

ANNUAL WATER QUALITY REPORT

Reporting Year 2025



Presented By



Landlords must distribute this information to every tenant as soon as practicable, but no later than three business days after receipt. Delivery must be done by hand, mail, or email, and by posting the information in a prominent location at the entrance of each rental premises, pursuant to section 3 of P.L. 2021, c. 82 (C.58:12A-12.4 et seq.).

PWS ID#: NJ1409001

Our Commitment

We are pleased to present to you this year's annual water quality report. This report is a snapshot of last year's water quality covering all testing performed between January 1st and December 31st, 2025. Included are details about your source of water, what it contains, and how it compares to standards set by regulatory agencies. 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. We are committed to ensuring the quality of your water and providing you with this information because informed customers are our best allies.

Where Does My Water Come From?

Dover Water Commission takes its water from three groundwater wells located at 100 Princeton Avenue. These wells are treated for organics removal via two air-stripping facilities. The water is chlorinated, sent to two clearwells, and from there goes to municipal water service connections. Water is also supplied to Victory Gardens and portions of Wharton, Randolph, and Rockaway Township.

Water Main Flushing

Distribution mains (pipes) convey water to homes, businesses, and hydrants in your neighborhood. The water entering distribution mains is of very high quality; however, water quality can deteriorate in areas of the distribution mains over time. Water main flushing is the process of cleaning the interior of water distribution mains by sending a rapid flow of water through them.

Flushing maintains water quality in several ways. For example, flushing removes sediments like iron and manganese. Although iron and manganese do not pose health concerns, they can affect the taste, clarity, and color of the water. Additionally, sediments can shield microorganisms from the disinfecting power of chlorine, contributing to the growth of microorganisms within distribution mains. Flushing helps remove stale water and ensures the presence of fresh water with sufficient dissolved oxygen and disinfectant levels and an acceptable taste and smell.

During flushing operations in your neighborhood, some short-term deterioration of water quality, though uncommon, is possible. You should avoid tap water for household uses at that time. If you do use the tap, allow your cold water to run for a few minutes at full velocity before use, and avoid using hot water to prevent sediment accumulation in your hot water tank.

Please contact us if you have any questions or if you would like more information on our water main flushing schedule.

About Our Monitoring Violations

1. Disinfection By-Products Monitoring Violation

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 your drinking water meets health standards. During the monitoring period of October 1 through December 31, 2025, Dover Water Commission did not complete all required monitoring or testing for Stage 2 disinfection by-products (total trihalomethanes [TTHMs] and haloacetic acids [HAA5]) at the distribution system sampling point, and therefore cannot be sure of the quality of your drinking water during that time. We updated our internal testing processes to ensure no samples will be missed moving forward.

2. Coliform Bacteria (Revised Total Coliform Rule) Monitoring Violation

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 your drinking water meets health standards. During October 2025, Dover Water Commission did not complete all required routine coliform bacteria sampling from the distribution system, collecting 24 of the 30 required samples that month, and therefore cannot be sure of the bacteriological quality of your drinking water during that time. We updated our internal testing processes to ensure no samples will be missed moving forward.

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.

Questions?

For more information about this report, or for any questions relating to your drinking water, please call Donald Doty, Water Commission Superintendent, at (973) 366-2200 ext. 2127.

Source Water Assessment

The New Jersey Department of Environmental Protection (NJDEP) has completed and issued the source water protection report and summary for this public water system, which is available at nj.gov/dep/watersupply/swap/creport.htm or by contacting the NJDEP Bureau of Safe Drinking Water at (609) 292-5550.

SOURCE ID/NAME	PATHOGENS	NUTRIENTS	PESTICIDES	VOCS	INORGANICS	RADIONUCLIDES	RADON	DBPS
	RATING	RATING	RATING	RATING	RATING	RATING	RATING	RATING
003 / Well 1	M	H	L	H	M	M	H	H
005 / Well 3	M	H	L	H	M	M	H	H
008 / Well 5	M	H	L	H	M	M	H	H

Lead in Home Plumbing

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. Dover Water Commission is responsible for providing high-quality drinking water and removing lead pipes but cannot control the variety of materials used in plumbing components in your home. You share the responsibility for protecting yourself and your family from the lead in your home plumbing. You can take responsibility by identifying and removing lead materials within your home plumbing and taking steps to reduce your family's risk. Before drinking tap water, flush your pipes for several minutes by running your tap, taking a shower, or doing laundry or a load of dishes. You can also use a filter certified by an American National Standards Institute-accredited certifier to reduce lead in drinking water. If you are concerned about lead and wish to have your water tested, contact Dover Water Commission at (973) 366-2200 ext. 2126. Information on lead in drinking water, testing methods, and steps you can take to minimize exposure is available at epa.gov/safewater/lead.

