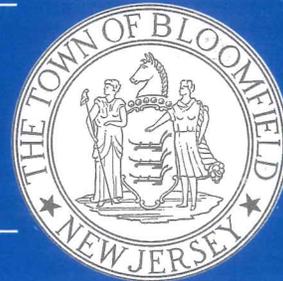


Township of Bloomfield

2014



WATER QUALITY REPORT

PWS ID 0702001

June 2015

Dear Customer,

The Township of Bloomfield is committed to providing our customers and the community with high quality drinking water through prompt service, courteous and helpful communication, and excellence in the treatment and distribution of our most valued resource...water.

The purpose of this report is to provide you, our customer, with information on the sources of your drinking water. This report will also describe the water treatment process, and explain what potential substances may be found in drinking water. Health information and a listing of the amounts of detected substances and how they compare to the state and federal regulations are also provided.

This report confirms that your drinking water is safe. As you know, the township did face a boil water notice in July of 2014. Please be assured that the Bloomfield Water Department took swift and immediate action to resolve this issue and remove the suspected contaminants from the system. Our investigation concluded that this incident was most likely the result of a large watermain break in the Belleville Avenue area that created zero to negative pressure within the system. When this occurs, there is an increased risk of contaminants getting into the system. Since then, we have not had any further incidents and our water system remains in compliance with the Federal Environmental Protection Agency drinking water standards.

In addition to my role as the Bloomfield Township Engineer, I have been appointed the Licensed Water Operator for the Township. In my new position, I am committed to continually improving our water system so that it remains safe and reliable and delivers the best quality drinking water to its customers. This report provides a brief description of the accomplishments and goals for continued improvement to our water system.

We hope you will find this report informative and that it provides you with a better understanding of all that's involved in bringing high quality drinking water into your home. If you would like additional information or if you have any questions concerning this report, feel free to call me at 973-680-4009. You can also call the EPA Safe Drinking Water Hotline at 1-800-426-4791.

This report contains important information about your drinking water. If you do not understand it, please have someone translate it for you.

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

Thank you for allowing us the opportunity to serve you.

Very truly yours,

Paul D. Lasek, P.E.
Township Engineer
Township Water Operator
N.J. W-3 Lic. No. 59864



**Township of
Bloomfield**

**Mayor
Michael J. Venezia**

**Council Members
Wartyna L. Davis
Joseph I. Lopez
Carlos M. Pomares
Elias N. Chalet
Nicholas Joanow
Carlos Bernard**

Sources of Drinking Water:

Both tap water and bottled water may come from groundwater (springs, wells) or surface water (rivers, lakes, ponds, streams, reservoirs). As the 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.

The Township of Bloomfield purchases bulk drinking water from the City of Newark. The City of Newark's water supply is entirely from surface water sources in the Pequannock and Wanaque watersheds which cover approximately 150 square miles of forest lands in Morris, Sussex and Passaic Counties. The Pequannock watershed supplies five reservoirs (Charlottesburg, Echo Lake, Canistear, Clinton and Oak Ridge Reservoirs) which have a combined capacity of 14.4 billion gallons. The Wanaque watershed supplies the following two reservoirs: the 29.6 billion gallon Wanaque Reservoir and the 7 billion gallon Monksville Reservoir. The Wanaque Reservoir is operated by the North Jersey District Water Supply Commission (NJDWSC) which has pump stations designed to pump 250 million gallons per day from the Pompton River and 150 million gallons per day from the Ramapo River into the reservoir when needed.

"The New Jersey Department of Environmental Protection (NJDEP) has completed Source Water Assessment Reports and Summaries for all public water systems. Further information on the Source Water Assessment Program can be obtained by logging onto NJDEP's source water web site at www.state.nj.us/dep/swap or by contacting NJDEP's Bureau of Safe Drinking Water at (609) 292-5550.

Ongoing Water System Improvements:

The Township of Bloomfield is committed to providing water that meets or exceeds all federal and state requirements for drinking water. In general, our water system is in good condition. However, as with many water systems within the region, the advanced age of pipes and valves represent a challenge in delivering safe and reliable drinking water to our customers.

In order to ensure that the Township's water system continues to operate efficiently to provide safe, adequate, and

reliable service, we are continuing to improve our system.

Improvements to the Township's water system include cleaning and cement mortar lining of older water mains and the installation of new valves and hydrants to improve water quality, hydraulic capacity and operation of the distribution system.

