



And we are continuing to make the necessary investments to keep it that way.

It's high quality.  
It's reliable.

Your drinking water:



Quality drinking water is an essential resource. The good news is tap water is top quality.

# TRENTON WATER WORKS 2024 WATER QUALITY REPORT

The City of Trenton is pleased to present the

## The Water Source Used by Trenton Water Works

Trenton Water Works is a public community water system serving approximately 217,000 customers. This system's source water is drawn from the Delaware River through an intake north of the Calhoun St. Bridge. The water is treated at the TWW Filtration plant, on Route 29 S, and piped to the distribution system. An interconnection with New Jersey American Water Company's Raritan system may supply water in times of need. The water quality results from New Jersey American can be found at the following link: <http://www.amwater.com/ccr/raritan.pdf>.

### Susceptibility Ratings for Trenton Water 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 (0) and intakes (1) that rated high (H), medium (M), or low (L) for each contaminant category. For susceptibility ratings of purchased water, refer to the water system's source water assessment report.

The eight 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.

According to the Source Water Assessment Program, radionuclides are more concerning for ground water than surface water. As a result, surface water intakes' susceptibility to radionuclides was not determined, thus 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.

### Source Water Assessment for Trenton Water Works

Sources	Pathogens			Nutrients			Pesticides			Volatile Organic Compounds			Inorganics			Radionuclides			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	
Delaware River	1																								

Note: All surface water sources in New Jersey are considered to be highly susceptible to pathogens and lowly susceptible to radionuclides and radon.

**Pathogens:** Disease causing organisms such as bacteria and viruses. Common examples are animal and human fecal waste.

**Nutrients:** Compounds, minerals and elements that aid growth, and 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 which are both naturally occurring and man-made. Examples include arsenic, asbestos, copper, lead, and nitrate.

**Radionuclides:** Radioactive substances which 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.

## An assessment of the source water determined the following:

The susceptibility of the Delaware River to eight contaminant categories was evaluated. The Delaware River received a high-susceptibility rating for pathogens, nutrients, inorganics, and disinfectant byproducts (DBP's); a medium-susceptibility rating for pesticides & volatile compounds (VOC's); and a low-susceptibility rating for radionuclides & radon. All surface water sources in New Jersey are considered highly susceptible to pathogens and have a low susceptibility to radionuclides & radon. The NJDEP found the following potential contaminant sources within the source water assessment area for the systems source:

- Agriculture, residential, urban, and commercial and industrial land use.
- Sewer treatment plants
- Solid Waste landfills, solid waste resource recovery facilities, solid waste transfer facilities, compost facilities, Class B recycling facilities
- NJPDES permitted Facilities
- Underground storage tanks

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 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 tap water is safe to drink, EPA prescribes regulations limiting the amount of certain contaminants in water provided by public water systems. FDA 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 water poses a health risk. More information about contaminants and potential health effects can be obtained by calling the EPA's Safe Drinking Water Hotline (1-800-426-4791). 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/water/supply/swap/index.html>, or by contacting the NJDEP, Bureau of Safe Drinking Water at (609) 292-5550 or [watersupply@dep.nj.gov](mailto:watersupply@dep.nj.gov).

### Important Information about Your Drinking Water

#### Trenton Water Works Violations - Descriptions of Non-Compliance:

**2023-4132:** FOLLOW-UP MONITORING OR ROUTINE TAP M/R (LCR) for LEAD & COPPER for the period 07/01/2022 to 12/31/2022 for the following sample point ID: DS DISTRIBUTION SYSTEM. Specifically, your water system was required to collect 100 samples and we only received 95.

**2023-4133:** FAILED TO MONITOR/CONDUCT ROUTINE TURBIDITY (0100) monitoring under the (IESWTR/LT1) on 10 Filters on 3/17/2023.

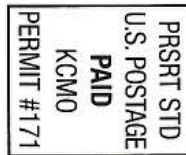
**2024-4137:** FAILED TO SUBMIT LEAD CONSUMER NOTICE (LCR) for Lead and Copper Rule for the first half of 2023. The compliance period was 09/29/2023. The Bureau determined this violation on 01/11/2024. The Bureau updated their comments on 1/24/2024 under comment number 2024-4274: SOX, ST COMPLIANCE ACHIEVED.

