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**CONSUMER CONFIDENCE REPORT**  
Saddle River Water Utility PWSID # NJ0258001  
2021 ANNUAL DRINKING WATER QUALITY Report - Issued April 2022

SUEZ is excited to announce that it has completed its merger with Veolia. As always, we remain committed to bringing you best-in-class water services, providing life's most essential resource for your daily needs, and having an active presence in your local community.

**WHAT DOES THIS MEAN FOR YOU?**

Our phone numbers and addresses, your account number, the way you pay your bill, and your rates will remain unchanged. You can expect the same level of commitment to service and to water quality you have always had, with the same local team dedicated to providing you with essential water services.

In the coming months, our website, social media channels, service trucks, and uniforms will only have the Veolia name. We will provide you with notification before any change occurs.

**WHO IS VEOLIA?**

With nearly 179,000 employees worldwide, the company designs and provides water, waste, and energy management solutions which contribute to the sustainable development of communities and industries. Veolia operates 8,500 water and wastewater facilities around the world and currently serves over 550 communities in North America.



**STRONGER TOGETHER**

SUEZ and Veolia are stronger together, bringing an unwavering commitment to operational safety and compliance with a wealth of experience and resources. We believe that together we can better serve your needs, while accelerating innovation to bring you more choice, greater possibilities, and improved water quality and service.

For more information, please visit [www.mysuezwater.com/merger](http://www.mysuezwater.com/merger).

**INTRODUCTION**

Providing clean, safe drinking water to you is our top priority. That's why we're pleased to present your annual Consumer Confidence Report (CCR) that details the results of the most recent water quality tests performed on your drinking water through the end of 2021. The Saddle River Water Utility is the owner of the water system and holds regular public meetings. Please call the Borough Clerk's Office at **201.327.2609** for a schedule (SUEZ and Veolia do not own the water system, they do not hold regular public meetings).

If at any time you have questions about your water quality or delivery, please call us at **800.422.5987** or visit us on the web at [www.mysuezwater.com](http://www.mysuezwater.com). We want you to be informed about your water supply.

**If you are a landlord, you must distribute this Drinking Water Quality Report to every tenant as soon as practicable, but no later than three business days after receipt. Delivery must be done by hand, mail, or email, and by posting the information in a prominent location at the entrance of each rental premises, pursuant to section #3 of NJ P.L. 2021, c.82 (C.58:12A-12.4 et seq.).**

**WHERE DOES OUR WATER SUPPLY COME FROM?**

The Saddle River system serves approximately 147 customers and receives all of its water from the Haworth Water Treatment Plant (WTP). The Haworth WTP is part of the New Jersey Hackensack Water System (PWSID #NJ0238001).

The Haworth WTP receives water primarily from four reservoirs – the Oradell, Woodcliff Lake, and Lake Tappan reservoirs in Bergen County, New Jersey, and Lake DeForest in Rockland County, New York. Lake DeForest and Lake Tappan reservoirs are located on the upper or freshwater portion of the Hackensack River. Woodcliff Lake reservoir is located on the Pascack Brook, while the Oradell reservoir is fed by both the Hackensack River and the Pascack Brook. Together they hold about 14 billion gallons of water and cover nearly 6,000 acres. Water from these surface supplies are treated to meet safe drinking water standards at the Haworth WTP

From time to time, you may receive water from sources through interconnections with other water suppliers including the Boonton and Monksville reservoirs. Through these pipelines we are able to supplement water supplies to meet customer needs. You may also receive treated water from the City of Jersey City, our New York operations in Rockland County, the Park Ridge Water Department, the Passaic Valley Water Commission, or Ridgewood Water. In addition, we are partners with the North Jersey District Water Supply Commission in the Wanaque South Project. This is a regional network of pipelines, pumping stations and reservoirs that can provide up to 60 million gallons of water per day to our customers. Information about the sources we used last year is provided in this report.

