



# 2008 CONSUMER CONFIDENCE REPORT

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ISSUED JUNE 2009  
UNITED WATER NEW JERSEY  
LAMBERTVILLE

## 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 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 it shows how your drinking water quality measured up to government standards during 2008. Please read it carefully and feel free to call us at 877.565.1456 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 supplies water for domestic use and fire protection to residents of the City of Lambertville and a portion of West Amwell Township located in Hunterdon County, New Jersey. As of year-end 2008, the company served approximately 1,750 residential and commercial customers. Average daily production is 0.400 MGD (million gallons per day).

## UNITED WATER: BUILDING FOR YOUR FUTURE

During 2007-2008, United Water invested more than \$3.7 million in major renovations to the Lambertville Dam. The upgrades have enhanced dam safety, increased water supply capacity and improved service reliability.



## 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.

## ABOUT YOUR WATER SUPPLY

At United Water we take great pride in our ability to provide you with water that meets or surpasses all state and federal standards. We treat the water from our reservoir so that it is safe for you and your family. Raw water typically flows by gravity from the upper 40 million gallon Reservoir #2 to the company's 1-MGD Hill Water Treatment Plant. Treatment consists of chlorine dioxide, soda ash for pH adjustment, alum for clarification, rapid sand filtration and post chlorination. Finished water is stored in a 50,000-gallon clear well at this location. Our distribution system, used to deliver treated water to your home, consists of about 15 miles of mains ranging in size from 1 inch to 12 inches in diameter. We also have three storage tanks with a combined capacity of nearly a million gallons.

## 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 877.565.1456.



## PROTECT THE ENVIRONMENT - GO PAPERLESS!



United Water's eBilling program is an easy and secure way to pay your water bill while helping the environment. By opting to have your water bill sent directly into your email inbox, you can help protect our natural resources.

To enroll in eBilling and protect the environment, call us at 877-565-1456 or visit [unitedwater.com](http://unitedwater.com).

## 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 (NJDEP) has completed and issued the Source Water Assessment Report and Summary for this public water system, which is available at <http://www.state.nj.us/dep/swap/creport.htm> 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 - Lambertville system. NJDEP 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 these assessments, NJDEP may customize (change existing) monitoring schedules based on the susceptibility ratings.

If you have questions regarding source water assessment reports or summaries please contact the Bureau of Safe Drinking Water at [swap@dep.state.nj.us](mailto:swap@dep.state.nj.us) or 609.292.5550.

## SOURCE WATER SUSCEPTIBILITY RATING FOR UNITED WATER NEW JERSEY - LAMBERTVILLE WATER SOURCES

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

Source Name	Pathogens Rating	Nutrients Rating	Pesticides Rating	VOCs Rating	Inorganics Rating	Radionuclides Rating	Radon Rating	DBPs Rating
Surface Water Intake	H	L	M	L	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