Other Improvements Include:

- **Installation of Pressure Reducing Valves:** Pressure reducing valves were installed at all three interconnections with the City of Newark. These valves maintain a steady, reduced, static pressure within the system. This reduction in pressure reduces the chances of watermain breaks and leaks within the system thereby reducing consumption and the chances of water service interruptions. The reduced pressures also help to minimize strain on your plumbing system and on items such as hot water heaters thereby increasing their years of usefulness.

- **Enhanced Hydrant Flushing Procedures:** The Township has approximately 1,200 fire hydrants within its distribution system. In cooperation with the Bloomfield Fire Department, the Engineering Department created a hydrant flushing program wherein every hydrant is flushed once per year with dead-end hydrants being flushed twice per year. The purpose of hydrant flushing is to increase circulation and make sure that the water within the mains is continually circulated and replaced with fresh water from the interconnections. Such enhanced flushing reduces the chances of contamination within the system and the build-up of chlorine by-products such as trihalomethanes and haloacetic acids.

- **Dead-End Elimination Program:** Dead-ends within a water system are, by nature, problematic. Water tends to stagnate or circulate very slowly at dead-ends thereby increasing the age of the water which can lead to the build-up of chlorine by-products. In 2015, the Engineering Department will begin a program to eliminate a number of dead-ends that have been historically, problematic for the township related to chlorine by-products as well as cloudy or brown water. This will lead to better quality water within the system.

- **New North Jersey District Water Supply Commission (NJDWSC) Interconnection:**

For many years the township has been a member of the NJDWSC. We therefore purchase our water supply, in bulk from the

NJDWSC. Although a member, we have not been able to acquire this water directly from the Wanaque watershed due to a lack of a physical connection to the system. We therefore have been acquiring our water using the Newark water system and paying a "wheeling" fee for this service. The township is currently in the process of designing and constructing a pump station that will allow us to acquire water directly from NJDWSC through their supply line at the northerly end of town. This will ultimately lead to reduced wheeling rates, more resiliency and better circulation in our system to enhance water quality.

The engineering department will also work toward improving the distribution of information about our system to our customers by enhancing our profile on the township website.

Concerning decisions that may affect the quality of water in the Township of Bloomfield, an opportunity for public participation is provided during regularly scheduled council meetings. Also, the City of Newark suggests that you contact them directly at 973-256-4965 for information concerning the next opportunity for public participation about drinking water provided by the City of Newark or find out more about the City of Newark on the Internet at www.ci.newark.nj.us.

Compliance with Drinking Water Standards:

In order to ensure the safety of drinking water, the EPA and the state's Department of Environmental Protection (DEP) prescribe regulations which limit the amount of certain contaminants in water provided by public water systems and require water suppliers to monitor and treat for potentially harmful contaminants. Bottled water is similarly regulated by the Food and Drug Administration and must provide the same protection for public health as tap water. Our water, which is treated according to the EPA's and NJDEP's regulations, meets and most often surpasses the quality standards set by those agencies.

Potential Contaminants:

The types of contaminants that may be found in the raw water before it is treated to produce drinking 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 waste water discharges, oil and gas production, mining or farming.

***Pesticides** are chemicals used to destroy insects and rodents. Herbicides are chemicals used to kill weeds. Both contaminants may come from a variety of sources such as agriculture, urban storm water and residential uses.

***Radioactive Contaminants** which can be naturally occurring or be the results of oil and gas production and mining activities.

***Organic Chemical Contaminants** including synthetic (SOC) and volatile organic chemicals (VOC), which are by-products of industrial processes and petroleum production, and can also come from gas stations, urban storm water runoff, and septic systems.

All drinking water, including bottled water, may reasonably be expected to contain naturally occurring minerals and traces of 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 (EPA) Hotline 1-800-426-4791** or Online at www.water.epa.gov

Terms and Abbreviations:

N/A = Not Applicable

ND = Not Detected

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

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

MCL = Maximum Contaminant Level (highest level allowed).

MCLG = Maximum Contaminant Level Goal (level below which there is no known or expected risk to health).

pCi/l = picocuries per liter (measure of radioactivity)

ppm = parts per million; (comparable to one minute in two years or one penny in \$10,000.00).

ppb = parts per billion; (comparable to one minute in two thousand years or one penny in \$10,000,000.00).

