATION! Your water meets or surpasses all New Jersey State and Federal standards for safe drinking water.***

****(Este informe contiene informacion muy importante sobre su agua de beber.
Traduzcalo o hable con alguien que lo entiend"
a bien.)***

***** (Este relatorio contem informacao importante sobre a agua potavel.
Aconselhamos que obtenha este documento traduzido.)***

Harrison Water is pleased to present you with our Annual Water Quality Report based on the year 2018 analytical results. This report is designed to inform you about the quality water and services 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 be confident that we make every effort to continually monitor and protect our water resources.

Both the United States Environmental Protection Agency (EPA) and the New Jersey Department of Environmental Protection (NJDEP) require water suppliers to mail a Consumer Confidence Report (CCR) to their customers on an annual basis. This CCR provides information about the water you drink. It shows how your water measured up to the government standards during the year 2018. We are proud to report that our drinking water meets all federal and state safety requirements.

If you want to learn more about the Harrison Water Department, please attend any of our regularly scheduled Town Council Meetings at the Town Hall, 318 Harrison Avenue, Harrison, NJ 07029. The meetings are held on the first Tuesday of each month at 7:30 p.m.

***If you have any questions or concerns about your drinking water, please contact the Harrison Water Department at 973-268-2468. Or, you can call the EPA Safe Drinking Water Hotline at 1-800-426-4791.

For information on various water related topics, free instructional materials, and directions to related water links, visit www.njawwa.org. The USEPA drinking water web site is www.epa.gov/safewater, or you can contact the NJDEP, Bureau of Safe Drinking Water at 609-292-5550 or at their website at www.nj.gov/dep/watersupply

Where does your water come from?

The town of Harrison receives its water supply primarily from PWS ID # 1605002 PASSAIC VALLEY WATER COMMISSION (PVWC). The PVWC's main treatment facility is the Little Falls Water Treatment Plant located in Totowa, NJ. Water diverted from the Passaic and Pompton Rivers is treated, filtered and disinfected at the plant. In drought conditions or other emergency, water from the Point View Reservoir in Wayne, NJ can be used to supplement river sources. Treated water is then mixed at the main pumping station with treated water from PWS ID # 1613001 North Jersey District Water Supply Commission's (NJDWSC) Wanaque Reservoir treatment plant, PWS ID # 0906001 the Jersey City Municipal Utility Authority (JCMUA) treatment plant, and PWS ID # 0714001 Newark Water Pequannock water treatment plant. The water is then pumped through underground pipes to the town of Harrison.

In 1996, Congress amended the Safe Drinking Water Act to create the "Source Water Assessment & Protection Program". Each state is required to identify and evaluate all sources of water that are used for drinking water within the state. The goal of this program is to identify and assess potential sources of contamination and to promote and facilitate the protection of the water sources.

The New Jersey Department of Environmental Protection (NJDEP) has completed and issued the Source Water Assessment Report and Summaries for all public water systems. The Source Water Assessment, and related questions, for the PVWC system, (PWS ID 1605002), the NJDWSC system (PWS ID 1613001), the Jersey City system (PWS ID 0906001) and the Newark system (PWS ID 0714001) can be obtained by logging onto NJDEP's source water assessment Website at www.state.nj.us/dep/swap or by contacting NJDEP's Bureau of Safe Drinking Water at (609)-292-5550.

The sources were rated on their susceptibility to seven contamination categories (and Radon), as defined below:

Pathogens: Disease causing organisms such as bacteria and viruses. Common sources are animal and human fecal wastes.

Nutrients: Compounds, minerals and elements that aid growth, that are both naturally occurring and man-made. Examples include nitrogen and phosphorus.

Volatile Organic Compounds: Man-made chemicals used as solvents, degreasers, and gasoline components. Examples include benzene, methyl tertiary butyl ether (MTBE), and vinyl chloride.