### **ABOUT THE TREATMENT PROCESS**

Our goal is to provide you with drinking water that meets or surpasses all federal and state standards. Our water treatment plant in Haworth, New Jersey, uses ozone, a form of oxygen, to purify your water and high-rate dissolved air flotation (DAF) for sedimentation clarification. State-of-the-art DAF technology facilitates improved water quality, enhanced service reliability, reduced chemical and energy usage, and the protection of sensitive ecosystems. A corrosion inhibitor is added at the plant to reduce the possibility of lead and copper dissolving into the water of household plumbing. Water treated at the plant is also filtered and contains a small amount of chloramine — a combination of chlorine and ammonia — to help ensure the safety of your water. The water you receive from wells or interconnections with other water suppliers is purified with chlorine. To further ensure the safety of your water, we monitor it before, during, and after the treatment process. For example, we routinely test the water at the rivers, lakes, streams, and wells that supply drinking water. We also sample and test treated water directly from the distribution system in each community we serve. As you can see, we are committed to providing you with top quality water.

### **SOURCE WATER ASSESSMENT PROGRAM**

Under the Federal Safe Drinking Water Act, all states were required to establish a Source Water Assessment Program (SWAP). New Jersey's SWAP Plan incorporates the following four fundamental steps:

1. Determine the source water assessment area of each ground and surface water source of public drinking water.
2. Inventory the potential contamination sources within the source water assessment area.
3. Determine the public water system source's susceptibility to regulated contaminants. It is important to note, if a drinking water source's susceptibility is high, it does not necessarily mean the drinking water is contaminated. The rating reflects the potential for contamination of source water, not the existence of contamination.
4. Incorporate public education and participation.

In 2004, source water assessment reports were completed by NJDEP for all Community and Noncommunity Water Systems in New Jersey. The source water assessment reports and supporting documentation are available at <http://www.state.nj.us/dep/swap/index.html> or by contacting the NJDEP's Bureau of Safe Drinking Water at **609.292.5550**.

### **SUSCEPTIBILITY RATINGS FOR SADDLE RIVER WATER UTILITY SOURCES**

The table below illustrates the susceptibility ratings for the seven contaminant categories (and radon) for each source in the system. The table provides the number of wells and intakes that rated high (H), medium (M), or low (L) for each contaminant category. For susceptibility ratings of purchased water, refer to the specific water system's source water assessment report.

The seven contaminant categories are defined at the bottom of this page. NJDEP considered all surface water highly susceptible to pathogens, therefore all intakes received a high rating for the pathogen category. For the purpose of 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 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 to 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.

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**. The source water assessment performed on our three sources of water determined the following:

**Saddle River Water Utility (PWSID # NJ0258001)**

Sources	Pathogens			Nutrients			Pesticides			Volatile Organic Compounds			Inorganics			Radio-nuclides			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 - 0																											
GUDI - 0																											
Surface water intakes - 0																											

The Saddle River Water Utility purchases water from our New Jersey Hackensack Water System. You can find a link to the source water assessment reports and supporting documentation are available at <http://www.state.nj.us/dep/swap/index.html> or by contacting the NJDEP's Bureau of Safe Drinking Water at **609.292.5550** or [watersupply@dep.nj.gov](mailto:watersupply@dep.nj.gov).

- **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 go to <http://www.nj.gov/dep/rpp/radon/index.htm> or call **800.648.0394**.
- **Disinfection By-product 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.

**TAP OR BOTTLED WATER?**

A 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 EPA Safe Drinking Water Hotline at **800.426.4791**.

The sources of drinking water (for both tap 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 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 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 byproducts of industrial processes and petroleum production and can also come from gas stations, urban stormwater 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 the water is safe to drink, the 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. So, what's the bottom line? If bottled and tap water meet the federal standards, they are both safe to drink. However, your tap water is substantially

less expensive than bottled water.

