

HARRISON WATER DEPARTMENT CONSUMER CONFIDENCE REPORT 2022 FOR THE YEAR 2021 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 2021 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 2021. 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 that 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. Harrison 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, 2021.

Table 1
Harrison Water Department - Water Quality Report

Microbiological Contaminants

Regulated Contaminant	Units	COMPLIANCE ACHIEVED	MCLG	MCL	Highest Level	Source of Contamination
Total Coliform Bacteria	# per 100 ml	Yes*	0	1 positive sample per month	1	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. Harrison Water recorded a single positive sample for total coliform in the month of August. That sample was negative for e-coli. In conformance with the rules a repeat sample was collected from the same location and 2 additional check samples were taken upstream and downstream of the location of the positive sample within 24 hours and retested. All repeat and check samples were negative therefore the system remained in compliance.

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.

Regulated Contaminant	UNIT	COMPLIANCE ACHIEVED	MCL LRAA	LRAA Maximum of all Sites	Individual Sample Range Detected	Source of Contamination/ and Comments
Total Trihalomethanes (TTHM) Stage 2	PPB	Yes	80	76	21.4 - 101	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	60	25	4.45 - 33	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 ACHIEVED	MRDLG	MRDL	Highest RAA Detected	Range Detected	Source of Contamination
Chlorine as CL2 (Running avg.)	PPM	Yes	4	4	1.20	0.70 – 1.20	Chlorine is used as a drinking water disinfectant.

Lead and Copper Rule (2021 Results)

Regulated Contaminant	Units	COMPLIANCE ACHIEVED	RUL	90 th Percentile Result			Source of Contamination
Lead	PPB	Yes	15	1.76 (0 samples out of 30 exceeded the action level)			Erosion of natural deposits, discharge of drilling waste and discharge from metal refineries.
Copper	PPM	Yes	1.3	0.03938 (0 samples out of 30 exceeded the action level)			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 2021. HARRISON WATER IS ON REDUCED MONITORING, 3 YEAR INTERVALS, AND WILL MONITOR NEXT IN 2024.

Secondary Contaminants:

Regulated Contaminant	Units	RUL Achieved	RUL	Highest Detected	Range Detected	Source of Contamination
Iron	PPB	Yes	300	<100	NA	Erosion of natural deposits, discharge of drilling waste and discharge from metal refineries.
Manganese	PPB	Yes	50	5.67	NA	Erosion of natural deposits.

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.

2021 Water Quality Results -- Table of Detected Contaminants PVWC

Regulated Contaminant (units)	Goal (MCLG)	Highest Level Allowed (MCL)	PVWC Little Falls-WTP PWSID: NJ1605002	NJDWSC Wanaque-WTP PWSID: NJ1613001	Newark Water Pequannock-WTP PWSID: NJ0714001	Source of Substance	Violation
Treated Drinking Water at Treatment Plant							
Inorganic Contaminants							
Barium (ppm)	2	2	0.023 (0.014-0.023)	0.0095	0.0067	Discharge of drilling wastes; discharge from metal refineries; erosion of natural deposits	No
Nickel (ppb)	N/A	N/A	2.8 (1.48-2.8)			Erosion of Natural Deposits	No
Nitrate (ppm)	10	10	1.06 (0.51-1.68)	0.26	0.16	Runoff from fertilizer use; leaching from septic tanks, sewage; erosion of natural deposits	No
Radiological Contaminants							
Radium (pCi/L)	0	5	Not Detected (2014 Data)	Not Detected (2014 Data)	1.5 (2017 Data)	Erosion of Natural Deposits	No
Perfluorinated Compounds							
Perfluorooctanesulfonic acid [PFOS] (ppt)	0	13*	4.86 <i>highest running annual average</i> (3.4-6.6)	2.84**	<2.0	Metal plating and finishing, discharge from industrial facilities, aqueous film-forming (firefighting) foam	No

Perfluorooctanoic acid [PFOA] (ppt)	0	14*	7.9 <i>highest running annual average</i> (5.5-11)	3.6**	2.9	Metal plating and finishing, discharge from industrial facilities, aqueous film-forming (firefighting) foam	No
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*MCL created by the state of New Jersey. Currently there is no Federal MCL for perfluorinated compounds. **These values taken from NJ Drinking Water Watch.