Pesticides: Man-made chemicals used to control pests, weeds and fungus. Common sources include land application and manufacturing centers of pesticides. Examples include herbicides such as atrazine, and insecticides such as chlordane.

Inorganics: Mineral-based compounds that are both naturally occurring and man-made. Examples include arsenic, asbestos, copper, lead, and nitrate.

Radionuclides: Radioactive substances that are both naturally occurring and man-made. Examples include radium and uranium.

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

Disinfection Byproduct Precursors: A common source is naturally occurring organic matter in surface water. Disinfection byproducts are formed when the disinfectants (usually chlorine) used to kill pathogens react with dissolved organic material (for example leaves) present in surface water.

The source water assessment performed on the intakes for each system lists the following susceptibility ratings for a variety of contaminants that may be present in source waters:

- Eleven (11) intakes were rated high for pathogens and disinfection byproduct precursors.
- Ten (10) intakes were rated medium for volatile organic compounds and one (1) was rated low.
- Eleven (11) intakes were rated low for radon and radionuclides.
- Three (3) intakes were rated medium for pesticides and eight (8) were rated low.
- Ten (10) intakes were rated high for inorganic contaminants and one (1) was rated medium.
- Nine (9) intakes were rated high for nutrients, one (1) was rated medium and one (1) was rated low.

NJDEP considered all surface water highly susceptible to pathogens; therefore, all sources received a high rating for the pathogen category. For the purpose of the Source Water Assessment Program, radionuclides are more of a concern for ground water than surface water. As a result, surface water intakes' susceptibility to radionuclides was not determined and they all received a low rating.

If a system is rated highly susceptible for a contamination 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.

If you have any questions regarding the source water assessment report or summary please contact the Bureau of Safe Drinking Water at swap@dep.state.nj.us or (609) 292-5550.

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 be naturally-occurring or result from urban storm water runoff, industrial or domestic wastewater discharges, oil and gas projection, mining, or farming.
- Pesticides and herbicides, which may come from a variety of sources such as agriculture, urban storm water runoff, and residential uses.
- Organic chemical contaminants, including synthetic and volatile organic chemicals, which are byproducts of industrial processes and petroleum production, and can, also come from gas stations, urban storm water runoff, and septic systems.
- Radioactive contaminants which can be naturally occurring or be the result of oil and gas production and mining activities.

In order to ensure that tap water is safe to drink, EPA prescribes regulations which limit the amount of certain contaminants in water provided by public water systems. Food and Drug Administration regulations establish limits for 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 indicate that the water poses a health risk. More information about contaminants and potential health effects can be obtained by calling the Environmental Protection Agency's Safe Drinking Water Hotline at 1-800-426-4791.

Health Effects of Detected Contaminants:

Turbidity. Turbidity has no health risk effects. However, turbidity can interfere with disinfecting and provide a medium for biological growth. Turbidity may indicate the presence of disease-causing organisms. These organisms include bacteria, viruses, and parasites that can cause symptoms such as cramps, nausea, diarrhea, and associated headaches.

Radioactive Contaminants/Inorganic Contaminants

Copper. Copper is an essential nutrient, but some people who drink water-containing copper in excess of the action level over a relatively short amount of time could experience gastrointestinal distress. Some people who drink water-containing copper in excess of the action level over many years could suffer liver or kidney damage. People with Wilson's disease should consult their personal doctor.

Lead. Infants and children who drink water-containing lead in excess of the action level could experience delays in their physical or mental development. Children could show slight deficits an attention span and learning abilities. Adults who drink this water over many years could develop kidney problems and high blood pressure.

Sodium – PVWC was above New Jersey's recommended upper limit (RUL) for Sodium. 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 may be of concern to individuals on a sodium restricted diet.

Volatile Organic Contaminants

TTHMs (Total Trihalomethanes). Some people who drink water-containing trihalomethanes in excess of the MCL over many years could experience problems with their liver, kidneys, or central nervous systems, and may have an increased chance of getting cancer.

