

# Annual Drinking Water Quality Report

## **Borough of Woodbury Heights Water Department**

*For the Year 2013, Results from the Year 2012*

We are pleased to present to you this year's Annual Drinking Water Quality Report. This report is designed to inform you about the quality water and services we deliver to you every day. Our constant goal is to provide you with a safe and dependable supply of drinking water. We want you to understand the efforts we make to continually improve the water treatment process and protect our water resources.

In 2012 our Water Department distributed a total of 140,138,700 gallons of water to our customers, 82,785,700 was generated from our own Potomac Raritan Magothy Aquifer well which is approximately 150 feet deep. 57,353,000 was purchased from New Jersey American Water Company. Gas chlorine is used for disinfection purposes to remove or reduce harmful contaminants that may come from the source water.

### **We are pleased to report that our drinking water meets all federal and state safety requirements.**

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 [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. This water system's source water susceptibility ratings and a list of potential contaminant sources is attached.

If you have any questions about this report or concerning your drinking water, please contact Richard Middleton, Public Works Manager, by calling (856)-848-2832 or by writing to this address: 500 Elm Avenue, Woodbury Heights, NJ 08097. We want our valued customers to be informed about their water utility. You can attend Regular Mayor and Council meetings on the third Wednesday of each month at 7:30 p.m., in the Borough Hall located at 500 Elm Avenue. The Borough of Woodbury Heights Water Department is committed to providing our customers with the highest quality of water and service. We believe in education and strongly urge our employees to attend various classes and seminars on water treatment processes and distribution operations. All licensed water operational personnel are mandated to continue training under the Safe Drinking Water Act Regulations.

### DEFINITIONS

In the following table you will find many 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.

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

**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

**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. These reflect aesthetic qualities such as odor, taste or appearance. RULs are recommendations, not mandates.

The Borough of Woodbury Heights 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 1st to December 31st, 2012. The state allows us to monitor for some contaminants less than once per year because the concentration of these contaminants do not change frequently. Some of our data, though representative, are more than one year old.

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).

<b>Borough of Woodbury Heights Water Department Test Results</b>						
<b>Contaminant</b>	<b>Violati on Y/N</b>	<b>Level Detected</b>	<b>Units of Measurem ent</b>	<b>MCL G</b>	<b>MCL</b>	<b>Likely Source of Contamination</b>
<b>Microbiological Contaminants</b>						
Total coliform Bacteria	N	0 positive samples		0	0 positive monthly samples	Naturally present in the environment
<b>Radioactive Contaminants</b>						
Gross Alpha Test results Yr. 2012	N	3.2	pCi/l	0	15	Erosion of natural deposits
Combined Radium 228 & 226 Test results Yr. 2012	N	3.66	pCi/l	0	5	Erosion of natural deposits
Uranium Test results Yr. 2012	N	0.005	Mg/l	0	30	Erosion of natural deposits
<b>Inorganic Contaminants:</b>						
Arsenic Test Results Yr. 2012	N	0.001	ppm	n/a	5	Erosion of natural deposits; runoff from orchards; runoff from glass and electronics production wastes
Barium Test results Yr. 2012	N	0.09	ppm	2	2	Discharge of drilling wastes; discharge from metal refineries; erosion of natural deposits
Copper Test results Yr. 2013	N	0.12 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. 2012	N	0.627 Naturally occurring	ppm	4	4	Erosion of natural deposits; water additive which promotes strong teeth; discharge from fertilizer and aluminum factories
Lead Test results Yr. 2013	N	0.00021 No samples exceeded the action level	ppm	0	AL=15	Corrosion of household plumbing systems, erosion of natural deposits
Nitrate (as Nitrogen) Test results Yr. 2012	N	ND	ppm	5	5	Runoff from fertilizer use; leaching from septic tanks, sewage; erosion of natural deposits
Selenium Test results Yr. 2012	N	0.003	ppb	50	50	Discharge from petroleum and metal refineries; erosion of natural deposits; discharge from mines
<b>Volatile Organic Contaminants</b>						
TTHM Total Trihalomethanes Test results Yr. 2012	N	Range = 2.60 – 32.6 Average = 16.49	ppb	N/A	80	By-product of drinking water disinfection
HAA5 Haloacetic Acids Test results Yr. 2012	N	Range = ND-2.87 Average = 1.41	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	Average = 0.1	4.0 ppm	4.0 ppm

<b>Secondary Contaminant</b>	<b>Level Detected</b>	<b>Units of Measurement</b>	<b>RUL</b>
Sodium Test results 2012	Range = 28.8-28.9	ppm	50

Our water system violated drinking water standards over the past year. Even though these were not emergencies, as our customers, you have a right to know what happened and what we did to correct these situations.

*We are required to monitor your drinking water for specific contaminants on a regular basis. Results of regular monitoring are an indicator of whether or not our drinking water meets health standards. During 01-01-2009 to 12-31-2012 we did not monitor or test for Lead and Copper during the third year of the cycle (Once every 3 years from the previous sample) and therefore cannot be sure of the quality of our drinking water during that time.*

#### What should I do?

There is nothing you need to do at this time. The table below lists the contaminant(s) we did not properly test for during the last year, how often we are supposed to sample for [this contaminant/these contaminants] and how many samples we are supposed to take, how many samples we took, when samples should have been taken, and the date on which follow-up samples were (or will be) taken.