Water Quality Data:

The table lists all the drinking water contaminants that we detected during the

2014 calendar year. The presence of these contaminants in the water does not necessarily indicate that the water poses a health risk. Unless otherwise noted, the data presented in this table is from testing performed on samples of water taken from January 1 through December 31, 2014. The state requires us to monitor for certain contaminants at intervals greater than once per year because the concentrations of these contaminants are not expected to vary significantly from year to year. Some of the data, though representative of the water quality, is more than one year old.

Health/Educational Information:

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 provider. EPA/CDC (Centers for Disease Control) guidelines on appropriate means to lessen the risk of infection by *Cryptosporidium* and other microbial contaminants are available from the **Safe Drinking Water Hotline 1-800-426-4791**.

Special Considerations Regarding Children, Pregnant Women, Nursing Mothers and Others:

Children may receive a slightly higher amount of contamination present in the water than do adults, on a body weight basis, because they may drink a greater amount of water per pound of body weight than do adults. For this reason, reproductive or developmental effects are used for calculating a drinking water standard if these effects occur at lower levels than other health effects of concerns. If there is insufficient toxicity information for a chemical (for example, lack of data on reproductive or developmental effects), an extra uncertainty factor may be incorporated into the calculation of the drinking water standard, thus making the standard more stringent, to account for additional uncertainties regarding these effects. In the cases of lead and nitrate, effects on infants and children are the health endpoints upon which the standards are based.

Nitrate

Nitrate in drinking water at levels about 10 ppm is a health risk for infants of less than six months of age. High nitrate levels in drinking water can cause blue baby syndrome. Nitrate levels may rise quickly for short periods of time because of rainfall or agricultural activity. If you are caring for an infant, you should ask for advice from your health care provider.

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 Township of Bloomfield 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 seconds to 2 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 is available from the Safe Drinking Water Hotline or at <http://www.epa.gov/safewater/lead>.

Arsenic

While your drinking water meets the USEPA's standard for arsenic, it does contain low levels of arsenic. EPA's standard balances the current understanding of arsenic's possible health effects against the costs of removing arsenic from drinking water. EPA continues to research the health effects of low levels of arsenic, which is a mineral known to cause cancer in humans at high concentrations and is linked to other health effects such as skin damage and circulatory problems. Effective January 23, 2006, the MCL for arsenic is 5ppb. The results for arsenic in the drinking water was <0.5ppb in 2014.

Water System:

The Township of Bloomfield purchases bulk water from the NJDWSC which is supplied by the Wanaque watershed. Since we do not have a physical connection with NJDWSC, the Township has a "wheeling" agreement with the City of Newark. Each of Newark's watersheds has a water treatment plant which purifies and filters the water to produce safe and potable water. For the Pequannock system, the City of Newark Water Treatment Plant is located in West Milford; and for the Wanaque system, the NJDWSC Water Treatment Plant is located in

(continued on page 5)