## MONITORING YOUR WATER

We routinely monitor for contaminants in your drinking water according to **EPA** and **NJDEP** regulations. The following tables in this report show the results of our monitoring for the period of January 1 to December 31, 2021. **EPA** allows us to monitor for some contaminants less than once per year because the concentrations of these contaminants do not change frequently. Some of our data is from prior years in accordance with the Safe Drinking Water Act. The date has been noted on the sampling results table.

### DEFINITIONS:

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

Locational Running Annual Average (LRAA): The average of four consecutive quarterly samples at a single sample site.

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.

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 Level 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 disinfectant to control microbial contamination.

Nephelometric Turbidity Unit (NTU): A measure of the clarity of water.

Non-Detect (ND): Not detectable.

Not Analyzed or Not Applicable (NA): Analysis of the constituent is not required, or no applicable regulatory standard exists.

Parts per million (ppm) or milligrams per liter (mg/L): Corresponds to one part of liquid in one million parts of liquid.

Parts per billion (ppb) or micrograms per liter (µg/L): Corresponds to one part of liquid in one billion parts of liquid.

Parts per trillion (ppt) or nanograms per liter (ng/L): Corresponds to one part of liquid in one trillion parts of liquid.

Picocuries per liter (pCi/L): Picocuries per liter is a measure of the radioactivity in water.

Primary Standard: Federal drinking water measurements for substances that are health-related. Water supplier must meet all primary drinking water standards.

Running Annual Average (RAA): The average of four consecutive quarterly samples.

Secondary Standard: Federal drinking water measurements for substances that do not have an impact on health. These reflect aesthetic qualities such as taste, odor, and appearance. Secondary standards are recommendations, not mandates.

Treatment Technique (TT): A required process intended to reduce the level or likelihood of a contaminant in drinking water.

CU: Color unit.

RUL: Recommended upper limit.

S.U.: Standard unit.

< "less than." – often used when the contaminant is not detectable using the approved analysis method.

## WATER QUALITY RESULTS - TABLE OF DETECTED CONTAMINANTS

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. 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).

**Saddle River Water Utility (PWSID # NJ0258001) & SUEZ Water New Jersey Hackensack (PWSID # NJ0238001) – Primary Standards**

<b>Contaminant</b>	<b>Violation Yes/No</b>	<b>Sample Year</b>	<b>Highest Level Detected (Range of Results)</b>	<b>Unit Measure</b>	<b>MCLG</b>	<b>Regulatory Limit</b>	<b>Likely Sources in Drinking Water</b>
<b>Microbiological Contaminants – SWNJ Hackensack (PWSID # NJ0238001)</b>							
Turbidity <sup>1</sup>	No	2021	Highest level detected: 0.32 Range: 0.03 – 0.32  100% of samples <0.3NTU	NTU	NA	TT=<1.0 NTU and 95% of samples <0.3NTU	Soil runoff
<b>Inorganic Contaminants – SWNJ Hackensack (PWSID # NJ0238001)</b>							
Arsenic	No	2021	Highest level detected: 0.708	ppb	0	5	Erosion of natural deposits; runoff from orchards; runoff from glass and electronics production wastes
Barium	No	2021	Highest level detected: 0.0746	ppm	2	2	Discharge of drilling wastes; discharge from metal refineries; erosion of natural deposits
Chromium (Total)	No	2021	Highest level detected: 3.73	ppb	100	100	Discharge from steel and pulp mills; erosion of natural deposits
Nickel	No	2021	Highest level detected: 2.89	ppb	NA	NA	Erosion of natural deposits
Nitrate as nitrogen	No	2021	Highest level detected: 0.77 Range: 0.02 – 0.77	ppm	10	10	Runoff from fertilizer usage; leaching from septic tanks, sewage; erosion of natural deposits
Nitrite as nitrogen	No	2021	Highest level detected: 0.0881 Range: ND – 0.0881	ppm	1	1	Runoff from fertilizer usage; leaching from septic tanks, sewage; erosion of natural deposits
Total Nitrate and Nitrite	No	2021	Highest level detected: 0.77 Range: 0.02 – 0.77	ppm	10	10	Runoff from fertilizer usage; leaching from septic tanks, sewage; erosion of natural deposits
<b>Inorganic Contaminants – Saddle River Water Utility (PWSID # NJ0258001)</b>							
Copper <sup>2</sup>	No	2019	90th percentile: 0.138 Range: 0.00946 – 0.206 # samples above Action Level: 0 of 11	ppm	1.3	AL = 1.3	Corrosion of household plumbing systems; erosion of natural deposits
Lead <sup>3</sup>	No	2019	90th percentile: 0 Range: ND – 14.7 # samples above Action Level: 0 of 11	ppb	0	AL = 15	Lead service lines, corrosion of household plumbing including fittings and fixtures; erosion of natural deposits