(continued)

**What should you do?**  
There is nothing you need to do at this time. You do not need to boil your water or take other corrective actions. If a situation arises where the water is no longer safe to drink, you will be notified within 24 hours. TWW has since submitted all the necessary samples and developed a precise strategy for monitoring during maintenance periods. TWW has developed a program to reduce the exposure to lead for their customers in the drinking water as a response to an exceedance of the Lead and Copper Rule. TWW replaced approximately 9,500 lead service lines. In addition, TWW implemented corrosion control treatment that reduces the leaching of lead from pipes, plumbing, and fixtures into the drinking water. The corrosion control has affected a greater than 75% reduction in lead concentration at customer's taps. TWW has not exceeded a lead action level since 2018. TWW entered into a second Administrative Consent Order dated July 26, 2018 on the New Jersey Safe Drinking Water Regulations, specifically N.J.A.C. 7:10-5.1.5.2(a)(9), incorporated by reference, the Lead and Copper Rule 40 CFR 141.80 et. Seq. The required actions of this ACO are now complete. Call us at (609)989-3600 to find out how to get your water tested for lead. Testing is essential because you cannot see, taste, or smell lead in drinking water. Landlords must distribute this information 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 P.L. 2021, c. 82 (C.58:12A-12.4 et seq.).

**Capital Improvements**  
TWW is investing in our infrastructure to improve system reliability, water quality and operational performance. We have developed a six-year capital plan to meet our overall objectives. Projects currently underway include raw water intake improvement project, super pulsatator upgrade, Pennington reservoir replacement project, meter replacement program, water treatment plant facility upgrade, the gravity thickener rehabilitation, water main cleaning, and lead service line replacements.

**For More Information**  
The City of Trenton values our customers and works hard to ensure their satisfaction. For more information, we welcome you to attend a City Council meeting, held twice a month on Tues/Thurs at 5:30 PM, located at 319 East State Street, 2nd Fl, Trenton NJ. For more specific dates, please visit the City Council Meetings, Agendas & Minutes tab on our website, [www.trenton.nj.org](http://www.trenton.nj.org). If you have questions or comments about this report, please contact (609) 989-3055 between 8:30 AM and 4:00 PM, or contact the following for more information:  
New Jersey Department of Environmental Protection  
Bureau of Safe Drinking Water:  
(609) 292-5550 or [www.state.nj.us/dep/watersupply/](http://www.state.nj.us/dep/watersupply/)  
Drinking Water Watch:  
[https://www9.state.nj.us/DEP\\_WaterWatch\\_public/index.jsp](https://www9.state.nj.us/DEP_WaterWatch_public/index.jsp)  
United States Environmental Protection Agency  
1-800-426-4791 or [www.epa.gov/safewater](http://www.epa.gov/safewater)  
Este informe contiene información muy importante sobre el agua que usted bebe.



## Acronyms and Definitions

**Maximum Contaminant Level (MCL):** The highest level of 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.

**Recommended Upper Limit (RUL):** The level of a secondary contaminant in drinking water below which there is no known or expected adverse effect of the taste, color, odor, or appearance of such water, or which may adversely affect the public welfare.

**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 disinfectants to control microbial contamination.

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

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

**Variations and Exceptions:** State or EPA permission not to meet a MCL or a treatment technique under certain conditions.

**ppm:** Concentration in parts per million or milligrams per liter (mg/L); this is equivalent to \$0.01 of \$10,000.

**ppb:** Concentration in parts per billion or micrograms per liter (µg/L); this is equivalent to \$0.01 of \$10,000,000.

**pCi/L:** Picocuries per liter; a measure of radioactivity.

**NLE:** No Level Established

**NTU:** Nephelometric turbidity units (units describing how cloudy a water sample appears).

**MFL:** million fibers per liter.

<: When seen in the table, it usually refers to below detectable levels.

≤: Less than or equal to; when seen in the table, it usually refers to below or equal to detectable levels.

**Contaminant:** Anything found in water (including microorganisms, minerals, chemicals, radionuclides, etc.) that may be harmful to human health.

**Raw Water:** Water in its natural state prior to any treatment for drinking.

**Source Water:** Water in its natural state originating from the watershed that supplies a water system with its raw water.

**Watershed:** The land area from which water drains into a stream, river, or reservoir.

**Treated Water:** Water to be used by a public water system that has received the application of approved water treatment chemicals.

**Drinking Water:** Water that has been treated to comply with EPA regulations and is pumped to the water customer for use.

