

**Borough of Milltown**  
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Office of the Mayor  
Eric A. Steeber

2018 ANNUAL REPORT

## **WATER QUALITY REPORT**

**PWSID# 1212001**

Dear Customer,

The **Borough of Milltown Water Department** offers residents two vital services: A continuous supply of safe drinking water and the efficient removal of wastewater. In this mission we continue our efforts to provide safe drinking water of a quality that exceeds State/Federal standards for safety, while making improvements to our system. In an ongoing effort to keep the public informed, we are pleased to provide you with this Annual Report on our water.

I urge you to read this report carefully in order to be informed about the quality of your drinking water.

Thank you!  
Sincerely,

Eric A. Steeber

### **about your water supply**

Milltown's water is purchased from the City of New Brunswick, which draws its water from the Lawrence Brook and Delaware/Raritan Canal. The water is treated at the New Brunswick treatment plant and is delivered to the Borough's Elkins Lane pumping station through a twenty (20) inch cement lined ductile iron pipe. Chlorine levels are monitored at this location.

The Borough, in addition to the City of New Brunswick, conducts our own water testing as required by State & Federal regulations. Independent certified laboratories approved by the State analyze all the tests.

# Test Results

## Borough of Milltown Water Department, PWSID NJ1212001 - 2017 Data

Copper & Lead		MCLG	AL	Level Detected	Violation	Likely Source
Copper	Test Results Year 2017	1.3 ppm	1.3 ppm	90th Percentile: 0.076 ppm Samples > AL: 0 of 83	N	Corrosion of household plumbing systems and erosion of natural deposits
Lead	Test Results Year 2017	0 ppb	15 ppb	90th Percentile: 20.9 ppb Samples > AL: 10 of 83	Y	Corrosion of household plumbing systems and erosion of natural deposits
Regulated Disinfectants		RUL		Level Detected	Violation	Likely Source
Chlorine			4.0 ppm	Range: 0.68-3.25 ppm Average: 1.24 ppm	N	Treatment process
Volatile Organic Compounds / Disinfection By-products		MCLG	MCL	Level Detected	Violation	Likely Source
HAAS Haloacetic Acids		n/a	60 ppb	Range: 12.53-59.3 ppb LRAA: 33.12 ppb	N	Byproduct of drinking water disinfection
TTHM Total Trihalomethanes		n/a	80 ppb	Range: 38-94.6 ppb LRAA: 65.145 ppb	N	Byproduct of drinking water disinfection
Microbiologicals-Revised Total Coliform Rule (RTCR)		Number Required	Number Completed	Corrective Actions Required	Corrective Actions Completed	
Coliform Bacteria Samples		96	111	Coliform +: 1 E.coli +: 0		
Level 1 Assessment - Total Coliform		0	0	0	0	

Total coliform bacteria are generally not harmful themselves. Coliforms are bacteria which are naturally present in the environment and are used as an indicator that other potentially harmful bacteria may be present.

## The City of New Brunswick Water Utility, PWSID NJ1214001 - 2017 Wholesale Supply Data

Inorganic Chemicals		MCLG	MCL	Level Detected	Violation	Likely Source
Barium	Test Results Year 2017	2 ppm	2 ppm	Highest: 0.026 ppm	N	Discharge of drilling wastes, metal refineries, and erosion of natural deposits
Nickel	Test Results Year 2017			Highest: 0.96 ppb	N	Runoff from fertilizer, leaching from septic tanks, sewage, and erosion of natural deposits
Nitrate (as Nitrogen)	Test Results Year 2017	10 ppm	10 ppm	Highest: 0.92 ppm	N	Corrosion of household plumbing systems and erosion of natural deposits
Turbidity		MCLG	MCL	Level Detected	Violation	Likely Source
Turbidity		n/a	TT: 1 NTU; 5% samples/month below NTU	0.26 Range: 100% <0.3	N	Soil runoff
Secondary Contaminants		RUL		Level Found	Violation	Likely Source
Aluminum	Test Results Year 2017	200 ppb	0.3 ppm	Max Detect: 48.6	N	Byproduct of drinking water disinfection
Sodium	Test Results Year 2017	50 ppm	0.3 ppm	Max Detect: 26	N	Byproduct of drinking water disinfection
Zinc	Test Results Year 2017	5000 ppb	0.3 ppm	Max Detect: 1.6	N	Byproduct of drinking water disinfection
TOC Removal Ratio		MCLG	MCL	Level Found	Violation	Likely Source
TOC Removal Ratio		n/a	RAA>1.0	Lowest: 1.34 rra Monthly Range: 1.14-1.57	N	Naturally present in the environment
Unregulated Contaminants		MCLG	MCL	Level Found	Violation	Likely Source
Perfluoro Butanoic Acid (PFBA)		n/a	n/a	0.011 ppb	N	Used in the manufacture of fluoropolymers
Perfluoro Octane Sulfonic Acid (PFOS)		n/a	n/a	0.0072 ppb	N	Used in the manufacture of fluoropolymers
Perfluoro Octanoic Acid (PFOA)		n/a	n/a	0.008 ppb	N	Used in the manufacture of fluoropolymers
Strontium		n/a	n/a	84-95 ppb	N	Erosion of natural deposits
Vanadium		n/a	n/a	ND-0.70 ppb	N	Erosion of natural deposits

