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# CONSUMER CONFIDENCE REPORT

United Water New Jersey/Andover System
(PWSID #1902004)
2008

**Dear Customer:**
At United Water we are dedicated to providing you and your family with water that is safe and healthy. We regularly test the water to be sure that your water meets the safety standards. All the test results are on file with the New Jersey Department of Environmental Protection (NJDEP), the agency that monitors and regulates drinking water quality in our state. The United States Environmental Protection Agency (EPA) and the NJDEP establish these regulations. They also 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. Please read it carefully and feel free to call us at 888.770.6030 if you have any questions about your water or your water service. Or, you can call the EPA Safe Drinking Water Hotline at 800.426.4791. In addition, you can also write to us at the above address. If you have specific questions about water as it relates to your personal health, we suggest that you contact your health care provider.

**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.

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.

In order to ensure that the water is safe to drink, the 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. So, what's the bottom line? 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.

**United Water New Jersey - Andover System**

The Andover Water System is operated by United Water New Jersey. The system serves 41 customers. This well is approximately 90 feet deep. We disinfect the water from the well with chlorine to ensure its safety. To further ensure the safety of your water we monitor it before, during and after the treatment process.

**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.

This table shows how the quality of your drinking water compared to the primary standards set by the EPA and the NJDEP as outlined in the Safe Drinking Water Act. A range for all detected substances is not required for a system of this size. The state allows monitoring for some contaminants less than once a year because these contaminants do not change frequently. Therefore, some data (if indicated), though representative, are more than one year old.

**Primary Standards –** Directly related to the safety of drinking water

| ***Inorganic Chemicals*** | ***MCLG*** | ***MCL*** | ***Highest Result*** | ***Range of Results*** | ***Violation*** | ***Likely Source*** |
|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|
| Barium ppm (2006) | 2 | 2 | 0.035 | N/A | No | Erosion of natural deposits |
| Chromium ppb (2006) | 100 | 100 | 2.6 | N/A | No | Erosion of natural deposits |
| Nitrate ppm | 10 | 10 | 2.5 | N/A | No | Erosion of natural deposits and fertilizer usage |
| Nitrite ppm | 1 | 1 | 0.01 | N/A | No | Erosion of natural deposits and fertilizer usage |

| ***Disinfectant Residual*** | ***MRDLG*** | ***MRDL*** | ***Highest Result*** | ***Range of Results*** | ***Violation*** | ***Likely Source*** |
|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|
| Distribution Disinfectant Residual ppm | N/A | 4 | 2.0 | 0.2 - 2.0 | No | Treatment Process |

| ***Volatile Organic Compounds*** | ***MCLG*** | ***MCL*** | ***Highest Result*** | ***Range of Results*** | ***Violation*** | ***Likely Source*** |
|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|
| Acetone^ (2007) | N/A | N/A | 13.3 | ND - 13.3 | No | Natural process and human activities or vehicle exhaust, tobacco smoke, landfills and burning waste |

| ***Lead and Copper*** | ***MCLG*** | ***AL*** | ***90th Percentile*** | ***Range of Results*** | ***Samples > AL*** | ***Exceedance of Action Level*** | ***Likely Source*** |
|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|
| Copper ppm | 1.3 | 1.3 | 0.125 | 0.02 - 0.16 | 0 | No | Corrosion of household plumbing |
| Lead ppb | 0 | 15 | 6.5 | 1.0 - 10.0 | 0 | No | Corrosion of household plumbing |

| ***Organic Disinfection By-products*** | ***MCLG*** | ***MCL*** | ***Highest Result*** | ***Range of Results*** | ***Violation*** | ***Likely Source*** |
|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|
| HAA5 ppb (Total Haloacetic Acids) | N/A | 60 | 1.0 | N/A | No | Disinfection by-product |
| THM4 ppb (Total Trihalomethanes) | N/A | 80 | 4.5 | N/A | No | Disinfection by-product |

| ***Radionuclides (2006)*** | ***MCLG*** | ***MCL*** | ***Highest Result**** | ***Range of Results*** | ***Violation*** | ***Likely Source*** |
|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|
| Gross Alpha pCi/L | 0 | 15 | 2.94 | 0.54 – 2.94 | No | Erosion of natural deposits |
| Radium-226 pCi/L | N/A | 5 | 0.3 | 0.06 – 0.3 | No | Erosion of natural deposits |
| Radium-228 pCi/L | N/A | 5 | 0.15 | 0.04 – 0.15 | No | Erosion of natural deposits |
| Uranium mg/L | N/A | 30 | 0.002 | 0.0018 – 0.002 | No | Erosion of natural deposits |

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

**Secondary Standards –** Related to the aesthetic quality of drinking water

| *Substance* | *NJ RUL* | *Highest Result* | *Range of Results* | *Likely Source* |
|---|---|---|---|---|
| Aluminum ppb (2006) | 200 | 40 | N/A | Treatment process |
| Chloride ppm (2006) | 250 | 91 | N/A | Natural mineral, road salt |
| Color CU (2006) | 10 | 3 | N/A | Natural characteristic |
| Fluoride ppm (2006) | 1.2 | < 0.05 | N/A | Erosion of natural deposits |
| Hardness as CaCO3 ppm (2006) | 50 – 250 | 194 | N/A | Natural mineral |
| Iron ppb (2006) | 300 | 30 | N/A | Natural mineral |
| pH (2006) | 6.5 – 8.5 | 7.6 | N/A | Treatment process |
| Sodium ppm**# | 50 | 61 | 50 - 61 | Natural mineral, road salt |
| Sulfate ppm (2006) | 250 | 8.3 | N/A | Natural mineral |
| Total Dissolved Solids ppm# (2006) | 500 | 582 | N/A | Natural mineral |

****Sodium**

We exceeded the NJ Recommended Upper Limit (RUL) for 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 MCL may be of concern to individuals on a sodium restricted diet. Please see insert for additional information on sodium.

**# Note on Secondary Exceedances:**

Secondary standards are non-mandatory guidelines to assist public water systems for aesthetic considerations, such as taste, color and odor. These contaminants are not considered to present a risk to human health.

**^Acetone**

The original VOC sample collected in June of 2007 was re-sampled in September of 2007 and no acetone level was detected.

**Definitions:**

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

*Maximum Contaminant Level Goal (MCLG):* The level of a contaminant in drinking water below which there is no known or expected risk to health. MCLs allow for a margin of safety.

*Maximum Contaminant Level (MCL):* The highest level at which a contaminant is allowed in drinking water. MCLs are set as close to the MCLGs as feasible using the best available treatment.

*NA:* Not applicable.

*ppb:* part 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 320,000 centuries.

*RUL:* Recommended Upper Limit

## SUSCEPTIBILITY RATINGS FOR UNITED WATER NEW JERSEY – ANDOVER WATER SOURCES

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/ 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 New Jersey – Andover system. **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 or 609.292.5550. The source water assessment performed on our one source of water determined the following:

### Susceptibility Rating for United Water New Jersey – Andover Sources

| *EPTDS ID* | *Source ID* | *Source Name* | *Pathogens Rating* | *Nutrients Rating* | *Pesticides Rating* | *VOCs Rating* | *Inorganics Rating* | *Radionuclides Rating* | *Radon Rating* | *DBPs Rating* |
|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|
| 01 | 003 | WELL 1-25/LONGVIEW ROAD | L | H | L | L | L | M | M | M |

*L (Low), M (Medium), H (High) susceptibility*

*Pathogens:* Disease-causing organisms such as bacteria and viruses. Common sources are animal and human 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, 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 (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.

### 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 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.