**Turbidity:** Turbidity is a measure of the cloudiness of the water, which is a good indicator of water quality. High turbidity can hinder the effectiveness of disinfectants.

## FOOTNOTES

- TWW averages 158 samples per month. The requirement is 120 samples monthly. An MCL violation would be triggered if, > 5% of the samples had TC detected or any detection of E-coli.
- Beginning in 2017, Trenton Water Works was required to sample 100 sites every six months as are all large systems in the state.
- Stage 2 DBPR monitoring is conducted quarterly. The results are shown are from the 2023 quarterly sampling.
- The highest Locational Running Annual Average (LRAA) for TTHM and HAA5 is reported per regulation. All LRAAs which exceed the MCL shall be included. The LRAA is the average of the current and three previous quarterly results for each sample site location.
- Data presented is derived from quarterly sample site results.
- Turbidity is a measure of the cloudiness of the water. We monitor it because it is a good indicator of water quality. High turbidity can hinder the effectiveness of disinfectants. 99.78% of the turbidity readings in 2023 were below the treatment requirement of 0.3 NTU.
- Chlorine residuals are taken during Coliform (bacteria) sampling in the distribution system.
- Radioactive Contaminants (radionuclide) sampling is required once every 9-year monitoring period. The current compliance period is 2020-2028. Only detected results are reported. The results presented were sampled in 2014.
- Inorganic compounds were tested in March of 2023.
- NJDEP standards (RUL).
- Unregulated Contaminant Rule sampling assesses the potential risks associated with certain contaminants. The EPA will use this to determine if regulation is warranted.
- Cryptosporidium is a microbial pathogen found in surface water throughout the United States. Although filtration removes Cryptosporidium, the most commonly used filtration methods cannot guarantee 100 percent removal. Our monitoring indicates the presence of these organisms in our source water. Current test methods do not allow us to determine if the organisms are viable or capable of causing disease. Ingestion of Cryptosporidium may cause cryptosporidiosis, an abdominal infection. Symptoms of infection include nausea, diarrhea, and abdominal cramps. Most healthy individuals can overcome the disease within a few weeks. However, immuno-compromised people, infants and small children, and the elderly are at greater risk of developing life-threatening illness. We encourage immuno-compromised individuals to consult their doctor regarding appropriate precautions to take to avoid infection. Cryptosporidium must be ingested to cause disease, and it may spread through means other than drinking water.
- Secondary contaminants are non-enforceable guidelines regulating contaminants that may cause cosmetic effects or aesthetic effects in drinking water.
- 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.
- Per- or polyfluoroalkyl substances (PFAS) are man-made substances used in a variety of products, such as: stain resistant fabric, nonstick coatings, firefighting foam, paints, waxes, and cleaning products. They are also components in some industrial processes like electronics manufacturing and oil recovery. The New Jersey Department of Environmental Protection (NJDEP) has begun regulating one of these compounds: perfluorononanoic acid (PFNA). While all other PFAS are not regulated, New Jersey American Water recognizes the importance of testing for these contaminants.
- Trenton Water Works Lead Service Line (LSL) Inventory is available publicly and available online at [www.twwleadprogram.com](http://www.twwleadprogram.com).
- Trenton Water Works received a Synthetic Organic Compound (SOC) waiver from the NJDEP for the 2020-2022 compliance period.