Organic Chemicals (volatile)	MCLG	MCL	Highest* Result	Range of Results	Violation	Likely Source	
Bromochloromethane	NA	5	1.81	1.81 - 1.81	No	Disinfection by-product	
Chlorine dioxide ppm	0.8	1	0.89	0 - 0.89	No	Treatment process	
Chlorite ppm	0.8	1	0.97	0.46 - 0.97	No	Disinfection by-product	
Disinfection By-Products	MCLG	MCL	Average Result	Highest** Result	Range of Results	Violation	Likely Source
TTHMs ppb running annual avg. + (TTHMs: bromoform, bromodichloromethane, chlorodibromomethane, chloroform)	NA	80	32.7	38.8	19.1 - 51.5	No	Disinfection by-product
Total HAA5 ppb running annual avg. (HAA5: dibromoacetic acid, dichloroacetic acid, monobromoacetic acid, monochloroacetic acid, trichloroacetic acid)	NA	60	18.4	19.8	4.5 - 32.4	No	Disinfection by-product
Note: DBP range of results are site-specific. +See section under Violation for additional information.							
Radionuclides (2005)	MCLG	MCL	Highest** Result	Range of Results	Violation	Likely Source	
Gross Alpha pCi/l	0	15	0.792	-0.275 - 0.792	No	Erosion of natural deposits	
Combined Radium (226/228) pCi/l	0	5	0.4473	0.346 - 0.585	No	Erosion of natural deposits	
Uranium ug/L	0	30	NA	NA - NA			
Microbiologicals	MCLG	MCL	Lowest Ratio	Average Ratio	Range of Ratio	Violation	Likely Source
TOC Removal Ratio (RAA)	NA	≥1.00	1.02	1.045	0.68 - 1.3	No	Naturally present in the environment
Total Coliform	0	>1	1		0 - 1	No	Naturally present in the environment
Inorganic Chemicals	MCLG	MCL	Highest* Result	Range of Results	Violation	Likely Source	
Barium ppm	2	2	0.009	0.00 - 0.009	No	Erosion of natural deposits	
Copper and Lead (2007 data)	MCLG	AL	90th Percentile	Samples > AL	Violation	Likely Source	
Copper ppm ++	1.3	1.3	0.15	4	No	Corrosion of household plumbing	
Lead ppb ++	0	15	8	4	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%<0.343NTU	0.077	0.03 - 0.31	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.							
Disinfection Residuals	MRDLG	MRDL	Highest** Result	Range of Results	Violation	Likely Source	
Distribution Disinfectant Residuals ppm (Free Chlorine)	NA	4.0	0.283	0.02 - 0.69	No	Treatment process	

\*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.

## 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, pesticides and SOC based upon the susceptibility of the source water to contamination and the use of asbestos, SOC and pesticides within the vicinity of our supply.

## 10 WAYS YOU CAN PREVENT STORM WATER POLLUTION AND PROTECT DRINKING WATER SUPPLIES

1. Recycle or properly dispose of household products that contain chemicals, such as insecticides, paint, solvents and auto fluids. Never dump anything down sinks, toilets, on the ground, in storm drains or in streams.
2. Use least toxic pesticides, follow labels, and learn how to prevent pest problems and use them sparingly.
3. Use fertilizers sparingly and sweep up driveways, sidewalks, and gutters. Excess chemicals applied to lawns and gardens wash off in rain and pollute streams.
4. Vegetate bare spots in your yard.
5. Compost your yard waste, do not sweep it into the streets or storm drains.
6. Direct downspouts away from paved surfaces; consider a rain garden to capture runoff.
7. Take your car to the car wash instead of washing it in the driveway.
8. Check your car for leaks and recycle your motor oil.
9. When walking your pet, remember to pick up and dispose of it properly.
10. Have your septic tank pumped and system inspected every three to five years to avoid leaking of bacteria and viruses that can be picked up by storm water and discharged to storm drains and streams.

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

Substance	NJ RUL	Average Result	Likely Source
Chloride ppm	250	21.8	Natural mineral; road salt
Hardness (as CaCO <sub>3</sub> )ppm	250	40	Natural mineral
Iron ppb	300	25	Natural mineral
Manganese ppm	0.05	0.0165	Natural mineral
pH	6.5 - 8.5	7.8	Treatment process
Sodium ppm	50	20.7	Natural mineral; road salt

### 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 New Jersey  
Lambertville**  
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**THIS REPORT  
CONTAINS  
IMPORTANT  
INFORMATION  
ABOUT YOUR  
DRINKING WATER.**

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

PWSID # NJ1017001

## OUR HISTORY

Since 1887, the Lambertville Dam, located on the Swan Creek, has played a key role in providing safe, reliable drinking water to residents of Lambertville and West Amwell. Throughout the life of the dam, improvements have been made, however, after more than 100 years of service, substantial upgrades were needed in 2007-2008. More than \$3.7 million were invested to remove an old dam, lower the reservoir level, and build a new primary spillway, auxiliary spillway, access road and parapet wall, overtop protection and a new low level outlet. These renovations have not only enhanced dam safety and improve reliability but have allowed the water levels in the reservoir to be raised about three feet. This translated into a total storage capacity of 45-50 million gallons of water. As a result, the Lambertville Dam, such a significant part of the community's history, is now an equally important part of its future.



# 2008 CONSUMER CONFIDENCE REPORT

OPEN  
HERE