### definitions

ppm Parts Per Million: equivalent of one second in 12 days  
 ppb Parts Per Billion: equivalent of one second in 32 years  
 pCi/L Picocuries Per Liter: equivalent of one second in 32 million years

NA Not Applicable	CU Color Unit
ND Not Detected	RUL Recommended Upper Limit
NTU Nephelometric Turbidity Unit	TON Threshold Odor Number
AL Action Level	RAA Running Annual Average

## ***For Your Safety***

### **A Message for People with Compromised Immune Systems**

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 healthcare 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 Consideration 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 90 adults. For this reason, reproductive or developmental effects are used for calculating a drinking water standard if these effects over a 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 in the calculation of the drinking water standard, thus making the standard more stringent, to account for additional uncertainties regarding these effects. In cases of lead and nitrate, effects on infants and children are the health endpoints upon which standards are based.

## **definitions**

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

**MCL Maximum Contaminant Level:** 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.

**MCLG Maximum Contaminant 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 disinfectant to control microbial contamination.

**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.

**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:** 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.

**Disinfection Byproduct Precursors:** 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.

**Turbidity:** Cloudiness in water. Turbidity can hinder the effectiveness of disinfectants.

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## source water assessment

The NJ Department of Environmental Protection (NJDEP) has prepared Source Water Assessment Reports and Summaries for all public water systems in 2004. Further information on the Source Water Assessment Program can be obtained by logging onto NJDEP's Source Water Assessment Website at: [http://www.nj.gov/dep/swap/reports/sumdoc\\_1214001](http://www.nj.gov/dep/swap/reports/sumdoc_1214001)

**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.

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## where to direct questions

If you have any questions about this report or concerning your water utility, please call the Milltown Water Department at 732-828-2100, ext. 137. We want our valued customers to be informed about their drinking water; if you want to learn more, please attend our regularly scheduled public meetings.

We at the Borough of Milltown work hard to provide top quality water to every tap. We ask that all our customers help us protect our water sources; they are the heart of our community, our way of life, and our children's future.

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## violations

**ALE for LEAD:** The Lead action level was exceeded during the Semi-annual monitoring period 01-01-2017 to 6-30-2017 for the following sample point ID: Distribution System. The 90th percentile value for forty two (42) samples collected between June 16 and 23, 2017 was 20.9 ppb which exceeded the action level of 15 ppb. Until further test results continue to show that we stay at or below the action level (AL) of 15ppb we will continue semiannual sampling. A second round of sampling was performed in October 2017. The 90th percentile for forty one (41) samples collected in October 2017 was 14.85 ppb; below the 15 ppb action level(AL).

The Lead and Copper Plan has also been revised and resubmitted to the DEP for approval.

The Borough encourages any resident with a lead service line to arrange to have it replaced, as this will greatly reduce the potential for lead exposure.

**WQP Sampling:** 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 1/1/2017 and 6/30/2017 compliance period, we did not complete all monitoring or testing for Calcium, Temp, pH, Conductivity and Total Alkalinity under the Water Quality Parameters requirements, and therefore cannot be sure of the quality of your drinking water during that time. Water Quality Parameters testing was performed on 8/23/17 and 9/8/2017.

## how does drinking water become contaminated?

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 radio-active materials, and can pick up substances resulting from human or animal 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, livestock operations, and wildlife.

**Inorganic contaminants**, such as salts and metals, which may be naturally-occurring or result from urban storm water runoff, industrial or domestic wastewater discharges, oil or gas production, mining, or farming.

**Pesticides and herbicides**, which may come from a variety of sources, such as agriculture, urban storm water runoff, and residential uses.

**Radioactive contaminants**, which may be naturally-occurring or be the result of oil and gas production and mining activities.

**Organic chemical contaminants**, including synthetic or volatile organic chemicals, which may include pesticides and herbicides. They may come from a variety of sources such as agriculture, urban storm water runoff, and residential uses or by-products of industrial processes, petroleum production, gas stations, or septic systems.

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.

**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 Borough of Milltown is 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:

[www.epa.gov/safewater/lead](http://www.epa.gov/safewater/lead)

**Nitrate** in drinking water, at levels above 10 ppm, is a health risk for infants of less than six months of age. High nitrate levels in drinking water can cause blue baby syndrome. Nitrate levels may rise quickly for short periods of time because of rainfall or agricultural activity. If you are caring for an infant you should ask advice from your health care provider.

We constantly monitor the water supply for various contaminants. We detected radon in 2006 in the finished water supply at 160 pCi/L. There is no federal regulation for radon levels in drinking water. Exposure to air transmitted radon over a long period of time may cause adverse health effects.