Contaminant	Required Sampling Frequency	Number of Samples taken	When samples Should have Been taken	When samples were taken
<b>Lead and Copper</b>	Once every 3 years (In the Third year of The cycle)	10	2012	Jan. 2013

#### What is being done?

The Borough of Woodbury Heights must notify the public of the *violation* and be able to provide evidence of the successful completion of required monitoring. Samples were taken in Jan. 2013 and proven to meet all drinking water standards for Lead and Copper.

**For more information, please contact Richard Middleton at (856) 848-2832 or 500 Elm Ave, Woodbury Heights, NJ 08097.**

- Please share this information with all the other people who drink this water, especially those who may not have received this notice directly (for example, people in apartments, nursing homes, schools, and businesses). You can do this by posting this notice in a public place or distributing copies by hand or mail.

- This notice is being sent to you by the Borough of Woodbury Heights Public Works Department, State Water System ID#: 0823001.

Date distributed: 2/11/13.

**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 Clayton Water Department is responsible for providing high quality drinking water, but cannot control the variety of materials used in plumbing components. When your water has been sitting for several hours, you can minimize the potential for lead exposure by flushing your tap for 30 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>.

#### Woodbury Heights Water Utility– PWSID # 0823001

Woodbury Heights Water Utility is a public community water system consisting of 1 well(s), 0 wells under the influence of surface water, 0 surface water intake(s), 4 purchased ground water source(s), and 0 purchased surface water source(s)

This system's source water comes from the following aquifer(s) and/or surface water body(s) (if applicable): Upper Potomac-Raritan-Magothy aquifer.

This system purchases water from the following water system(s) (if applicable): WOODBURY CITY WD, WEST DEPTFORD TWP. AND DEPTFORD TWP., NJAWCO

#### Susceptibility Ratings for Woodbury Heights Water Utility Sources

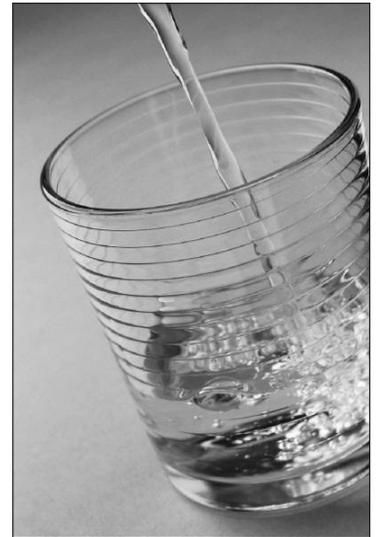
The table on the next page illustrates the susceptibility ratings for the seven contaminant categories (and Radon) for each source in the system. The table provides the number of wells and intakes that rated high (H), medium (M), or low (L) for each contaminant category. For susceptibility ratings of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

The seven contaminant categories are defined on the next page. DEP considered all surface water highly susceptible to the pathogens, therefore all intakes received 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 ratings reflect the potential for contamination of source water, not the existence of contamination. Public water systems are required to monitor regulated contaminates and to install treatment if any contaminates are detected at frequencies and concentrations above allowable levels. As a result of the assessments, DEP may customize (change existing) monitoring schedules based on

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 - 1			1			1			1			1			1			1			1			1
GUDI - 0																								
Surface water intakes - 0																								

- **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/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 disinfectants (usually chlorine) used to kill pathogens react with dissolved organic material (for example leaves) present in surface water.



The sources of drinking water (both tap water and bottled water) include rivers, lakes, streams, ponds reservoirs, springs, and wells. As water travels over the surface of the land or through the ground, it dissolves naturally occurring minerals and, in some cases, radioactive material, and can pick up substances resulting from the presence of animals or from human activity.

*Contaminants that may be present in source water include:*

- Microbial contaminants, such as viruses and bacteria, which may come from sewage treatment plants, septic systems, agricultural livestock operations, and wildlife.
- Inorganic contaminants, such as salts and metals, which can be naturally-occurring or result from urban storm water runoff, industrial or domestic wastewater discharges, oil and gas projection, mining, or farming.
- Pesticides and herbicides, which may come from a variety of sources such as agriculture, urban storm water runoff, and residential uses.
- Organic chemical contaminants, including synthetic and volatile organic chemicals, which are byproducts of industrial processes and petroleum production, and can, also come from gas stations, urban storm water runoff, and septic systems.
- Radioactive contaminants which can be naturally occurring or be the result of oil and gas production and mining activities.

In order to ensure that tap water is safe to drink, EPA prescribes regulations which limit the amount of certain contaminants in water provided by public water systems. Food and Drug Administration regulations establish limits for contaminants in bottled water, which must provide the same protection for public health.

Drinking water, including bottled water, may reasonably be expected to contain at least small amounts of some contaminants. The presence of contaminants does not necessarily indicate that the water poses a health risk. More information about contaminants and potential health effects can be obtained by calling the Environmental Protection Agency's Safe Drinking Water Hotline at 1-800-426-4791.

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.

**Hydrant flushing is normally done in April and October. We do this to check the hydrants to make sure they are working properly. It is also done for taste and odor control of our system.**

***We at the Borough of Woodbury Heights 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.***