

# Annual Drinking Water Quality Report

The Township of Cedar Grove  
Water Department



**Report for the Year 2020**  
Results from the Year 2019

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## Following is this year's Annual Drinking Water Quality Report.

This report is designed to inform you about the quality water and services we deliver to you every day.

The Township of Cedar Grove Water Department and our suppliers routinely monitor for contaminants in your drinking water according to Federal and State laws. The tables show the results of that monitoring for the period of January 1<sup>st</sup> to December 31<sup>st</sup>, 2019. The state allows us to monitor for some contaminants less than once per year because the concentrations of these contaminants does not change frequently. Some of our data, though representative, are more than one year old.

**Our water supply:** In 2019 we purchased our drinking water from the Passaic Valley Water Commission (PVWC) and the North Jersey District Water Supply Commission (NJDWSC). Water Quality test results for the Township of Cedar Grove Water Department, the North Jersey District Water Supply Commission and the Passaic Valley Water Commission are included in this report. Their supply sources are the Passaic River, and the Wanaque and Monksville Reservoir. The New Jersey Department of Environmental Protection (NJDEP) has completed and issued the Source Water Assessment Reports and Summaries for these public water systems, which are available at [WWW.state.nj.us/dep/swap](http://WWW.state.nj.us/dep/swap) or by contacting NJDEP's Bureau of Safe Drinking Water at (609) 292-5550. You may also contact your public water system at 973-239-1410.

**Vulnerable populations:** 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 infection by *Cryptosporidium* and other microbiological contaminants are available from the Safe Drinking Water Hotline (800-426-4791).

**Special considerations regarding children, pregnant women, nursing mothers, and others:** Children may receive a slightly higher amount of a contaminant 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 concern. 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.

### Township of Cedar Grove Water Department - 2019 Test Results PWS ID# NJ0704001

Contaminant	Violation Y/N	Level Detected	Units of Measurement	MCLG	MCL	Likely Source of Contamination
<b>Inorganics:</b>						
Copper Result at 90 <sup>th</sup> Percentile	N	0.09 No samples exceeded the action level.	Ppm	1.3	AL=1.3	Corrosion of household plumbing systems; erosion of natural deposits
Lead Result at the 90 <sup>th</sup> Percentile	N	ND 1 sample out of 30 exceeded the action level.	Ppb	0	AL=15	Corrosion of household plumbing systems; erosion of natural deposits
<b>Disinfection By-Products:</b>						
TTHM Total trihalomethanes	N	Range = 16 - 75 Highest LRAA= 61	Ppb	N/A	80	By-product of drinking water disinfection
(HAA5) Total Haloacetic Acids	N	Range = 9 - 34 Highest LRAA = 27	ppb	N/A	60	By-product of drinking water disinfection

Regulated Disinfectants	Level Detected	MRDL	MRDLG
Chlorine	Range = 0.2 – 0.8 ppm Average = 0.5 ppm	4.0 ppm	4.0 ppm

**Chlorine:** Water additive used to control microbes.

HAA5 and TTHM compliance is based on the Locational Running Annual Average (LRAA), calculated at each monitoring location. The LRAA calculation is based on four completed quarters of monitoring results.

**For additional information:** If you have any questions about this report or concerning your water utility, please call 973-239-1410. If you want to learn more, please attend any of our regularly scheduled Town Council Meetings which are held on the First Monday of each month, beginning at 8 p.m., in the Townhall Council Chambers, second floor, 525 Pompton Ave., Cedar Grove, NJ.

## DEFINITIONS:

In the “Test Results” tables you may find some terms and abbreviations you might not be familiar with. To help you better understand these terms we've provided the following definitions:

Non-Detects (ND) - laboratory analysis indicates that the contaminant.

Parts per million (ppm) or Milligrams per liter (mg/l) - one part per million corresponds to one minute in two years or a single penny in \$10,000.

Parts per billion (ppb) or Micrograms per liter - one part per billion corresponds to one minute in 2,000 years, or a single penny in \$10,000,000.

Picocuries per liter (pCi/L) - picocuries per liter is a measure of the radioactivity in water.

Nephelometric Turbidity Unit (NTU) - nephelometric turbidity unit is a measure of the clarity of water. Turbidity in excess of 5 NTU is just noticeable to the average person.

Organic Compounds - Chemicals associated with carbon or living matter.

No Standard (NS) - No standard has been established for this parameter

Action Level - the concentration of a contaminant which, if exceeded, triggers treatment or other requirements which a water system must follow.

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

Threshold Odor Number (TON) - Generally, a concentration of a contaminant at which it has a noticeable odor.

Maximum Contaminant Level - The "Maximum Allowed" (MCL) is 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 -The "Goal"(MCLG) is 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.

Secondary Contaminant- Substances that do not have an impact on health. Secondary Contaminants affect aesthetic qualities such as odor, taste or appearance. Secondary standards are recommendations, not mandates.