WATER QUALITY DATA

Concentrations of Detected Contaminants Report Township of Bloomfield 2014

Regulated Contaminants	Units	Maximum Contaminant Level Goal (MCLG)	Maximum Contaminant Level (MCL)	Results		Source of Contaminant	
				Pequannock System			
Inorganic Contaminants:							
Arsenic	ppb	5	10	<0.5		Erosion of natural deposits; runoff from orchards; runoff from glass & electronics production wastes	
Barium	ppm	2	2	0.0065		Discharge of drilling wastes; discharge from metal refineries; erosion of natural deposits	
Mercury	ppb	2	2	<0.0002		Erosion of natural deposits; discharge refineries and factories	
Copper	ppm	1.3	AL=1.3	0.173		Corrosion of household plumbing systems; erosion of natural deposits	
Fluoride	ppm	2	2	0.055		Erosion of natural deposits; water additive which promotes strong teeth	
Lead	ppm	0	AL=0.015	0.015		Corrosion of household plumbing systems; erosion of natural deposits	
Nitrate	ppm	10	10	<1.0		Runoff from fertilizer use; leaching from septic tanks, sewage, erosion of natural deposits	
Microbiological Substance:							
Total Coliforms Bacteria	Presence of positive sample	0	Presence of Coliforms in >5% of monthly samples	10 Samples in July 9.71%	6 Sample in Aug. 6.19%	Naturally present in the environment	
Turbidity:							
Turbidity	ntu	N.A.	<5% of samples exceed 0.3 NTU	0.35 (Highest single measurement 01/01/14 - 12/31/14)		Soil runoff	
Secondary Contaminants	Units		Secondary Maximum Contaminants Level (SMCL)	Results		Source of Contaminant	
				Pequannock System			
Alkalinity	ppm		NS	27.4		A characteristic of water caused primarily by carbonate, bicarbonate and hydroxide ions	
Aluminum	ppm		0.2	0.035		By-product of water treatment using aluminum salts	
Chloride	ppm		250	34		Erosion of natural deposits	
Chlorine Residual	ppm		4	0.524		Chlorine remaining in treated water and available to destroy disease causing organisms	
Color	CU		10	2		Presence of manganese and iron, plankton, humus, peat and magnesium	
Hardness	ppm		50-250	50.2		A characteristic of water caused primarily by salts of calcium and magnesium	
Iron	ppm		<0.3	0.012		Erosion of natural deposits	
Manganese	ppm		<0.05	0.018		Erosion of natural deposits	
Secondary Contaminants	Units		Secondary Maximum Contaminants Level (SMCL)	Results		Source of Contaminant	
				Pequannock System			
ph	units		6.5-8.5	7.64		Presence of carbonates, bicarbonates and carbon dioxide	
Sodium	ppm		50	18.9		Runoff from road salt and from some water softening processes	
Sulfate	ppm		250	10.7		Drainage of mining wastes, erosion of natural deposits	
Total Dissolved Solids	ppm		500	119		Erosion of natural deposits	
Zinc	ppm	SMCL	5	<0.2		Erosion of minerals from rocks	
Stage 2 Trihalomethanes MCL: 80 (ppb)				Stage 2 Haloacetic Acids MCL: 60 (ppb)			
Site No.	Min	Max	LRAA*	Site No.	Min	Max	LRAA*
Site 1	72	80.8	75	Site 1	17	59.3	48
Site 2	53.8	72.9	72	Site 2	43.5	61.9	52
Site 3	61	81	72	Site 3	35.1	76.4	54
Site 4	66.8	81.7	70	Site 4	42.9	70.3	57

* LRAA - Locational running annual average

IMPORTANT INFORMATION ABOUT YOUR DRINKING WATER

Water systems with uncovered finished water reservoirs are required to eliminate or cover these reservoirs, treat the discharge from these reservoirs, or be in compliance with a state approved schedule to eliminate or cover the reservoirs or provide treatment by April 1, 2009. Newark has executed an Administrative Consent Order with the Department of Environmental Protection wherein Newark is required to develop a plan and implementation schedule to eliminate, cover or provide treatment for their uncovered reservoirs.

(continued from page 3)

Wanaque. At these plants, the water is routinely monitored and tested to ensure the safety of the water. From the plants, the water is conveyed through large diameter transmission mains to the Township of Bloomfield's distribution system. The Township maintains three metered interconnections with the City of Newark and emergency interconnections with East Orange, PVWC, Montclair and Nutley. The Township of Bloomfield's water distribution system provides potable water and fire protection throughout the municipality. Throughout the distribution system the water is continually monitored to maintain high quality drinking water in the system.

Questions and Answers

Is my water hard or soft?

Hardness describes the level of dissolved natural minerals (calcium and magnesium) in drinking water. These minerals are an important part of a healthy diet. Hard water contains more mineral nutrients and less sodium. A gradual build-up of calcium and magnesium in hard water can form harmless, filmy white deposits on faucets, bathtubs, and tea kettles. Hard water also requires more soap to lather fully. The degree of hard water varies depending on where you live. Newark's water in this area typically has a hardness level of 47 to 60 parts per million which means it is moderately soft.

Why is there chlorine in my water?

A century ago, acute diseases such as typhoid fever were a very real threat to our health because of microorganisms that caused these diseases were found in public drinking water. However, for almost 100 years, water suppliers in America and other countries have used chlorine to treat or disinfect drinking water. According to the U.S. Environmental Protection Agency and other health agencies, Chlorine is currently one of the most effective disinfectants to kill harmful microorganisms. Disinfection of all public water supplies is required by federal and state laws and regulations, including the Safe Drinking Water Act and the Surface Water Treatment Rule.

What is Turbidity?

Turbidity is the measure of the cloudiness of water. The city monitors it because it is a good indicator of water quality. High turbidity can hinder the effectiveness of disinfection.

