



# 2008 CONSUMER CONFIDENCE REPORT

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# 08

## DEAR CUSTOMER

At United Water our goal is to provide you with water that meets or surpasses all the standards for safe drinking water. These health and safety standards are set by the United States Environmental Protection Agency (EPA) and the New Jersey Department of Environmental Protection (NJDEP). We're committed to providing you and your family with top quality water and premier service. We encourage public interest and participation in our community's decisions affecting drinking water. Regular Town Committee meetings are held on the second and fourth Wednesday of each month at Town Hall. The public is welcome.

**We regularly test your water to be sure that it meets stringent health standards.** All the test results are on file with the NJDEP, the agency that monitors and regulates drinking water quality in our state. Both the EPA and the NJDEP require water suppliers to mail a Consumer Confidence Report (CCR) to customers on an annual basis. This CCR provides important information about your drinking water and shows how your drinking water quality measured up to government standards during 2008. Please read it carefully and feel free to call us at 888.770.6030 if you have any questions about your water quality or your service, or, you can call the EPA Safe Drinking Water Hotline at 800.426.4791. If you have specific questions about water as it relates to your personal health we suggest that you contact your health care provider.

Sincerely,



Nadine Leslie

Vice President & General Manager

## ABOUT YOUR WATER COMPANY

United Water Manalapan is a partnership between Manalapan Township and United Water. Manalapan Township is a municipally owned water system that has entered into an agreement with United Water to operate and maintain the water services in the southern area of Manalapan Township (south and southwest of Englishtown Borough) Main Street, Woodward Road from Millhurst Road to Route 33, the Knob Hill community, the Battleground communities, Four Seasons and the Meadow Communities, Station Avenue, Manalapan Middle School, Tracy Woods Village and New Beginnings all receive water purchased through interconnections from United Water Matchaponix.

## WHO WE ARE

United Water provides water and wastewater services to over 7 million people in the United States. In addition to owning and operating regulated utilities, United Water operates municipal systems through public-private partnerships and contract agreements. Four of the nation's largest water and wastewater contracts are operated by United Water.



## UNITED WATER: BUILDING A BETTER FUTURE

United Water Manalapan will be expanding a technology-based solution to increase our water resources and meet increasing customer demand during the summer months. Our ASR wells, short for Aquifer Storage and Recovery, use a technique designed to increase the year-round capacity of our water treatment plant in Manalapan.

The basic ASR process involves the banking and recovery of water to increase system capacity. Water is taken from surface water during low demand periods, and is treated and stored or “banked” in an underground aquifer until it is “recovered”, or used during periods of high demand. This process assists us to ensure adequate water for summer demands during dry or drought conditions while minimizing the impact on our environment.

Even though our water resource management efforts through this technology are effective, we all still have to work together to protect our water resource through conservation!

## OUR COMMITMENT TO SECURITY

United Water takes security seriously and has implemented heightened measures. While the company cannot discuss specific security plan details, we can tell you that we have strengthened security through facility enhancements, water quality protection and law enforcement coordination. United Water assures you that we are taking steps to ensure the safety of your water supply. Should you have any questions or concerns please call our customer service department at 888.770.6030.



## ABOUT YOUR WATER SUPPLY

At United Water, we take great pride in our ability to provide you with water that meets or surpasses all the state and federal standards. Our distribution system, used to deliver treated water to your home, consists of about 30 miles of mains ranging in size from 6 inches to 16 inches in diameter. The facility has a capacity of 5 million gallons per day through both surface water supplies and aquifer storage and recovery wells (ASR) and presently services approximately 33,000 people.

## INDOOR WATER TIPS

- Install water-saving showerheads and faucets to cut down significantly on water flow. Also, save water by replacing washers on leaky faucets.
- Turn off the tap while brushing your teeth.

Check your toilet for leaks by putting a few drops of food coloring in the tank and seeing if the color shows up in the bowl after a few minutes. Fixing this “invisible” toilet leak can save more than 30,000 gallons of water a year.

## BOTTLED WATER OR TAP WATER?

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 EPA Safe Drinking Water Hotline at 800.426.4791.

In order to ensure that the water is safe to drink, the EPA prescribes regulations that 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. If bottled and tap water meet the federal standards, they are both safe to drink. However, your tap water is substantially less expensive than bottled water.

The sources of drinking water (for 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 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 operation 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

## IMPORTANT INFORMATION

If present, elevated levels of lead can cause serious health problems, especially for pregnant women and young children. Your water is lead free when it leaves our treatment plant. Lead in drinking water is primarily from materials and components associated with service lines and home plumbing. United Water 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 seconds 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>.



# SOURCE WATER ASSESSMENT PROGRAM

The New Jersey Department of Environmental Protection (DEP) 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 the NJDEP, Bureau of Safe Drinking Water at 609.292.5550.