<b>Organic Contaminants – Volatile – SWNJ Hackensack (PWSID # NJ0238001)</b>							
Toluene	No	2021	Highest level detected: 0.905	ppb	1000	1000	Discharge from petroleum refineries
<b>Disinfectants – Saddle River Water Utility (PWSID # NJ0258001)</b>							
Chloroamines	No	2021	Highest level detected: 3.08 Range: 1.76 – 3.08	ppm	MRDLG: 4.0	MRDL: 4.0	Water additive to control microbes
<b>Disinfection By-Products – Saddle River Water Utility (PWSID # NJ0258001)</b>							
TTHM (Total Trihalomethanes)	No	2021	RAA: 56.5 Level detected: 56.5	ppb	NA	80	By-product of drinking water disinfection
HAA5 (Haloacetic Acids)	No	2021	RAA: 16.9 Level detected: 16.9	ppb	NA	60	By-product of drinking water disinfection
<b>Disinfection By-Products – SWNJ Hackensack (PWSID # NJ0238001)</b>							
Bromate	No	2021	Highest RAA: 1.7 Range: ND – 3.0	ppb	0	10	By-product of drinking water disinfection
<b>Perfluoroalkyl Substance – SWNJ Hackensack (PWSID # NJ0238001)</b>							
PFOA	No	2021	Highest RAA: 9.7 Range: 8.24 – 11.2	ppt	NA	14	Used in manufacturer of fluoropolymers, firefighting foams, cleaners, cosmetics, greases, lubricants, paints, polishes, adhesives, and photographic films
PFOS	No	2021	Highest RAA: 3.7 Range: 2.87 – 4.73	ppt	NA	13	Used in firefighting foam, circuit board etching, cleaners, floor polish, and pesticides
<b>Lead and Copper – Water Quality Parameters – Saddle River Water Utility (PWSID # NJ0258001)</b>							
<b>SWNJ Interconnection (CC002002)</b>							
Parameter	Sample Year	Minimum Level Detected	Maximum Level Detected	Unit Measure	MCLG	Required Minimum Level	Number of Excursions
pH	2021	7.81	8.21	s.u.	NA	7.2	NA
Alkalinity (as CaCO <sub>3</sub> )	2021	92	97	ppm	NA	NA	NA
Orthophosphate (as Total P)	2021	0.58	0.80	ppm	NA	0.2	NA
<b>SWNJ Interconnection (CC003003)</b>							
Parameter	Sample Year	Minimum Level Detected	Maximum Level Detected	Unit Measure	MCLG	Required Minimum Level	Number of Excursions
pH	2021	7.83	8.29	s.u.	NA	7.2	NA
Alkalinity (as CaCO <sub>3</sub> )	2021	90	96	ppm	NA	NA	NA
Orthophosphate (as Total P)	2021	0.48	0.77	ppm	NA	0.2	NA

<b>Distribution System</b>							
<b>Parameter</b>	<b>Sample Year</b>	<b>Minimum Level Detected</b>	<b>Maximum Level Detected</b>	<b>Unit Measure</b>	<b>MCLG</b>	<b>Required Minimum Level</b>	<b>Number of Excursions</b>
pH	2021	7.84	8.17	s.u.	NA	7.2	NA
Alkalinity (as CaCO <sub>3</sub> )	2021	94	96	ppm	NA	NA	NA
Orthophosphate (as Total P)	2021	0.62	0.82	ppm	NA	0.2	NA

In addition to the contaminants listed above, for which Federal and/or State regulations limits have been established, and regular monitoring is required, we may also occasionally test for unregulated contaminants to determine occurrence data and provide input to regulatory agencies that are considering these contaminants for future regulations. This data is presented below.