Does Newark add fluoride to my water?

No. Newark does not add fluoride to the water in your community. However, a small amount of fluoride may occur naturally in your water. About 0.055 parts per million fluoride was detected in your water supply last year.

You may have noticed media attention to public water supply issues related to radiological substances, mercury, lead, radon, arsenic, and Cryptosporidium. At Newark, they are well aware of these water quality matters. They have performed - and continue to perform - extensive testing of all our water supplies. We want to assure our customers that we are providing the high-quality water you expect and deserve. You may be interested to know the following information:

Radiological Substances:

Newark's tests show radiological substances level in our water supplies is significantly less than the level deemed acceptable by the U.S. EPA. In some cases, the level is so low that it cannot be detected. These substances are naturally occurring radioactive compounds.

Mercury:

Newark's testing equipment can detect mercury at a level 10 times less than the standard, and even at that low level, they have not detected mercury in our supplies.

Lead:

While the concentration of lead leaving the NJDWSC treatment facility and the Newark Pequannock facility is far below the action level (AL) of 15 parts per billion mandated by the Federal Lead and Copper Rule (most times it is non-detectable), some communities which the Commission and Newark serves, have failed to meet the AL at the water tap. It has been determined that this lead is most likely caused by lead pipes or lead solder and faucet mixtures in home plumbing and is not coming from the source supply. It should be noted that infants and children, who drink water containing lead in excess of the action level, could experience delays in their physical and mental development. Children could show deficits in attention span and learning abilities. Also, adults who drink this water over many years could develop kidney problems or high blood pressure. High concentrations of lead are more prevalent in water which sits in home plumbing pipes for a number of hours (particularly overnight).

One way to reduce these levels below the AL would be to flush a toilet or run a tap for 30 seconds to a minute or until a discernable temperature change in the water is noted. The city of Newark has run laboratory studies on water from Newark households and found that lead levels consistently dropped below the 15 ppb, after the tap was left running for 30 seconds to a minute prior to its use. Customers are encouraged to employ this technique at least once a day or when water has remained stagnant in pipes for long periods. This would generally occur in the morning or when returning home from work or school.

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 recommended upper limit may be a concern to individuals on a sodium restricted diet.

Cryptosporidium:

Lakes, rivers and reservoirs may contain this tiny microbe. It is found in feces of humans and many domestic wild animals. Newark tests for Cryptosporidium on a monthly basis in their Pequannock finished water surface water supplies. It has never been detected in a viable state in any of their treated water supplies. Neither has it been found in the Wanaque Supply.

Total Trihalomethanes (TTHMs) and Haloacetic Acids (HAAS):

Trihalomethanes and Haloacetic Acids are formed when raw water is treated with chlorine. Chlorine is used as a disinfectant to inactivate the disease causing organisms in the water. Trihalomethanes are a group of four chemicals Chloroform, Bromodichloromethane, Dibromochloromethane, and Bromoform. The Maximum Contaminant Level (MCL) of Total Trihalomethanes in drinking water is 80 parts per billion. The five regulated Haloacetic Acids are monochloroacetic acid, dichloroacetic acid, trichloroacetic acid, mono-bromoacetic acid and tribromoacetic acid. The Maximum Contaminant Level (MCL) for Haloacetic Acids is 60 parts per billion. The United

States Environmental Protection Agency has set the MCL for both TTHMs and HAAs because they are cancer causing contaminants.

The Bloomfield Water Department is a public community water system consisting of one purchased ground water source. Bloomfield purchases water from the City of Newark. The system's source water comes from the Pequannock watershed, Cedar Grove reservoir.

SUSCEPTIBILITY RATINGS FOR NEWARK 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 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 rating.

Sources	Pathogenes			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 - 0																											
GUI - 0																											
Surface water intakes - 1	1					1			1			1	1					1			1	1					

- **Pathogenes:** 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.

In response to the events of September 11, and to the State's Domestic Security Preparedness Act, Newark has completed a vulnerability assessment of its water supplies, treatment plant and transmission system, provided additional security, and reviewed operations to include a greater emphasis on security issues. The City is taking the necessary proactive steps to implement the conclusions of this study.

Solutions to Stormwater Pollution

- If you have hazardous products in your home or workplace, make sure you store or dispose of them properly. Read the label for guidance.
- Use natural or less toxic alternatives when possible.
- Recycle used motor oil.
- Contact your municipality, county or facility management office for the locations of hazardous-waste disposal facilities.