Drinking Water Quality Results								
<i>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 at 1-800-426-4791.</i>								
<b>BACTERIA<sup>1</sup></b>								
		2023 Positive Bacteria Results	MCL	MCLG	Violation (Y/N)	Potential Source		
Total Coliform (TC)		7 positive samples out of 1,869 (0.37%)	Presence of coliform bacteria 5% of monthly samples.	0	N	Naturally present in the environment; their presence indicates potential contamination		
<b>METALS</b>								
Lead and Copper Rule <sup>2</sup>		Units	2023 Samples Exceeding Action Level	90% of samples were less	AL (90% Action Limit)	MCLG	Violation (Y/N)	Potential Source
Lead (1st Draw)	Jan-Jun	ppb	3 out of 101	2.2	15	0	N	Corrosion of household plumbing
	Jul-Dec		6 out of 105	4.3			N	
Copper (1st Draw)	Jan-Jun	ppm	0 out of 101	0.13017	1.3	0	N	Corrosion of household plumbing
	Jul-Dec		0 out of 105	0.0977			N	
<b>DISINFECTANT BYPRODUCTS (DBP) – STAGE 2<sup>3</sup></b>								
Sampling Sites (8 Sites)	Units	2023 Highest LRAA <sup>4</sup>	2022 Range of Values <sup>5</sup>	MCL (LRAA)	MCLG	Violation (Y/N)	Potential Source	
Haloacetic Acids (HAA5)								
HAA5's	ppb	43 (ART1)	10.4 – 78	60	NLE	N	Byproduct of drinking water disinfection	
Total Trihalomethanes (TTHM)								
TTHM's	ppb	66 (ART1)	13.5 – 100	80	NLE	N	Byproduct of drinking water disinfection	
<b>CLARITY CHARACTERISTICS – TESTED AT WATER TREATMENT PLANT<sup>6</sup></b>								
	Units	2023 Highest Reported Level	2023 Range of Values	2022 Average Value	MCL	MCLG	Violation (Y/N)	Potential Source
Turbidity	NTU	0.607	0.025 -0.607	0.075	TT = 1 NTU	0	N	Soil runoff; river sediment
				99.78%	95% of monthly samples must be at or below 0.3			
<b>FREE CHLORINE RESIDUAL<sup>7</sup></b>								
	Units	2023 Annual Average	2023 Range of Values	2023 Highest Monthly Average Result	MRDL	MRDLG	Violation (Y/N)	Potential Source
Chlorine Residual	ppm	1.1	0.05 - 2.19	1.6	4	4	N	Chemicals added to control microbes
<b>INORGANIC COMPOUNDS<sup>9</sup></b>								
	Units	2023 Constituent Level	MCL	MCLG	Violation (Y/N)	Potential Source		
Barium	ppm	0.022	2	2	N	Discharge of drilling wastes; discharge from metal refineries; erosion of natural deposits		
Chromium	ppb	5	100	100	N	Discharge from steel and pulp mills; erosion of natural deposits		
Fluoride	ppm	0.62	4	4	N	Erosion of natural deposits; water additive which promotes strong teeth; discharge for fertilizer and aluminum factories.		
Nickel	ppm	0.003	NLE	NLE	N	Erosion of natural deposits; found in the earth's crust		
Nitrate (as Nitrogen)	ppm	0.86	10	10	N	Runoff from fertilizer use; leaching from septic tanks; erosion of natural deposits		
<b>SOURCE WATER PATHOGEN MONITORING<sup>13</sup></b>								
Contaminant		TWW Source Waters		Typical Source				
Cryptosporidium, Oocysts/L		0 – 0.28		Microbial pathogens found in surface waters throughout the United States				
Giardia, Cysts/L		0 – 0.28						
<b>ORTHOPHOSPHATE</b>								
	Units	MCL	MCLG	Average Level Detected	Range of Values		Potential Source	
Orthophosphate	mg/L	NLE	NLE	0.32	0.013 – 0.74		Corrosion control chemical	
<b>TOTAL ORGANIC CARBON</b>								
	Units	MCL	MCLG	Highest Level Detected	Range of Values		Potential Source	
Total Organic Carbon	mg/L	TT	NA	2.2	0.8– 2.2		Naturally Present in the environment	
<b>SECONDARY CONTAMINANTS<sup>14</sup></b>								
	Units	2023 Constituent Level	RUL	Exceedance (Y/N)	Potential Source			
Chloride <sup>10</sup>	ppm	54.8	250	N	Naturally present in the environment and road salt			
Hardness <sup>10</sup>	ppm	73.7	250	N	Naturally occurring			
Sodium <sup>10</sup>	ppm	12.6	50	N	Naturally occurring			
Sulfate <sup>10</sup>	ppm	10.4	250	N	Naturally occurring			
Zinc	ppm	0.004	5	N	Naturally present in soils and ground & surface waters			

## Other Notes:

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. Trenton Water Works 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 2 to 3 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).

Trenton Water Works also has access to purchased groundwater as emergency water source from an adjacent water system. For further source water information, contact NJDEP Drinking Water Watch.

## COVID-19 and Drinking Water

TWW continues to provide safe drinking water to the communities it serves. The COVID-19 Pandemic has not affected TWW's ability to continue to provide safe drinking water to its customers. The coronavirus (COVID-19) pandemic is impacting communities throughout the world. We are working around the clock to ensure that safe, reliable water service continues to flow.