SPECIAL CONSIDERATIONS REGARDING CHILDREN, PREGNANT WOMEN, NURSING MOTHERS, AND OTHERS

Children may receive a slightly higher amount of contaminant present in the water than do adults, on a body weight basis, because they may drink a greater amount of water per pound of body weight than do adults. For this reason, reproductive or developmental effects are used for calculating a drinking water standard if these effects occur at lower levels than other health effects of concern. If there is insufficient toxicity information for a chemical (for example, lack of data on reproductive or developmental effects), an extra uncertainty factor may be incorporated into the calculation of the drinking water standard, thus making the standard more stringent, to account for additional uncertainties regarding these effects. In the case of lead and nitrate, effects on infants and children are the health endpoints upon which the standards are based.

ADDITIONAL SPECIAL NOTICE ON LEAD

If present, elevated levels of lead can cause serious health problems, especially for pregnant woman and young children. Lead in drinking water is primarily from materials and components associated with service lines and home plumbing. Elmwood Park Water 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. Adults who drink this water with elevated levels of lead over many years could develop kidney problems and high blood pressure.

Additional information is available from the SAFE DRINKING WATER HOT LINE (1-800-426-4791) or at <http://www.epa.gov/safewater/lead>

TABLE OF DETECTED REGULATED CONTAMINANTS

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 microbiological contaminants are available from the Safe Drinking Water Hotline (800-426-4791).

The PVWC, NJDWSC, Newark systems and the Harrison Water Department routinely monitor for contaminants in your drinking water according to Federal and State laws. This table shows the results of our monitoring for the period of January 1st to December 31st, 2018.

Table 1
Harrison Water Department - Water Quality Report

Microbiological Contaminants

Regulated Contaminant	Units	COMPLIANCE ACCIEVED	MCLG	MCL	Highest Level	Source of Contamination
Total Coliform Bacteria	# per 100 ml	Yes	0	1 positive sample per month	0	Coliform are bacteria that are naturally present in the environment and are used as an indicator that other, potentially harmful bacteria may be present.

+ The Harrison Water Department collects 15 routine samples per month.

REGULATED DISINFECTANTS and DISINFECTION BYPRODUCTS

Stage 2 Disinfection Byproducts, Note: Stage 2 DBP compliance is based on the locational running annual average (LRAA) calculated at each monitoring location. The LRAA for Stage 2

Regulated Contaminant	UNIT	COMPLIANCE ACCHIEVED	LRAA Maximum of all Sites	LRAA Range of all Averages	Source of Contamination/ and Comments
Total Trihalomethanes (TTHM) Stage 2	PPB	Yes	63	40 – 63	Byproduct of water disinfection. / TTHM compliance is based on Locational Running Annual Average with a limit of 80 PPB.
Haloacetic Acids (HAA5) Stage 2	PPB	Yes	36	15 – 36	Byproduct of water disinfection. / HAA5 compliance is based on Locational Running Annual Average With a limit of 60 PPB

Disinfectants: Limit is based upon the Running Annual Avg. (RAA) reported quarterly.

Regulated Contaminant	Units	COMPLIANCE ACCHIEVED	MRDL G	MRDL	Highest RAA Detected	Range Detected	Source of Contamination
Chlorine as CL2 (Running avg.)	PPM	Yes	4	4	1.10	0.70 – 1.10	Chlorine is used as a drinking water disinfectant.

Lead and Copper Rule

Regulated Contaminant	Units	COMPLIANCE ACCHIEVED	RUL	Highest Detected	90 th Percentile Result	Source of Contamination
Lead	PPM	Yes	.15	0.01154	0.00127	Erosion of natural deposits, discharge of drilling waste and discharge from metal refineries.
Copper	PPM	Yes	1.3	0.06332	0.05085	Erosion of natural deposits.