Recommended Upper Limit (RUL) – Recommended maximum concentration of secondary contaminants. These reflect aesthetic qualities such as odor, taste or appearance. RUL's are recommendations, not mandates.

Maximum Residual Disinfectant Level (MRDL): 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.

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 disinfectants to control microbial contamination

Total Organic Carbon – Total Organ Carbon (TOC) has no health effects. However, TOC provides a medium for the formation of disinfection byproducts. The *Treatment Technique* for TOC requires that 35% - 45% of the TOC in the raw water is removed through the treatment processes.

Turbidity – Turbidity has no health effects. However, turbidity can interfere with disinfection and provide a medium microbial growth. Turbidity is measured as an indication of the effectiveness of the filtration process. The *Treatment Technique* for turbidity requires that no individual sample exceeds 1 NTU and 95% of the samples collected during the month must be less than 0.3 NTU.

Passaic Valley Water Commission (PVWC) is a major supplier of drinking water in Northern New Jersey. PVWC's main facility is the Little Falls Water Treatment Plant located in Totowa, NJ. Water diverted from the Passaic and Pompton Rivers is treated, filtered and disinfected at the plant. Treated water is then mixed with treated water from the North Jersey District Water Supply Commission's Wanaque Reservoir treatment plant.



# North Jersey District Water Supply Commission (NJDWSC) 2019 Test Results

## PWS ID #NJ1613001

[illegible]

## Passaic Valley Water Commission (PVWC) 2019 Test Results

### PWS ID# NJ1605002

Contaminant	Violation Y/N	Level Detected	Units of Measure- ment	MCLG	MCL	Likely Source of Contamination
<b>Microbiological Contaminants:</b>						
Turbidity	N	Highest Measurement = 0.34 Range = 0.02 – 0.34 100 % samples < 0.3	NTU	0	TT = % of monthly samples <0.3 NTU	Soil runoff
Total Organic Carbon (%)	N	Range = 58 - 100 % (25 – 50 % required)		NA	TT = % removal	Naturally present in the environment
<b>Inorganic Contaminants:</b>						
Barium	N	0.1	ppm	2	2	Discharge of drilling wastes; discharge from metal refineries; erosion of natural deposits
Lead Result at 90 <sup>th</sup> Percentile 1 <sup>st</sup> ½ of 2019	N	6.6 2 samples out of 134 exceeded the action level	ppb	0	AL=15	Corrosion of household plumbing systems, erosion of natural deposits
Lead Result at 90 <sup>th</sup> Percentile 2 <sup>nd</sup> ½ of 2019	N	10.9 11 samples out of 144 exceeded the action level	ppb	0	AL=15	Corrosion of household plumbing systems, erosion of natural deposits
Copper Result at 90 <sup>th</sup> Percentile 1 <sup>st</sup> ½ of 2019	N	0.08 No samples exceeded the action level	ppm	1.3	AL=1.3	Corrosion of household plumbing systems; erosion of natural deposits
Copper Result at 90 <sup>th</sup> Percentile 2 <sup>nd</sup> ½ of 2019	N	0.06 No samples exceeded the action level	ppm	1.3	AL=1.3	Corrosion of household plumbing systems; erosion of natural deposits
Fluoride	N	Range = ND – 0.05 Highest detect = 0.05	ppm	4	4	Erosion of natural deposits; water additive which promotes strong teeth; discharge from fertilizer and aluminum factories
Nitrate (as Nitrogen)	N	Range = ND – 2.81 Highest detect = 2.81	ppm	10	10	Runoff from fertilizer use; leaching from septic tanks, sewage; erosion of natural deposits
Nickel	N	Range = ND – 2.5 Highest detect = 2.5	ppb	N/A	N/A	Erosion of natural deposits
<b>Disinfection Byproducts:</b>						
TTHM Total Trihalomethanes	N	Highest LRAA = 47	ppb	N/A	80	By-product of drinking water disinfection
HAA5 Haloacetic Acids	N	Highest LRAA = 25	ppb	N/A	60	By-product of drinking water disinfection
<b>Regulated Disinfectants</b>		<b>Level Detected</b>	<b>MRDL</b>		<b>MRDLG</b>	
Chlorine (Water additive used to control microbes)		Range = 1.0 – 1.1 ppm Average = 1.0 ppm	4.0 ppm		4.0 ppm	

## Passaic Valley Water Commission 2019 Test Results (cont'd)

Secondary Contaminant	Level Detected	Units of Measurement	RUL
Sodium	Range = 28 - 115	ppm	50
Manganese	Range = ND - 211	ppb	50

HAA5 and TTHM compliance is based on the Locational Running Annual Average (LRAA), calculated at each monitoring location. The LRAA calculation is based on four completed quarters of monitoring results.