Disinfection ByProducts (DBPs)

Bromate (ppb)	N/A	10	0.94 <i>highest running annual average</i> (<5.0-16.17)			By-product of drinking water disinfection	No
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Treatment Technique (TT) Monitoring

Turbidity (NTU)	N/A	TT = 1	Highest Level Detected = 0.275 (0.029-0.275)	Highest Level Detected = 0.5 (0.01-0.5)	Highest Level Detected = 0.94 (0.05-0.94)	Soil run-off	No
	N/A	TT = % of samples <0.3 NTU (min 95%)	Lowest Monthly % of Samples meeting Turbidity Limits = 100%	Lowest Monthly % of Samples meeting Turbidity Limits = 99.99%	Lowest Monthly % of Samples meeting Turbidity Limits = 99.5%		

Turbidity is a measure of the cloudiness of the water and is monitored as an indicator of water quality. High turbidity can limit the effectiveness of disinfectants.

Total Organic Carbon (%)	N/A	TT = % Removal or Removal Ratio	51-82 (Achieved) Required: 25-50	Running Annual Average (RAA): 1.1 % Removal Range: 33-48 Removal Ratio Range: 0.9-1.4	Running Annual Average (RAA): 2.47	Naturally present in the environment	No
					Removal Ratio Range: 1.72-1.99		

2021 Water Quality Results - Table of Detected Secondary Contaminants PVWC

Contaminant (units)	NJ Recommended Upper Limit (RUL)	PVWC Little Falls-WTP PWSID: NJ1605002		NJDWSC Wanaque-WTP PWSID: NJ1613001		Newark Water Pequannock-WTP PWSID: NJ0714001	
		Range of Results	RUL Achieved	Result	RUL Achieved	Result	RUL Achieved
Alkylenzene Sulfonate [ABS]/ Linear Alkylbenzene Sulfonate [LAS] (ppb)	500	25-90	Yes	<50	Yes		
Alkalinity (ppm)	N/A	45-67.5	N/A	49.6	N/A	27.1	N/A
Aluminum (ppb)	200	15.1-43.7	Yes	38.1	Yes	36	Yes
Chloride (ppm)	250	89.71-100.7	Yes	51.2	Yes	34.8	Yes
Color (CU)	<10	<5	Yes	2	Yes	2	Yes
Copper (ppm)	<1	0.68-1.06	No	0.013	Yes		
Corrosivity (ppm)	non-corrosive	-0.41-0.3	No				
Hardness, CaCO ₃ (ppm)	250	86-148	Yes	52	Yes	43.6	Yes
Iron (ppm)	0.3	<0.1	Yes	<0.2	Yes	0.007	Yes
Manganese (ppb)	50	2.69-17.97	Yes	3.7	Yes	60	No
Odor (Threshold Odor Number)	3	1-20	No	<1.00	Yes	<1	Yes
pH	6.5 to 8.5 (optimum range)	8.03-8.58	No	7.98	Yes	7.45	Yes
Sodium (ppm)	50	42.33-96.5	No*	29.4	Yes	22	Yes
Sulfate (ppm)	250	42.1-55.6	Yes	7.78	Yes	13.3	Yes
Total Dissolved Solids (ppm)	500	279.5-354.5	Yes	170	Yes	103	Yes
Zinc (ppb)	5000	1.04-5.06	Yes	<10	Yes	<200	Yes

*PVWC's finished water was above New Jersey's Recommended Upper Limit (RUL). 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.

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 <http://www.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.

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 listed in the table below the susceptibility ratings for a variety of contaminants that may be present in source waters.

Source Water Assessment and Intake Susceptibility Ratings								
Sources	Pathogens	Nutrients	Pesticides	Volatile Organic Compounds	Inorganic Contaminants	Radionuclides	Radon	Disinfection Byproduct Precursors
PVWC Surface Water (4 intakes)	4-High	4-High	1-Medium 3-Low	4-Medium	4-High	4-Low	4-Low	4-High
NJDWSC (5 intakes)	5-High	5-High	2-Medium 3-Low	5-Medium	5-High	5-Low	5-Low	5-High
Newark (1 Intake)	1-High	1-Low	1-Low	1-Low	1-High	1-Low	1-Low	1-High

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.

Children may receive a slightly higher amount of a 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 cases of lead and nitrate, effects on infants and children are the health endpoints upon which the standards are based.

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 Borough of East Newark 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.