LEAD AND COPPER. COMPLIANCE WITH THE LEAD AND COPPER RULE IS BASED ON THE 90TH PERCENTILE RESULT FROM POINTS OF USE IN THE DISTRIBUTION SYSTEM COLLECTED IN 2018. HARRISON WATER IS ON REDUCED MONITORING, 3 YEAR INTERVALS, AND WILL MONITOR NEXT IN 2021.

MCL's are set at very stringent levels. To understand the possible health effects described for many regulated contaminants, a person would have to drink two liters of water everyday at the MCL level for a lifetime to have a one-in-a-million chance of having the described health effect.

PASSAIC VALLEY WATER COMMISSION (PVWC) PWS ID NJ1605002 - 2018 WATER QUALITY DATA

				Water Treatment Plant Results						
PRIMARY CONTAMINANTS	Compliance Achieved	MCLG	MCL	PVWC Little Falls WTP PWS ID NJ1605002	NJDWSC Wanaque WTP PWS ID NJ1613001	TYPICAL SOURCE				
TURBIDITY AND TOTAL ORGANIC CARBON				Highest Result (Range of Results)	Highest Result (Average)					
Turbidity, NTU*	Yes	NA	TT = 1	0.36 (0.021 - 0.36)	0.41 (0.06 average)	Soil runoff.				
	Yes	NA	TT = percentage of samples <0.3 NTU (min 95% required)	Lowest Monthly Percentage of Samples Meeting the Turbidity Limits		99.97%	99.9%			
* Turbidity is a measure of the cloudiness of the water, and is monitored as an indicator of water quality. High turbidity can hinder the effectiveness of disinfectants.										
Total Organic Carbon, %	Yes	NA	TT = % removal; or removal ratio	Percent (%) Removal		Removal Ratio		Naturally present in the environment.		
				49 - 80 (35 - 50 required)		1.1 (RAA)	1.0 - 1.3			

INORGANIC CONTAMINANTS				Highest Result (Range of Results)	Highest Result	
Barium, ppm	Yes	2	2	Less than 0.10	0.0145	Discharge of drilling wastes; discharge from metal refineries; erosion of natural deposits.
Fluoride, ppm	Yes	4	4	0.080 (ND - 0.080)	ND	Erosion of natural deposits.
Nickel, ppb	NA	NA	NA	2.39 (ND - 2.39)	ND	Erosion of natural deposits.
Nitrate, ppm	Yes	10	10	3.26 (ND - 3.26)	0.351	Runoff from fertilizer use; Leaching from septic tanks, sewage; Erosion of natural deposits.
Selenium, ppb	Yes	50	50	Less than 2	ND	Discharge from petroleum and metal refineries; erosion of natural deposits; discharge from mines.

WAIVER INFORMATION

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. NJDWSC was granted a monitoring waiver for synthetic organic chemicals for the 2017-2019 monitoring period by NJDEP. PVWC received a monitoring waiver for all of the synthetic organic contaminants except for the contaminant Di(2-Ethylhexyl)Phthalate for the 2017-2019 monitoring period.

SOURCE WATER ASSESSMENT

NJDEP has prepared Source Water Assessment reports and summaries for all public water systems. The Source Water Assessment for the PVWC system (PWS ID 1605002), and NJDWSC system (PWS ID 1613001) can be obtained by accessing NJDEP's source water assessment web site at <http://www.nj.gov/dep/watersupply/swap/index.html> or by contacting NJDEP's Bureau of Safe Drinking Water at 609-292-5550. If a system is rated highly susceptible for a contamination category, it does not mean a customer is – or will be – consuming contaminated water. The rating reflects the potential for contamination of a source water, not the existence of contamination. Public water systems are required to monitor for regulated contaminants and to install treatment if any of those contaminants are detected at frequencies and concentrations above allowable levels. The source water assessments performed on the intakes for each system list the following susceptibility ratings for a variety of contaminants that may be present in source waters:

Intake Susceptibility Ratings	Pathogens	Nutrients	Pesticides	Volatile Organic Compounds	Inorganic Contaminants	Radionuclides	Radon	Disinfection Byproduct Precursors
PVWC 4 Surface Water	4-High	4-High	1-Medium, 3-Low	4-Medium	4-High	4-Low	4-Low	4-High
NJDWSC 5 Surface Water	5-High	5-High	2-Medium, 3-Low	5-Medium	5-High	5-Low	5-Low	5-High

SECONDARY PARAMETERS – TREATMENT PLANT EFFLUENT

Contaminant	N.J. Recommended Upper Limit (RUL)	PVWC Little Falls WTP PWSID NJ1605002		NJDWSC Wanaque WTP PWSID NJ1613001	
		Range of Results	RUL Achieved	Result	RUL Achieved
ABS/LAS, ppb	500	ND - 150	Yes	ND	Yes
Alkalinity, ppm	NA	40 - 70	NA	38	NA
Aluminum, ppb	200	ND - 39	Yes	60	Yes
Chloride, ppm	250	65 - 194	Yes	71	Yes
Color, CU	10	ND	Yes	2	Yes
Corrosivity	Non-Corrosive	Non-Corrosive	Yes	Non-Corrosive	Yes
Hardness (as CaCO ₃), ppm	250	92 - 160	Yes	52	Yes
Hardness (as CaCO ₃), grains/gallon	15	5 - 9	Yes	3	Yes
Iron, ppb	300	Less than 100	Yes	12	Yes
Manganese, ppb	50	Less than 50	Yes	2	Yes

Odor, TON	3	5 - 10	No	ND	Yes
pH	6.5 to 8.5 (optimum range)	7.7 - 8.4	Yes	8.0	Yes
Sodium, ppm	50	48 - 162	No*	40	Yes
Sulfate, ppm	250	42 - 68	Yes	8	Yes
Total Dissolved Solids, ppm	500	246 - 498	Yes	177	Yes
Zinc, ppb	5,000	Less than 50	Yes	16	Yes

* PVWC FINISHED WATER EXCEEDS SODIUM RUL

PVWC's finished water was above New Jersey's Recommended Upper Limit (RUL) of 50 ppm for sodium in 2018. Possible sources of sodium include natural soil runoff, roadway salt runoff, upstream wastewater treatment plants, and a contribution coming from chemicals used in the water treatment process. 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. If you have any concerns please contact your health care provider.

ADDITIONAL PVWC TREATMENT PLANT MONITORING RESULTS

Detected Contaminants, ppb	Little Falls WTP Effluent Range of Results	
Chlorate	(102 - 475)	Test results presented in this table were collected in 2018 as part of a study to determine the general occurrence of these contaminants. PVWC continues to participate in, and support these types of regulatory and research efforts to maintain a position of leadership in drinking water supply.
Perfluorobutanesulfonic acid (PFBS)	(0.0020 - 0.0051)	
Perfluoroheptanoic acid (PFHpA)	(0.0021 - 0.0049)	
Perfluorohexanesulfonic acid (PFHxS)	(0.0025 - 0.0053)	
Perfluorohexanoic acid (PFHxA)	(0.0042 - 0.012)	EPA has published Health Advisory levels for Perfluorooctanoic acid, (PFOA) and Perfluorooctanesulfonic acid, (PFOS), of 0.070 parts per billion (ppb) combined.
Perfluorononanoic acid (PFNA)	(ND - 0.0021)	The results observed in 2018 were below EPA established health advisory levels.
Perfluorooctanesulfonic acid (PFOS)	(0.0049 - 0.012)	
Perfluorooctanoic acid (PFOA)	(0.0072 - 0.016)	NJDEP adopted a maximum contaminant level (MCL) of 0.013 parts per billion (ppb) for Perfluorononanoic acid (PFNA) in September 2018 and is considering a maximum contaminant level of 0.014 ppb for PFOA.

Health advisory levels are non-enforceable and non-regulatory and provide technical information to state agencies and other public health officials on health effects, analytical methodologies, and treatment technologies associated with drinking water contamination.