The table below illustrates the susceptibility rating for each individual source for each of the contaminant categories in the United Water Matchaponix / Manalapan system. For susceptibility ratings of purchased water, refer to the specific water system's source water assessment report. DEP considered all surface water highly susceptible to pathogens, therefore all intakes received a high rating for the pathogen category. For the purpose of the 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.

If you have questions regarding the source water assessment report or summary please contact the Bureau of Safe Drinking Water at [swap@dep.state.nj.us](mailto:swap@dep.state.nj.us) or 609.292.5550. The source water assessment performed on our three sources of water (two ASR wells and one surface water intakes) determined the following:

Note: Because the Aquifer Storage and Recovery Wells (ASR) are stored water from the Matchaponix Brook source, the assessment did not include the wells susceptibility and is considered the same as the Matchaponix Brook source.

## SOURCE WATER SUSCEPTIBILITY RATING FOR UNITED WATER MATCHAPONIX / MANALAPAN WATER SOURCES

The source water assessment performed on our source of supply (1 surface water intake) determined the following:

EPTDS ID	Source ID	Source Name	Pathogens Rating	Nutrients Rating	Pesticides Rating	VOCs Rating	Inorganics Rating	Radionuclides Rating	Radon Rating	DBPs Rating
01	001	Well #1 (ASR)								
01	001	Well #2 (ASR)								
01	00s	Matchaponix Brook	H	H	M	M	H	L	L	H

### DEFINITIONS

**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 (VOCs):** Man-made chemicals used as solvents, degreasers, and gasoline components. Examples include benzene, methyltertiary 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.

**Disinfection Byproduct Precursors (DBPs):** 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.

**L, M, H:** Low, Medium, High, susceptibility

# DRINKING WATER QUALITY TABLE

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 infections by cryptosporidium and other microbial contaminants are available from the Safe Drinking Water Hotline at 800.426.4791. The table below shows how the quality of your drinking water in 2008 compared to the standards set by the NJDEP.

## PRIMARY STANDARDS DIRECTLY RELATED TO THE SAFETY OF DRINKING WATER

Inorganic Chemicals	MCLG	MCL	Average Result	Highest* Result	Range of Results	Violation	Likely Source	
Fluoride ppm	2.2	2.2	0.1	0.1	0.1 - 0.1	No	Erosion of natural deposits	
Nitrate as nitrogen ppm	10	10		0.4	0.4 - 0.4	No	Erosion of natural deposits	
Treatment By-Products	MCLG	MCL	Average Result	Highest** Result	Range of Results	Violation	Likely Source	
Total THMs ppb running annual avg. (THMs: bromochloromethane, bromodichloromethane, chlorodibromomethane, chloroform)	NA	80	38.1	40.4	9.6 - 91.2	No	Disinfection by-product	
Total HAA5s ppb (HAA5: dibromoacetic acid, dichloroacetic acid, monobromoacetic acid, monochloroacetic acid, trichloroacetic acid) Note: DBP range of results are site-specific.	NA	60	23.5	26.7	4.4 - 53.2	No	Disinfection by-product	
Disinfection Residuals	MCLG	MCL	Average Result RAA	Highest** Result RAA	Range of Results (Individual Sites)	Violation	Date of Sample	Likely Source
Distribution Disinfectant Residual ppm	NA	4	0.66	0.69	0.1 - 1.2	No		Treatment process
Radionuclides (2005-06 Data)	MCLG	MCL		Average Result	Range of Results	Violation	Likely Source	
Alpha emitters - pCi/L	0	15		<3 +/- 0.926	<3 +/-0.62 - <3 +/-0.926	No	Erosion of natural deposits	
Combined Radium (226/228) pCi/L	0	5		<1 +/- 0.31	<1 +/- 0.46- <1 +/- 0.46	No	Erosion of natural deposits	
Microbiologicals	MCLG	MCL	Lowest Ratio	Average Ratio	Range of Ratio	Violation	Likely Source	
TOC Removal Ratio (RAA)	NA	≤1.00	1.05	1.08	0.73 - 1.67	No	Naturally present in the environment	
Microbiologicals	MCLG	MCL		Highest Result	Range of Results	Violation	Likely Source	
Total Coliforms	0	>1		1	0-1	No	Naturally present in the environment	
Copper and Lead (2007-08 Data)	MCLG	AL		90th Percentile	Number of Samples Above AL	Violation	Likely Source	
Copper ppm	1.3	1.3		0.35	0	No	Corrosion of household plumbing	
Lead ppb (2007)	0	15		<0.001	0	No	Corrosion of household plumbing	
Turbidity	MCLG	MCL		Level Found	Range of Detections	Violation	Likely Source	
Turbidity TU^ (monthly avg. plant)	NA	TT=1NTU TT=95%<0.3NTU		0.07	0.03 - 0.268	No	Soil run-off	

^Turbidity is a measure of cloudiness of the water. We monitor it because it is a good indicator of the effectiveness of our filtration system.