<b>Unregulated Contaminants – SWNJ Hackensack (PWSID # NJ0238001)</b>			
<b>Contaminants</b>	<b>Sample Year</b>	<b>Highest Level Detected</b>	<b>Units</b>
1,4-Dioxane	2021	0.026	ppb
PFHpA	2021	3.83	ppt
PFHxS	2021	3.52	ppt
PFHxA	2021	4.04	ppt
HAA5	2019	28.64	ppb
HAA6Br	2019	14.51	ppb
HAA9	2019	41.47	ppb
Manganese	2019	37.7	ppb

Secondary standards are non-mandatory guidelines to assist public water systems in managing their drinking water for aesthetic considerations, such as taste, color, and odor. These contaminants are not considered to present a risk to human health.

<b>Secondary Standards – SWNJ Hackensack (PWSID # NJ0238001)</b>				
<b>Contaminants</b>	<b>Sample Year</b>	<b>Highest Level Detected</b>	<b>Units</b>	<b>RUL</b>
Aluminum	2021	128	ppb	200
Chloride	2021	228	ppm	250
Color	2021	3	CU	10
Hardness (as CaCO <sub>3</sub> )	2021	187	ppm	250
Alkalinity	2021	123	ppm	NA
Calcium	2021	50.88	ppm	NA
pH	2021	8.33	pH units	6.5 – 8.5
Sodium <sup>4</sup>	2021	131.4	ppm	50
Sulfate	2021	18.4	ppm	250
Total Dissolved Solids	2021	513	ppm	500
Zinc	2021	0.449	ppm	5

**Notes:**

1. Turbidity is a measure of the cloudiness of the water. We test it because it is a good indicator of the effectiveness of our filtration system. State regulations require that turbidity must always be below 1 NTU at the treatment system. State regulations require that turbidity must always be below 5 NTU in the distribution system and that 95% of the turbidity samples collected (at the treatment system entry point) have measurements below 0.3 NTU.
2. The Copper level presented represents the 90th percentile of the sites tested. A percentile is a value on a scale of 100 that indicates the percent of a distribution that is equal to or below it. The 90th percentile is equal to or greater than 90% of the copper values detected at your water system.

3. The Lead level presented represents the 90th percentile of the sites tested. A percentile is a value on a scale of 100 that indicates the percent of a distribution that is equal to or below it. The 90th percentile is equal to or greater than 90% of the lead values detected at your water system.
4. This result 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 RUL may be of concern to individuals on a sodium restricted diet. Please see additional sodium information below.

## WAIVER INFORMATION

The Safe Drinking Water Act (SDWA) regulations allow monitoring waivers to reduce or eliminate the monitoring requirements for asbestos, volatile organic chemicals (VOCs) and synthetic organic chemicals (SOCs). Our system received monitoring waivers for asbestos because we are not vulnerable to this type of contamination.

## 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, elevated levels of sodium may be a concern for persons on a sodium-restricted diet. If you have any concerns, please consult your health care provider. Road salt run-off affecting our source water quality is the leading cause of elevated sodium levels in the drinking water supply. We are meeting with communities within our source water area to discuss options for minimizing use of and/or alternatives to road salt.