DEFINITIONS of TERMS and ACRONYMS

ABS/LAS: Alkylbenzene Sulfonate and Linear Alkylbenzene Sulfonate (surfactants)

AL: Action Level; the concentration of a contaminant which, if exceeded, triggers treatment or other requirements which a water system must follow.

CU: Color unit

Disinfection By-product Precursors: A common source is naturally-occurring organic material in surface water. Disinfection by-products are formed when the disinfectants (usually chlorine) used to kill pathogens react with dissolved organic material (DBP precursors) present in surface water.

EPA: United States Environmental Protection Agency

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.

Microbial Contaminants/Pathogens: Disease-causing organisms such as bacteria, protozoa, and viruses, which may come from sewage treatment plants, septic systems, agricultural livestock operations and wildlife. Common sources are animal and human fecal wastes. These contaminants may be present in source water.

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. MRDLG's do not reflect the benefits of the use of disinfectants to control microbial contamination.

NA: Not applicable

ND: Not detected above the minimum reporting level.

NJDEP: New Jersey Department of Environmental Protection

NJDWSC: North Jersey District Water Supply Commission

NTU: Nephelometric Turbidity Unit

Nutrients: Compounds, minerals and elements that aid growth, which can be either naturally occurring or man-made. Examples include nitrogen and phosphorus.

ppb: parts per billion (approximately equal to micrograms per liter)

ppm: parts per million (approximately equal to milligrams per liter)

PWS ID: Public Water System Identification

PVWC: Passaic Valley Water Commission

RAA: Running Annual Average

Radon: Colorless, odorless, cancer-causing gas that occurs naturally in the environment.

RUL: Recommended Upper Limit; the highest level of a constituent of drinking water that is recommended in order to protect aesthetic quality.

RUL Achieved: A "YES" entry indicates the State-recommended upper limit was not exceeded. A "NO" entry indicates the State-recommended upper limit was exceeded.

TON: Threshold Odor Number

TT: Treatment Technique: a required process intended to reduce the level of a contaminant in drinking water.

WTP: Water Treatment Plant

ADDITIONAL INFORMATIONAL RESOURCES

EPA Drinking Water website: www.epa.gov/safewater

NJDEP Water Supply website: www.nj.gov/dep/watersupply

American Water Works Association (AWWA) website: www.awwa.org

EPA Safe Drinking Water Hotline: 800-426-4791

NJDEP Bureau of Safe Drinking Water: 609-292-5550

AWWA New Jersey Section website: www.njawa.org

ADDITIONAL INFORMATION

The Safe Drinking Water Act regulations allow monitoring waivers to reduce or eliminate monitoring requirements for asbestos, volatile organic chemicals and synthetic organic chemicals. The PVWC and Harrison Water received monitoring waivers for asbestos and VOC by the rule. PVWC also received a monitoring waiver for SOC. Monitoring was conducted for VOC in 2002, but none were detected.

SPECIAL CONSIDERATIONS REGARDING CHILDREN, PREGNANT WOMEN, NURSING MOTHERS, AND OTHERS

Children may receive a slightly higher amount of contaminant present in the water than do adults, on a body weight basis, because they may drink a greater amount of water per pound of body weight than do adults. For this reason, reproductive or developmental effects are used for calculating a drinking water standard if these effects occur at lower levels than other health effects of concern. If there is insufficient toxicity information for a chemical (for example, lack of data on reproductive or developmental effects), an extra uncertainty factor may be incorporated into the calculation of the drinking water standard, thus making the standard more stringent, to account for additional uncertainties regarding these effects. In the case of lead and nitrate, effects on infants and children are the health endpoints upon which the standards are based.

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If present, elevated levels of lead can cause serious health problems, especially for pregnant women and young children. Lead in drinking water is primarily from materials and components associated with service lines and home plumbing. The Township of Harrison 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 1-800-426-4791 or at www.epa.gov/safewater/lead.