

STOP THE FLOW



BOROUGH OF ELMWOOD PARK

Municipal Building
182 Market Street
Elmwood Park, NJ 07407

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Licensed Water Operator

De Block Environmental Services, LLC

Quality on Tap Report
Annual Drinking Water Quality Report
Elmwood Park Water Department
For the Year 2011
Public Water System ID # 0211001

Dear Consumer:

During calendar year 2011, the Borough of Elmwood Park water supply was tested for over 80 contaminants that might be found in water. These tests included items ranging from taste and odor to bacteriological and chemical contaminants. The United States Environmental Protection Agency (USEPA) and the New Jersey Department of Environmental Protection (NJDEP) set health and safety standards for public water supplies. We are pleased to inform you that your water meets or exceeds the health and safety standards put forth.

This annual Consumer Confidence Report (CCR), required by the Safe Drinking Water Act (SDWA), provides additional information on our sources of supply and the quality of the water we deliver. For more information on this report or about the next opportunity for public participation in decisions concerning drinking water, please contact;

Robert De Block, Licensed Water System Operator
Borough of Elmwood Park
182 Market Street
Elmwood Park, New Jersey 07407
973-998-9100

The Elmwood Park Water Department is a division of local government working under the direction of the Mayor and Council. All meetings of the Mayor and Council are advertised in advance in the legal section of the local newspaper. The Elmwood Park Water Department will notify consumers as required by the NJDEP if water quality fails to meet the standards.

General Information

Rivers, lakes, streams, ponds, reservoirs, springs and wells are sources for both tap water and bottled water. As water travels over the surface of land or through the ground, it dissolves naturally occurring minerals and in some cases, radioactive material, and picks 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 the result from urban storm water runoff, and residential uses.
- Pesticides and herbicides, which may come from a variety of sources such as agriculture, urban storm water runoff, industrial or domestic wastewater discharges, oil and gas production, mining or farming.
- 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 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, 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.

Drinking water, including bottled water, may reasonably be expected to contain at least small amounts of some contaminants. However, the presence of a contaminant does not necessarily indicate that the water poses a health risk.

Health and Educational Information

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 providers. EPA/CDC guidelines on the appropriate means to lessen the risk of infections by cryptosporidium and other microbial contaminants are available from the EPA's Safe Drinking Water Hotline at 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, especially 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 the additional uncertainties regarding these effects. In the case of lead and nitrate, effects on infants and children are the health endpoints upon which the standard is based.

Sources of Supply

The Elmwood Park water supply obtains its entire water supply from the Passaic Valley Water Commission (PVWC). Sources of supply include the Passaic River, and treated water that is supplied by the North Jersey District Water Supply Commission (NJDWSC). NJDWSC obtains water its supply from the Wanaque Reservoir.

Treatment

Water produced by the PVWC is treated at their water treatment plant in Little Falls. The NJDWSC supply is treated at their water treatment plant in Wanaque. The treatment at these plants includes pretreatment, sedimentation, filtration and disinfection.

The Borough of Elmwood Park, PVWC and the NJDWSC Water Quality Tables below list all the drinking water contaminants that were detected during calendar year 2011. The presence of these contaminants in the water does not necessarily indicate that the water poses a health risk. Unless otherwise noted, the data presented in this table is from January 1, 2011 through December 31, 2011. The NJDEP requires us to monitor for certain contaminants less than once per year because the concentrations of these contaminants are not expected to vary significantly from year to year. Some of the data, though representative of the water quality, may be more than one year old.

Table 1
Elmwood Park Water Department - Water Quality Report

Microbiological Contaminants

Regulated Contaminant	Units	COMPLIANCE ACCHIEVED	MCLG	MCL	Highest Level	Source of Contamination
Total Coliform Bacteria	NA	Yes	0	Less than 1 positive sample per month	No positive samples recorded	Coliform are bacteria that are naturally present in the environment and are used as an indicator that other, potentially harmful bacteria may be present.

The Elmwood Park Water Department collects 21 routine total coliform samples per month.

REGULATED DISINFECTANTS and DISINFECTION BYPRODUCTS

Regulated Contaminant	UNIT	COMPLIANCE ACCHIEVED	MCL	MRDLG	Average Result	Range Detected	Source of Contamination/ and Comments
Chlorine as CL2 (Running avg.)	PPM	Yes	4	4	.9	.1 - 1.6	Chlorine is used as a drinking water disinfectant.
Total Trihalomethanes (TTHM) Stage 1	PPM	Yes	.08 Annual Running Average	NA	.057 (Highest Running Average)	.029 - .085	Byproduct of water disinfection. / TTHM compliance is based on running annual average.
Haloacetic Acids (HAA5) Stage 1	PPM	Yes	.06 Annual Running Average	NA	.043 (Highest Running Average)	.014 - .047	Byproduct of water disinfection. / TTHM compliance is based on running annual average.