**The Passaic Valley Water Commission (PVWC) exceeded the secondary Recommended Upper Limit 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 Recommended Upper Limit (RUL) may be of concern to individuals on a sodium restricted diet.**

**The (PVWC) exceeded the secondary Recommended Upper Limit (RUL) for manganese which is based on staining of laundry. Manganese is an essential nutrient, and toxicity is not expected from levels which would be encountered in drinking water.**

### CRYPTOSPORIDIUM

*Cryptosporidium* is a microbial pathogen found in surface water throughout the United States. Although filtration removes *Cryptosporidium*, the most commonly used filtration methods cannot guarantee 100 percent removal. Our monitoring indicates the presence of these organisms in our source water. Current test methods do not allow us to determine if the organisms are viable or capable of causing disease. Ingestion of *Cryptosporidium* may cause cryptosporidiosis, an abdominal infection. Symptoms of infection include nausea, diarrhea, and abdominal cramps. Most healthy individuals can overcome the disease within a few weeks. However, immuno-compromised people, infants and small children, and the elderly are at greater risk of developing life-threatening illness. We encourage immuno-compromised individuals to consult their doctor regarding appropriate precautions to take to avoid infection. *Cryptosporidium* must be ingested to cause disease, and it may spread through means other than drinking water. PVWC conducted special source water *Cryptosporidium* and *Giardia* monitoring in 2019. The data collected in 2019 is presented in the table below.

### SOURCE WATER PATHOGEN MONITORING

Contaminant	PVWC Plant Intake	Typical Source
<i>Cryptosporidium</i> , Oocysts/L	0 - 0.57	Microbial pathogens found in surface waters throughout the United States.
<i>Giardia</i> , Cysts/L	0 - 1.23	

### UNREGULATED CONTAMINANTS FOR WHICH EPA REQUIRES MONITORING

Contaminant	PVWC Intake Average (Range of Results)	PVWC Little Falls WTP Average (Range of Results)
Bromide, ppb	44 (33 - 69)	
Total Organic Carbon, mg/L	6 (4 - 7)	
Manganese (Total), ppb		8 (2 - 14)

Unregulated contaminants are those for which EPA requires monitoring but has not established drinking water standards. The purpose of unregulated contaminant monitoring is to assist EPA in determining the occurrence of unregulated contaminants in drinking water and whether future regulation is warranted.

## ADDITIONAL PVWC TREATMENT PLANT MONITORING RESULTS

Detected Contaminants, ppb	Little Falls WTP Effluent Range of Results	
Chlorate	(35 - 413)	Test results presented in this table were collected in 2019 as part of a study to determine the general occurrence of these contaminants. PVWC continues to participate in and support these types of regulatory and research efforts to maintain a position of leadership in drinking water supply.
1,4-Dioxane	(ND – 0.09)	
Perfluorobutanesulfonic acid (PFBS)	(ND - 0.0021)	There are currently no EPA drinking water standards in effect for these contaminants although EPA has established health advisory levels for some of these to provide an estimate of acceptable drinking water levels based on health effects information.
Perfluoroheptanoic acid (PFHpA)	(ND - 0.0027)	
Perfluorohexanesulfonic acid (PFHxS)	(ND - 0.0029)	EPA has published Health Advisory levels for Perfluorooctanoic acid, (PFOA) and Perfluorooctanesulfonic acid, (PFOS), of 0.070 parts per billion (ppb) combined.
Perfluorohexanoic acid (PFHxA)	(ND - 0.0054)	
Perfluorooctanesulfonic acid (PFOS)	(ND - 0.0086)	Health advisory levels are non-enforceable and non-regulatory and provide technical information to state agencies and other public health officials on health effects, analytical methodologies, and treatment technologies associated with drinking water contamination.
Perfluorooctanoic acid (PFOA)	(0.0039 - 0.010)	
		The results observed in 2019 were below EPA established health advisory levels.

**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 Cedar Grove Water Department and its suppliers are 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 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>. However, for those served by a lead service line, flushing times may vary based on the length of the service line and plumbing configuration in your home. If your home is set back further from the street a longer flushing time may be needed. *To conserve water, other household water usage activities such as showering, washing clothes, and running the dishwasher are effective methods of flushing out water from a service line.* To determine if you have a lead service line, contact us at 973-239-1410.

**Potential sources of contamination:** 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 be naturally occurring or result from urban storm water runoff, industrial or domestic wastewater discharges, oil and gas projection, mining, or farming.
- Pesticides and herbicides, which may come from a variety of sources such as agriculture, urban storm water 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 storm water 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 tap water is safe to drink, 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.

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 Environmental Protection Agency's Safe Drinking Water Hotline at 1-800-426-4791.

**We at the Township of Cedar Grove Water Department work hard to provide top quality water to every tap. We ask that all our customers help us protect our water sources, which are the heart of our community, our way of life and our children's future. Please call our office if you have questions.**

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