To address lead in drinking water, public water systems were required to develop and maintain an inventory of service line materials by October 16, 2024. Developing an inventory and identifying the location of lead service lines (LSL) is the first step for beginning LSL replacement and protecting public health. The lead service inventory may be accessed by calling (973) 366-2200 ext. 2126, or scanning the QR code provided. Please contact us if you would like more information about the inventory or any lead sampling that has been done.



— BY THE NUMBERS —



82

The average number of gallons of water an American uses per day.



27%

The percent of household water use attributable to toilets.



700

The average number of gallons that a household can save each year with water-efficient fixtures.



50-100

The typical design lifespan of underground drinking water pipes, in years.



<1%

The percent of Earth's water that is readily available as fresh drinking water.

Count on Us

Delivering high-quality drinking water to our customers involves far more than just pushing water through pipes. Water treatment is a complex, time-consuming process. Because tap water is highly regulated by state and federal laws, water treatment plant and system operators must be licensed and are required to commit to long-term, on-the-job training before becoming fully qualified. Our licensed water professionals have a basic understanding of a wide range of subjects, including mathematics, biology, chemistry, and physics. Some of the tasks they complete on a regular basis include:

- Operating and maintaining equipment to purify and clarify water.
- Monitoring and inspecting machinery, meters, gauges, and operating conditions.
- Conducting tests and inspections on water and evaluating the results.
- Maintaining optimal water chemistry.
- Applying data to formulas that determine treatment requirements, flow levels, and concentration levels.
- Documenting and reporting test results and system operations to regulatory agencies.
- Serving our community through customer support, education, and outreach.

So the next time you turn on your faucet, think of the skilled professionals who stand behind each drop.

Public Meetings

Dover Water Commission values our customers and works hard to ensure their satisfaction. We invite you to attend our meetings, held the second Wednesday of each month at 5:00 p.m. at 100 Princeton Avenue. Specific meeting dates can be found by visiting dover.nj.us. You may also contact us with any questions at (973) 366-2200 ext. 2126.

Test Results

Our water is monitored for many different kinds of substances on a very strict sampling schedule, and the water we deliver must meet specific health standards. Here, we only show those substances that were detected in our water (a complete list of all our analytical results is available upon request). Remember that detecting a substance does not mean the water is unsafe to drink; our goal is to keep all detects below their respective maximum allowed levels.

The state recommends monitoring for certain substances less than once per year because the concentrations of these substances do not change frequently. In these cases, the most recent sample data is included, along with the year in which the sample was taken.

Call us at (973) 366-2200 ext. 2126, to find out how to get your water tested for lead. Testing is essential because you cannot see, taste, or smell lead in drinking water.

We participated in the fifth stage of the U.S. EPA’s Unregulated Contaminant Monitoring Rule (UCMR5) program by performing additional tests on our drinking water. UCMR5 sampling benefits the environment and public health by providing the U.S. EPA with data on the occurrence of contaminants suspected to be in drinking water to determine if it needs to introduce new regulatory standards to improve drinking water quality. Unregulated contaminant monitoring data is available to the public, so please feel free to contact us if you are interested in obtaining this information. If you would like more information on the U.S. EPA’s Unregulated Contaminant Monitoring Rule, please call the Safe Drinking Water Hotline at (800) 426-4791.

Important Health Information

Some people may be more vulnerable to contaminants in drinking water than the general population. Immunocompromised 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. U.S. EPA/Centers for Disease Control and Prevention (CDC) 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).