## SOURCES OF LEAD IN DRINKING WATER

Although most lead exposure occurs from inhaling dust or from contaminated soil, or when children eat paint chips, the U.S. Environmental Protection Agency (USEPA) estimates that 10 to 20 percent of human exposure to lead may come from lead in drinking water. Infants who consume mostly mixed formula can receive 40 percent to 60 percent of their exposure to lead from drinking water. Lead is rarely found in the source of your drinking water but enters tap water through corrosion, or wearing away, of materials containing lead in the water distribution system and household plumbing materials. These materials include lead-based solder used to join copper pipes, brass, and chrome-brass faucets, and in some cases, service lines made of or lined with lead. New brass faucets, fittings, and valves, including those advertised as "lead-free", may still contain a small percentage of lead, and contribute lead to drinking water. The law currently allows end-use brass fixtures, such as faucets, with up to 0.25 percent lead to be labeled as "lead free". However, prior to January 4, 2014, "lead free" allowed up to 8 percent lead content of the wetted surfaces of plumbing products including those labeled National Sanitation Foundation (NSF) certified. Visit the NSF website at [www.nsf.org](http://www.nsf.org) to learn more about lead-containing plumbing fixtures. Consumers should be aware of this when choosing fixtures and take appropriate precautions. When water stands in lead service lines, lead pipes, or plumbing systems containing lead for several hours or more, the lead may dissolve into your drinking water. This means the first water drawn from the tap in the morning, or later in the afternoon if the water has not been used all day, can contain fairly high levels of lead.

## STEPS YOU CAN TAKE TO REDUCE EXPOSURE TO LEAD IN DRINKING WATER

For a full list of steps visit: <https://www.state.nj.us/dep/watersupply/dwc-lead-consumer.html>

- **Run the cold water to flush out lead.** Let the water run from the tap before using it for drinking or cooking any time the water in the faucet has gone unused for more than six hours. The longer the water resides in plumbing the more lead it may contain. Flushing the tap means running the cold-water faucet. Let the water run from the cold-water tap based on the length of the lead service line and the plumbing configuration in your home. In other words, the larger the home or building and the greater the distance to the water main (in the street), the more water it will take to flush properly. Although toilet flushing or showering flushes water through a portion of the plumbing system, you still need to flush the water in each faucet before using it for drinking or cooking. Flushing tap water is a simple and inexpensive measure you can take to protect your health. It usually uses less than one gallon of water.
- **Use cold, flushed water for cooking and preparing baby formula.** Because lead from lead-containing plumbing materials and pipes can dissolve into hot water more easily than cold water, never drink, cook, or prepare beverages including baby formula using hot water from the tap. If you have not had your water sampled or if you know your water has lead, it is recommended that bottled or filtered water be used for drinking and preparing baby formula. If



you need hot water, draw water from the cold tap and then heat it.

- **Do not boil water to remove lead.** Boiling water will not reduce lead; however, it is still safe to wash dishes and do laundry. Lead will not soak into dishware or most clothes.
- **Use alternative sources or treatment of water.** You may want to consider purchasing bottled water or a water filter. Read the package to be sure the filter is approved to reduce lead or contact NSF International at 800-NSF-8010 or [www.nsf.org](http://www.nsf.org) for information on performance standards for water filters.
- **Determine if you have interior lead plumbing or solder.** If your home/building was constructed prior to 1987, it is important to determine if interior lead solder or lead pipes are present. You can check yourself, hire a licensed plumber, or check with your landlord.
- **Replace plumbing fixtures and service lines containing lead.** Replace brass faucets, fittings, and valves that do not meet the current definition of "lead free" from 2014 (as explained above). Visit the NSF website at [www.nsf.org](http://www.nsf.org) to learn more about lead-containing plumbing fixtures.
- **Remove and clean aerators/screens on plumbing fixtures.** Over time, particles and sediment can collect in the aerator screen. Regularly remove and clean aerators screens located at the tip of faucets and remove any particles.
- **Test your water for lead.** Contact an independent lab to have the drinking water tested for lead. The NJDEP maintains a list of certified labs. To access the list please visit <http://www13.state.nj.us/DataMiner>, click Search by Category then Certified Laboratories from the Report Category drop down box. Then click the Submit button, and under Certified Laboratories choose Drinking Water Certified Lead Labs. Testing is essential because you cannot see, taste, or smell lead in drinking water.
- **Get your child tested.** Contact your local health department or healthcare provider to find out how you can get tested for lead if you are concerned about lead exposure. You can find out more about how to get your child tested and how to pay for it at <https://www.state.nj.us/health/childhoodlead/testing.shtml>. New Jersey law requires that children be tested for lead in their blood at both 1 and 2 years of age and before they are 6 years old if they have never been tested before or if they have been exposed to a known source of lead.
- **Have an electrician check your wiring.** If grounding wires from the electrical system are attached to your pipes, corrosion may be greater. Check with a licensed electrician or your local electrical code to determine if your wiring can be grounded elsewhere. DO NOT attempt to change the wiring yourself because improper grounding can cause electrical shock and fire hazards.
- **Water softeners and reverse osmosis units** will remove lead from water but can also make the water more corrosive to lead solder and plumbing by removing certain minerals; therefore, the installation of these treatment units at the point of entry into homes with lead plumbing should only be done under supervision of a qualified water treatment professional.

