

# Annual Drinking Water Quality Report

## The Tuckerton Borough Water Department

### Report for the Year 2018, Results from the Year 2017

Following is this year's Annual Drinking Water Quality Report. This report is designed to inform you about the water and services we deliver to you every day.

**Our water source:** We are committed to ensuring the quality of your water. Our two wells draw groundwater from the Atlantic City 800 Foot Sand Aquifer. The New Jersey Department of Environmental Protection (NJDEP) is in the process of updating the Source Water Assessment Report for this public water system, which will be available at [www.state.nj.us/dep/swap](http://www.state.nj.us/dep/swap) or by contacting NJDEP's Bureau of Safe Drinking Water at (609) 292-5550. You may also contact your public water system to obtain information regarding your water system's Source Water Assessment.

**For additional information:** If you have any questions about this report or concerning your water utility, please contact Randy Bailey 296-9222. We want our valued customers to be informed about their water utility. If you want to learn more, please attend any of our regularly scheduled Borough Council meetings at Borough Hall, 140 East Main Street. Meetings are held on the first and third Mondays of each month at 7:00 p.m.

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).

#### Table of Detections

Contaminant	Violation Y/N	Level Detected	Units of Measurement	MC LG	MCL	Likely Source
<b>Radioactive Contaminants:</b>						
Combined Radium 228 & 226 Test results Yr. 2012	N	1.5	PCi/l	0	15	Erosion of natural deposits
<b>Inorganic Contaminants:</b>						
Barium Test results Yr. 2015	N	0.008	Ppm	2	2	Discharge of drilling wastes; discharge from metal refineries; erosion of natural deposits
Copper Test results December 2017 Result at 90th Percentile	N	0.03 No samples exceeded the action level.	Ppm	1.3	AL=1.3	Corrosion of household plumbing systems; erosion of natural deposits
Fluoride Test results Yr. 2015	N	0.1	Ppm	4	4	Erosion of natural deposits; water additive which promotes strong teeth; discharge from fertilizer and aluminum factories
Lead Test results December 2017 Result at 90th Percentile	N	ND No samples exceeded the action level.	Ppb	0	AL=15	Corrosion of household plumbing systems; erosion of natural deposits
<b>Disinfection Byproducts:</b>						
TTHM Total Trihalomethanes Test results Yr. 2017	N	Range = 10 - 15 Highest detect = 15	Ppb	N/A	80	By-product of drinking water disinfection
HAA5 Haloacetic Acids Test results Yr. 2017	N	Range = 4 Highest detect = 4	Ppb	N/A	60	By-product of drinking water disinfection
<b>Regulated Disinfectants</b>		<b>Level Detected</b>	<b>MRDL</b>		<b>MRDLG</b>	
Chlorine Test results Yr. 2017		Average = 0.7 Ppm	4.0 Ppm		4.0 Ppm	

The Tuckerton Borough Water Department routinely monitors 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 1<sup>st</sup> to December 31<sup>st</sup>, 2017. The state 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, though representative, are more than one year old.

**Potential Sources of contamination:** 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 production, 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.

#### **Definitions:**

In the "Table of Detections" 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.

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

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

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.

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

**Lead:** 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 Tuckerton Borough Water Department is responsible for providing high quality drinking water, but can not 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 second to 2 minutes before using water for drinking and 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 <http://www.epa.gov/safewater/lead>.

**Waivers:** 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 a monitoring waiver for synthetic organic chemicals.

**Thank you for your attention:** We at the Tuckerton Borough Water Department work hard to provide top quality water to every tap. We ask that all our customers help us protect our water sources, which are the heart of our community, our way of life and our children's future. Please call our office if you have questions.

## Tuckerton Borough Water Department-PWSID #NJ1532002

Tuckerton Borough Water Department is a public community water system consisting of 2 active wells.

This system's source water comes from the following aquifers: Atlantic City "800-foot" Sand Aquifer System, Kirkwood-Cohansey Water-Table Aquifer System.

This system can purchase water from the following water systems: Little Egg Harbor MUA

### Susceptibility Ratings for Tuckerton Borough Water Department 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. DEP 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, DEP may customize (change existing) monitoring schedules based on the susceptibility ratings.

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
Wells - 2			2			2			2			2		1	1			2			2			2

**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 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.

## **BOROUGH OF TUCKERTON WATER AND SEWER DEPARTMENT**

### **WATER CONSERVATION GUIDE**

#### **Water Efficiency Practices for Domestic Indoor Water Use**

**Only 1 percent of the earth's water is available for drinking. The average adult uses between 125 and 150 gallons of water a day. Our excessive water use habits deplete potable drinking water supplies and return trillions of gallons of wastewater to streams and coastal waters. The following indoor water efficiency practices can save as much as 25,000 gallons of water per person per year. Water efficiency practices not only save water, they save money.**

#### **General Water Efficiency Practices**

The following water efficiency practices apply to general domestic water use.

- Shut off water when not in use, such as when you brush your teeth or shave.
- Install low flow faucet aerators or laminar flow restrictors that limit flow to <2.5gpm on all faucets in the house. These devices are readily available at most hardware and building supply stores.
- Never put water down the drain when you can use it for something else, such as watering plants.
- Insulate water pipes and hot water heaters. This retains heat so that you don't have to run the water as long for it to get hot. It also saves on energy costs.
- As they wear out, replace water-wasting appliances, such as washing machines and dishwashers, with water efficient ones.
- Avoid water softening systems unless absolutely necessary. Backwashing these systems uses large quantities of water. If you do use a water softener, run the minimum amount of regenerations recommended to maintain softness.
- Turn off pumps, water softeners, and other water-using equipment while on vacation.
- Detect leaks in toilet tanks by dropping food coloring in the tank (12 drops). Do not flush the toilet for at least an hour. If the tank leaks the dye will show up in the bowl.
- If you are on municipal water and have a meter at your house, check the meter over a period of time when no one is using water. If the meter moves, you have a leak.
- Replace leaky faucets. One leaking faucet can waste approximately 3000 gallons a month.

#### **REMEMBER "EVERY DROP COUNTS" PLEASE USE WATER "WISELY"**

**PUBLIC NOTICE: As per the Tuckerton Code regarding sewer use it is not permissible to dispose of non-flushable items to the sanitary sewer system. This would include wipes which are not bio-degradable.**

**Please be advised that the Borough of Tuckerton Water and Sewer Department and the Ocean County Utilities Authority are experiencing problems with clogged pumps and sanitary sewer mains as a result of wipes being flushed. This is causing unnecessary man hours to service the pumps and mains to remove the wipes and causes equipment failures both of which is increasing our operation cost to maintain the sanitary sewage system which in turn will result in the increase of the sewer rates. PLEASE DO NOT FLUSH WIPES. Wipes and other non flushable items shall be disposed of with your household trash. We would like to thank you in advance for your cooperation regarding this very important issue in order that we can continue to provide to you our valued customer the very best service that you are accustomed to without having to raise the sewer user rates as a result of wipes and other non-flushable items being flushed.**

**PLEASE FLUSH RESPONSIBLY!!!!**

**FOR MORE INFORMATION PLEASE CONTACT US AT 609-296-9222 OR  
EMAIL: [rbailey@tuckertonborough.com](mailto:rbailey@tuckertonborough.com)  
Please visit our web page @ [www.tuckertonborough.com](http://www.tuckertonborough.com)**

**THANK YOU!!!!!!!!!!!!**