\*Highest results are based upon the highest single sample. Violations are determined by the average of all samples during the monitoring period.

\*\*Highest results are based upon the highest quarterly annual running average. Violations are determined by the same.

## OTHER SUBSTANCES NON-REGULATED

Stage 2 Disinfectant By-Products	MCLG	MCL	Locational Average Range	Range	Violation	Likely Source
TTHM ppb (THMs: bromochloromethane, bromodichloromethane, chlorodibromomethane, chloroform)	NA	NA	36 - 50	16 - 99	NA	Disinfection By-Products
HAA5s ppb (HAA5: dibromoacetic acid, dichloroacetic acid, monobromoacetic acid, monochloroacetic acid, trichloroacetic acid)	NA	NA	30 - 34	15.53 - 62.15	NA	Disinfection By-products

## WAIVER INFORMATION

The Safe Drinking Water Act allows monitoring waivers to reduce or eliminate the monitoring requirements for asbestos, volatile organic compounds (VOC) and synthetic organic compounds (SOC). Our system received monitoring waivers for asbestos, VOC reduction, pesticides and SOC based upon the susceptibility of the source water to contamination and the use of SOC and pesticides within the vicinity of our supply.

## OUTDOOR CONSERVATION TIPS

Outdoor water usage can account for nearly 40 percent of the water used for home consumption. On average, outdoor watering can use 5 to 10 gallons of water per minute. Here are some simple things you can do to conserve water outside your home and put more "green" in your pocket:

- Water the lawn deeply and infrequently during the coolest time of the day to promote a deep root system.
- Avoid watering when it is windy, hot or raining.
- Water only when your lawn needs it. A good test to see if your lawn needs to be watered is by stepping on the grass. If the grass springs back up, it does not need to be watered. If it stays flat, turn on the sprinkler.
- Inspect your sprinkler heads frequently. Keep them free of grass and other debris. Make sure water sprays where it's needed, not the sidewalks and driveway.
- Make sure your hose has a shut-off nozzle.
- Mow high and often, leave the grass clippings. Don't cut your grass any shorter than three inches. Longer grass provides natural shading to the ground and keeps the moisture in the soil.
- Aerate your lawn. Punch holes in your lawn about six inches apart so water will reach the roots and retains the moisture.
- Use less fertilizer. By fertilizing less, you'll slow down grass growth and use less water.

## SECONDARY STANDARDS RELATED TO THE AESTHETIC QUALITY OF DRINKING WATER

Substance	NJ RUL	Average Result	Likely Source
Aluminum ppb	0.2	0.04	Treatment process
Chloride ppm	250	53	Natural mineral; road salt
Hardness (as CaCO <sub>3</sub> ) ppm	50 - 250	76	Natural mineral
Iron ppb	300	20	Natural mineral
Manganese ppm	0.05	0.01	Natural mineral
pH	6.5 - 8.5	7.4	Treatment process
Sodium ppm#	50	44	Natural mineral; road salt
Sulfate ppm	250	22	Natural mineral
Total Dissolved Solids ppm	500	122	Natural mineral

#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.

### DEFINITIONS

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

**CU:** Color unit.

**Maximum Contaminant Level (MCL):** 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 (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.

**Maximum Residual Disinfectant Level (MRDL):** The highest level of a disinfectant allowed in drinking water. There is convincing evidence that addition of 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 disinfectant to control microbial contamination.

**NA:** Not applicable.

**ND:** Not detected.

**NJ RUL:** New Jersey Recommended Upper Limit

**NTU:** Nephelometric Turbidity Unit.

**ppb Parts per billion:** The equivalent of one second in 32 years.

**ppm Parts per million:** The equivalent of one second in 12 days.

**pCi/L Picocuries per liter:** The equivalent of one second in 32 million years.

**Primary Standards:** Federal drinking water regulations for substances that are health-related. Water suppliers must meet all primary drinking water standards.

**Secondary Standards:** Federal drinking water measurements for substances that do not have an impact on health. These reflect aesthetic qualities such as taste, odor and appearance. Secondary standards are recommendations, not mandates.

**TON:** Threshold Odor Number.

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



**United Water Manalapan**  
103 Wilson Avenue, Manalapan, NJ 07726

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**THIS REPORT  
CONTAINS  
IMPORTANT  
INFORMATION  
ABOUT YOUR  
DRINKING WATER.**

PWSID # NJ1326005  
PWSID # NJ1326006  
PWSID # NJ1326007

## WHERE DOES YOUR WATER **COME** **FROM?**

United Water Manalapan supplies water from both surface water supplies and aquifer storage and recovery wells (ASR). The facility maintains conventional treatment processes and has a daily capacity of about 5 million gallons.



# 2008 **CONSUMER** **CONFIDENCE** **REPORT**

OPEN  
HERE