Keep pollution out of storm drains

- Municipalities and many other public agencies are required to mark certain storm drain inlets with messages reminding people that storm drains are connected to local waterbodies.
- Do not let sewage or other wastes flow into a stormwater system.

Clean up after your pet

- Many municipalities and public agencies must enact and enforce local pet-waste rules.
- An example is requiring pet owners or their keepers to pick up and properly dispose of pet waste dropped on public or other people's property.
- Make sure you know your town's or agency's requirements and comply with them. It's the law. And remember to:
 - Use newspaper, bags or pooper-scoopers to pick up wastes.
 - Dispose of the wrapped pet waste in the trash or un-wrapped in a toilet.
 - Never discard pet waste in a storm drain.

Don't feed wildlife

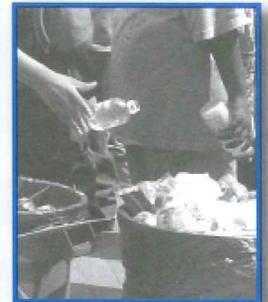
- Do not feed wildlife, such as ducks and geese, in public areas.
- Many municipalities and other public agencies must enact and enforce a rule that prohibits wildlife feeding in these areas.

Don't litter

- Place litter in trash receptacles.
- Recycle. Recycle. Recycle.
- Participate in community cleanups.

Dispose of yard waste properly

- Keep leaves and grass out of storm drains.
- If your municipality or agency has yard waste collection rules, follow them.
- Use leaves and grass clippings as a resource for compost.
- Use a mulching mower that recycles grass clippings into the lawn.



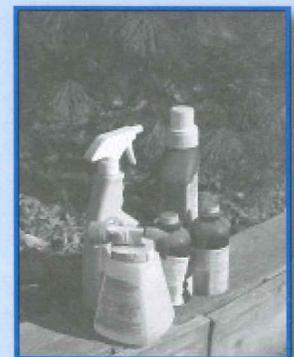
As a resident, business, or other member of the New Jersey community, it is important to know these easy things you can do every day to protect our water.

Limit your use of fertilizers and pesticides

- Do a soil test to see if you need a fertilizer.
- Do not apply fertilizers if heavy rain is predicted.
- Look into alternatives for pesticides.
- Maintain a small lawn and keep the rest of your property or yard in a natural state with trees and other native vegetation that requires little or no fertilizer.
- If you use fertilizers and pesticides, follow the instructions on the label on how to correctly apply it. Make sure you properly store or discard any unused portions.

Properly use and dispose of hazardous products

- Hazardous products include some household or commercial cleaning products, lawn and garden care products, motor oil, antifreeze, and paints.
- Do not pour any hazardous products down a storm drain because storm drains are usually connected to local waterbodies and the water is not treated.



POSTAL PATRON

IMPORTANT CONSUMER INFORMATION

Solutions to Stormwater Pollution

Easy Things You Can Do Every Day To Protect Our Water (See page 7)

Contact information

For more information on stormwater related topics, visit www.njstormwater.org or www.nonpointsource.org

Additional information is also available at U. S. Environmental Protection Agency Web sites www.epa.gov/npdes/stormwater or www.epa.gov/nps

New Jersey Department of Environmental Protection
Division of Water Quality
Bureau of Nonpoint Pollution Control
Municipal Stormwater Regulation Program
(609) 633-7021



April 2004



A Guide to Healthy Habits for Cleaner Water

Pollution on streets, parking lots and lawns is washed by rain into storm drains, then directly to our drinking water supplies and the ocean and lakes our children play in. Fertilizer, oil, pesticides, detergents, pet waste, grass clippings: You name it and it ends up in our water.

Stormwater pollution is one of New Jersey's greatest threats to clean and plentiful water, and that's why we're all doing something about it.

By sharing the responsibility and making small, easy changes in our daily lives, we can keep common pollutants out of stormwater. It all adds up to cleaner water, and it saves the high cost of cleaning up once it's dirty.

As part of New Jersey's initiative to keep our water clean and plentiful and to meet federal requirements, many municipalities and other public agencies including colleges and military bases must adopt ordinances or other rules prohibiting various activities that contribute to stormwater pollution. Breaking these rules can result in fines or other penalties.