Annual Drinking Water Quality Report

Morris County Municipal Utilities Authority

PWS ID NJ1432001

For the Year 2026, Results from the Year 2025

The Morris County MUA is pleased to provide you with our Annual Drinking Water Quality Report for the year 2026. This report includes the water quality monitoring results from the Morris County MUA. These results are for you to incorporate into your Consumer Confidence Report (CCR) with the additional sampling results from your distribution system. We want to keep you informed about the excellent water quality and delivery services we have provided over the past year. Our goal is and always has been, to provide a safe and dependable supply of drinking water. Morris County MUA is exclusively a bulk water wholesaler. Our source is ground water, treated with sodium hypochlorite for disinfection and lime for pH adjustment.

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 made 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.).

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 https://www.nj.gov/dep/watersupply/swap/index.html or by contacting the NJDEP, Bureau of Safe Drinking Water at 609-292-5550. For a brief summary of this report, see page 3.

If you have any questions about this report call: Superintendent of Water Operator, Anthony Milonas at (973-584-5503). We want our valued customers to be informed about their water quality. If you want to learn more, feel free to attend any of our regularly scheduled meetings, call (973-285-8385) for date and time.

Drinking water, including bottled water, may reasonably be expected to contain 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 EPAs Safe Drinking Water Hotline (1-877-927-6337).
The sources of drinking water (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 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-occuring or result from urban stormwater runoff, industrial or domestic wastewater discharges, oil and gas production, mining, or farming.
- ***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.
- ***Pesticides and herbicides***, which may come from a variety of sources such as agriculture, urban stormwater runoff, and residential uses.

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.

Morris County M.U.A. routinely monitors for contaminants in your drinking water according to federal and state laws. The following table shows the results of our monitoring for the period of January 1st to December 31st 2025. The Safe Drinking Water Act regulations allow monitoring waivers to reduce or eliminate the monitoring requirements for asbestos, volatile organic chemicals and synthetic organic chemicals. Our system received monitoring waivers for asbestos and synthetic organic chemicals. State law also allows us to monitor for some contaminants less then once a year because the concentrations of these contaminants do not change frequently. Some of our data though representative is more then one year old.

Some people may be more vulnerable to contaminants in drinking water than the general population. Immuno-compromised people such as people with cancer who have undergone chemotherapy, people 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 (1-877-927-6337).

Morris County MUA Test Results						
Contaminant	**Viola-tion Y/N**	**Level Detected**	**Units of Measure-ment**	**MC LG**	**MCL**	**Likely Source of Contamination**
Inorganic Contaminants:						
Barium Test results Yr. 2023	N	Range = 0.001 – 0.1 Highest detect = 0.1	Ppm	2	2	Discharge of drilling wastes; discharge from metal refineries; erosion of natural deposits
Chromium Test results Yr. 2023	N	Range = ND – 0.8 Highest detect = 0.8	Ppb	100	100	Discharge from steel and pulp mills; erosion of natural deposits
Fluoride Test results Yr. 2023	N	Range = ND - 0.13 Highest detect = 0.13	Ppm	4	4	Erosion of natural deposits; water additive which promotes strong teeth; discharge from fertilizer and aluminum factories
Nitrate (as Nitrogen) Test results Yr. 2025	N	Range = 0.80 – 3.01 Highest detect = 3.01	Ppm	10	10	Runoff from fertilizer use; leaching from septic tanks, sewage; erosion of natural deposits
Nickel Test results Yr. 2023	N	Range = ND – 0.6 Highest detect = 0.6	Ppb	N/A	N/A	Erosion of natural deposits
PFAS Per- and Polyfluoroalkyl Substances:						
PFOS Perfluorooctane Sulfonic Acid Test results Yr. 2025	N	Range = ND – 6.21 Highest detect = 6.21 Highest average = 4.96	Ppt	N/A	13	Discharge from industrial, chemical, and manufacturing factories, release of aqueous film forming foam.
PFOA Perfluorooctane Acid Test results Yr. 2025	N	Range = 2.36 – 9.21 Highest detect = 9.21 Highest average = 7.67	Ppt	N/A	14	Discharge from industrial, chemical, and manufacturing factories, release of aqueous film forming foam.

Secondary Contaminant	**Level Detected**	**Units of Measurement**	**RUL**
Sodium Test results Yr. 2023	Range = 6 -57	Ppm	50

Sodium

We slightly exceeded the Recommended Upper Limit (RUL) for sodium at one of our wells. 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.