REGULATED SUBSTANCES ¹							
SUBSTANCE (UNIT OF MEASURE)	YEAR SAMPLED	MCL [MRDL]	MCLG [MRDLG]	AMOUNT DETECTED	RANGE LOW-HIGH	VIOLATION	TYPICAL SOURCE
Barium (ppm)	2023	2	2	0.0269	NA	No	Discharge of drilling wastes; Discharge from metal refineries; Erosion of natural deposits
Chromium (ppb)	2023	100	100	1.45	NA	No	Discharge from steel and pulp mills; Erosion of natural deposits
Fluoride (ppm)	2023	4	4	ND	NA	No	Erosion of natural deposits; Water additive which promotes strong teeth; Discharge from fertilizer and aluminum factories
Nitrate (ppm)	2025	10	10	0.0733	NA	No	Runoff from fertilizer use; Leaching from septic tanks, sewage; Erosion of natural deposits
Total Coliform Bacteria (positive samples)	2024	TT	NA	2	NA	No	Naturally present in the environment

Tap water samples were collected for lead and copper analyses from sample sites throughout the community

SUBSTANCE (UNIT OF MEASURE)	YEAR SAMPLED	AL	MCLG	AMOUNT DETECTED (90TH %ILE)	RANGE LOW- HIGH	SITES ABOVE AL/TOTAL SITES	VIOLATION	TYPICAL SOURCE
Copper (ppm)	2024	1.3	1.3	0.0783	ND–0.22	0/30	No	Corrosion of household plumbing systems; Erosion of natural deposits
Lead (ppb)	2024	15	0	2.78	ND–25.2	1/30	No	Corrosion of household plumbing systems; Erosion of natural deposits

Definitions

90th %ile: The levels reported for lead and copper represent the 90th percentile of the total number of sites tested. The 90th percentile is equal to or greater than 90% of our lead and copper detections.

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

Herbicide: Any chemical(s) used to control undesirable vegetation.

MCL (Maximum Contaminant Level): 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.

MCLG (Maximum Contaminant Level Goal): 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.

MRDL (Maximum Residual Disinfectant Level): 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.

MRDLG (Maximum Residual Disinfectant Level Goal): 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 contaminants.

NA: Not applicable.

ND (Not detected): Indicates that the substance was not found by laboratory analysis.

Pesticide: Generally, any substance or mixture of substances intended for preventing, destroying, repelling, or mitigating any pest.

ppb (parts per billion): One part substance per billion parts water (or micrograms per liter).

ppm (parts per million): One part substance per million parts water (or milligrams per liter).

RUL (Recommended Upper Limit): These standards are developed to protect aesthetic qualities of drinking water and are not health based.

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

SECONDARY SUBSTANCES							
SUBSTANCE (UNIT OF MEASURE)	YEAR SAMPLED	RUL	MCLG	AMOUNT DETECTED	RANGE LOW-HIGH	VIOLATION	TYPICAL SOURCE
Aluminum (ppb)	2023	200	NA	ND	NA	No	Erosion of natural deposits; Residual from some surface water treatment processes
Chloride (ppm)	2023	250	NA	ND	NA	No	Runoff/leaching from natural deposits
Hardness [as CaCO3] (ppm)	2023	250	NA	130	NA	No	Naturally occurring
Manganese (ppb)	2024	50	NA	ND	NA	No	Leaching from natural deposits
Sodium (ppm)	2025	50 ²	NA	69.6	NA	No	Naturally occurring
Zinc (ppm)	2023	5	NA	ND	NA	No	Runoff/leaching from natural deposits; Industrial wastes

UNREGULATED SUBSTANCES				
SUBSTANCE (UNIT OF MEASURE)	YEAR SAMPLED	AMOUNT DETECTED	RANGE LOW-HIGH	TYPICAL SOURCE
Nickel (ppb)	2023	1.84	NA	Naturally occurring
Perfluorooctanesulfonic Acid [PFOS] (ppt)	2025	4.07	NA	NA
Perfluorooctanoic Acid [PFOA] (ppt)	2025	39.2	NA	NA

¹ Under a waiver granted on December 30, 1998, by NJDEP, our system does not have to monitor for synthetic organic chemicals/pesticides because several years of testing have indicated that these substances do not occur in our source water. 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 synthetic organic chemicals and asbestos.

² 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 a concern to individuals on a sodium-restricted diet.

Substances That Could Be in 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 occur naturally in the soil or groundwater or may 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 by-products of industrial processes and petroleum production and can also come from gas stations, urban stormwater runoff, and septic systems; and
- Radioactive Contaminants, which can occur naturally or be the result of oil and gas production and mining activities.

To ensure that tap water is safe to drink, the U.S. Environmental Protection Agency (U.S. 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.

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 mean that water poses a health risk. More information about contaminants and potential health effects can be obtained by calling the Safe Drinking Water Hotline (800-426-4791) or visiting epa.gov/safewater.