We also published an inventory of our system as an interactive map, available at: <https://www.mysuezwater.com/new-jersey/water-in-my-area/service-lines>

If you want to pass on more information to your residents, please consider these:

- **What's a lead service line?** <https://www.nj.gov/dep/lead/images/lead-pipes-infographic.jpg>
- **NJ's Lead Service Lines Video** <https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=3SetRPs4DCQ>

## HEALTH EFFECTS OF LEAD

Lead can cause serious health problems if too much enters your body from drinking water or other sources. It can cause damage to the brain and kidneys and can interfere with the production of red blood cells that carry oxygen to all parts of your body. The greatest risk of lead exposure is to infants, young children, and pregnant women. Scientists have linked the effects of lead on the brain with lowered IQ in children. Adults with kidney problems and high blood pressure can be affected by low levels of lead more than healthy adults. Lead is stored in the bones, and it can be released later in life. During pregnancy, the child receives lead from the mother's bones, which may affect brain development. Contact your local health department or healthcare provider to find out how you can get your child tested for lead if you are concerned about lead exposure. You can find out more about how to get your

child tested and how to pay for it at <https://www.state.nj.us/health/childhoodlead/testing.shtml>.

For more information, please call **1.800.422.5987**.

State Water System ID#: NJ0258001 (Saddle River Water Utility)

State Water System ID#: NJ0238001 (SUEZ Water New Jersey Hackensack)

***This report contains important information about your drinking water. Have someone translate it for you, or speak with someone who understands it.***

**IMPORTANT INFORMATION**

Please pass this information along to those who speak Spanish, Portuguese, Korean, Gujarti or Arabic:

• Este informe contiene información muy importante sobre su agua potable. Tradúzcalo ó hable con alguien que lo entienda bien.

~~• આજીવન સુરક્ષા માટે પીણી પાણીની ગુણવત્તા સુધારવાની જરૂર છે. આ માટે સરકાર અને સુએઝ વોટર ન્યુ જર્સી હેકેન્સેક સાથે સહયોગ કરવો જરૂરી છે.~~

\* المعلومات في هذا التقرير تحتوي على معلومات مهمة عن مياه الشرب التي تشربها. من فضلكم إذا لم تفهم هذه المعلومات اطلب من يترجمها لكم.

• Este reporte contem informações importantes sobre a sua água de beber. Traduza-o ou fale com alguém que o compreenda.

• આ અહેવાલ આ સમગ્ર પ્રદેશના લોકોને સુરક્ષા આપવા માટે જરૂરી છે. આ માટે સરકાર અને સુએઝ વોટર ન્યુ જર્સી હેકેન્સેક સાથે સહયોગ કરવો જરૂરી છે.