Secondary Contaminant - Substances that do not have an impact on health. Secondary contaminants affect aesthetic qualities such as odor, taste or appearance. Secondary standards are recommendations, not mandates

Recommended Upper Limit - (RUL) Recommended maximum concentration of secondary contaminants. RULs are recommendations, not mandates.

DEFINITIONS

In the "Test Results" table you may find some terms and abbreviations you might not be familiar with. To help you better understand these terms we've provided the following definitions:

- ***Non-Detects (ND)*** - laboratory analysis indicates that the constituent is not present.
- ***Parts per million (ppm) or Milligrams per liter (mg/l)*** - one part per million corresponds to one minute in two years or a single penny in $10,000.
- ***Parts per billion (ppb) or Micrograms per liter*** - one part per billion corresponds to one minute in 2,000 years, or a single penny in $10,000,000.

Parts per trillion (ppt) or nanogram per liter - one part per trillion corresponds to one minute in 20,000 years, or a single penny in $100,000,000.

- ***Maximum Contaminant Level*** - The "Maximum Allowed" (MCL) is 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*** - The "Goal" (MCLG) is 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.
- ***Treatment Technique (TT)*** – A treatment technique is 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.
- ***Picocuries per liter (pCi/L)*** – picocuries per liter is a measure of the radioactivity in water.
- ***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.

What are PFOA and PFOS?

Perfluorooctanoic acid (PFOA) and perfluorooctane sulfonate (PFOS) are per- and polyfluoroalkyl substances (PFAS), previously referred to as perfluorinated compounds, or PFCs, that are man-made and used in industrial and commercial applications. PFOA was used as a processing aid in the manufacture of fluoropolymers used in non-stick cookware and other products, as well as other commercial and industrial uses based on its resistance to harsh chemicals and high temperatures. PFOS is used in metal plating and finishing as well as in various commercial products. PFOS was previously used as a major ingredient in aqueous film forming foams for firefighting and training, and PFOA and PFOS are found in consumer products such as stain resistant coatings for upholstery and carpets, water resistant outdoor clothing, and grease proof food packaging. Although the use of PFOA and PFOS has decreased substantially, contamination is expected to continue indefinitely because these substances are extremely persistent in the environment and are soluble and mobile in water. More information can be found at: https://www.state.nj.us/dep/wms/bears/docs/2019-4-15-FAQs_PFOS-PFOA-websites-OLA%204-24-19SDM-(003).pdf

Sources of Lead in Drinking Water

The Morris County MUA is responsible for providing high quality drinking water but cannot control the variety of materials used in plumbing components. 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 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, 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 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 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. Please call Superintendent of Water Operator, Anthony Milonas at (973-584-5503) 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.

Get your child tested. 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. 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.

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.

The following is a brief summary of our source water assessment performed by the NJDEP. Morris County M.U.A. is a public community water system consisting of 8 wells. This systems source water comes from the following aquifers: glacial sand and gravel, limestone. The table below illustrates the susceptibility ratings on the following potential contaminant sources that the NJDEP found within the source water assessment areas. Each source has a susceptibility rating of high, medium, or low for each potential contaminant.

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.

Potential Contaminants	Pathogens			Nutrients			Pesticides			Volatile Organic Compounds			Inorganics			Radionuclides			Radon			Disinfection Byproducts Precursors		
Sources	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 - 8		8		4	2	2		2	6	2		6		1	7	1	6	1	2	6		5	3	

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.
Volatile Organic Compounds: Manmade chemicals used as solvents, degreasers, and gasoline components.
Pesticides: Manmade chemicals used to control pests, weeds and fungus. Common sources include land application and manufacturing centers of pesticides.
Inorganics: Mineral-based compounds that are naturally occurring and man made.
Radionuclides: Radioactive substances that are naturally occurring and man made.
Radon: Colorless, odorless, cancer causing gas that occurs naturally in the environment.
Disinfection Byproduct Precursors: A common source is naturally occurring organic matter in surface water. Disinfection by products are formed when the disinfectants (usually chlorine) is used to kill pathogens react with dissolved organic material present in water.
If you have any questions regarding the source water assessment report, or summary please contact the Bureau of Safe Drinking Water at https://www.nj.gov/dep/watersupply/swap/index.html or call 609-292-5550.

Special Notice:

Thank you for allowing us to continue providing your municipality with clean, quality water this year.

Very truly yours,
Morris County Municipal Utilities Authority