Secondary Contaminants

Regulated Contaminant	Units	COMPLIANCE ACCHIEVED	RUL	Highest Detected	Range Detected	Source of Contamination
Iron	PPM	Yes	.3	< .05	< .05	Erosion of natural deposits, discharge of drilling waste and discharge from metal refineries.
Manganese	PPM	Yes	0.05	.004	.004	Erosion of natural deposits.

LEAD AND COPPER. COMPLIANCE WITH THE LEAD AND COPPER RULE IS BASED ON THE 90TH PERCENTILE RESULT FROM POINTS OF USE IN THE DISTRIBUTION SYSTEM COLLECTED IN 2009. ELMWOOD PARK WATER IS ON REDUCED MONITORING, 3 YEAR INTERVALS AND WILL MONITOR NEXT IN 2012.

The NJDEP requires all water systems to monitor their distribution systems for disinfection byproducts including four Trihalomethanes (THM4) and five Haloacetic Acid (HAA5) compounds. The quarterly results for each byproducts group are then used to calculate a running annual average.

MCL's are set at very stringent levels. To understand the possible health effects described for many regulated contaminants, a person would have to drink two liters of water everyday at the MCL level for a lifetime to have a one-in-a-million chance of having the described health effect.

ADDITIONAL INFORMATION

The Safe Drinking Water Act regulations allow monitoring waivers to reduce or eliminate monitoring requirements for asbestos, volatile organic chemicals and synthetic organic chemicals. Our system received monitoring waivers for asbestos and we are not required to monitor for synthetic organic chemicals.

Table 2
Passaic Valley Water Commission Water Quality Report

PRIMARY CONTAMINANTS

Regulated Contaminant	Units	COMPLIANCE ACCHEIVED	MCLG	MCL	Highest Level	Range Detected	Source of Contamination
Turbidity	NTU	Yes	NA	TT (1 NTU)	.39	.05 - .39	Soil Runoff.
		Yes	NA	TT (% of samples <0.3 NTU) Minimum 95% Required	99.9%	NA	
Total Organic Carbon	%	Yes	NA	TT (25% - 45% Minimum Removal Required)	92%	42% - 92%	Naturally present in the environment.

INORGANIC CONTAMINANTS

Regulated Contaminant	UNIT	COMPLIANCE ACCHEIVED	MCLG	MCL	Highest Result	Range Detected	Source of Contamination/ and Comments
Arsenic	PPB	Yes	0	5	ND	NA	Erosion of natural deposits
Barium	PPM	Yes	2	2	0.023	0.013 - 0.023	Erosion of natural deposits.
Bromate	PPB	Yes	0	10	ND	NA	By-product of drinking water disinfection.
Chromium	PPB	Yes	100	100	ND	NA	Erosion of natural deposits, discharge from steel & pulp mills.
Fluoride	PPM	Yes	4	4	.34	.08-.34	Erosion of natural deposits, water additive which promotes strong teeth; discharge from fertilizer and aluminum factories.
Nickel	PPB	NA	NA	NA	2.9	2.0-2.9	Erosion of natural deposits
Nitrate	PPM	Yes	10	10	2.56	0.52 - 2.56	Runoff from fertilizer use; leaching from septic tanks; sewage and erosion of natural deposits.
Selenium	PPB	Yes	50	50	.65	ND - .65	Erosion of natural deposits, discharge from steel and pulp mills.

SECONDARY CONTAMINANTS:

Detected Secondary Analytes	UNIT	RUL Achieved	RUL	Range of Result	Likely Source of Contamination/ And Comments
Alkalinity	PPM	NA	NA	48 - 60	
Aluminum	PPB	YES	200	10 - 27	
Chloride	PPM	YES	250	49 - 186	Natural mineral and road salt.
Color	CU	YES	10	ND - 1	
Corrosivity		YES	Non-Corrosive	Non - Corrosive	
Hardness (as CaCo3)	PPM	YES	250	74 - 118	Natural mineral deposits
Hardness (as CaCo3)	Grains /Gal	YES	14.6	4.3 - 6.9	Natural mineral deposits
Iron	PPB	YES	300	ND	Natural mineral deposits.
Manganese	PPB	YES	50	2 - 9	Natural mineral deposits.
Odor	TON	NO	3	4 - 5	
pH	SU	YES	6.5 to 8.5	8.1 - 8.3	
Sodium	PPM	NO	50	42 - 187	PVWC was above New Jersey's 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 recommended upper limit may be a concern to individuals on a sodium restricted diet.
Sulfate	PPM	Yes	250	41 - 81	
TDS	PPM	Yes	500	182 - 464	
Zinc	PPB	YES	5000	1.8 - 6.4	Natural mineral deposits

Table 2

Passaic Valley Water Commission Water Quality Report – continued

RADIOLOGICAL CONTAMINANTS

Regulated Contaminant	UNIT	COMPLIANCE ACCHEIVED	MCLG	MCL	Highest Result	Range Detected	Source of Contamination/ and Comments
Alpha Emitters	pC/L	Yes	0	15	ND	NA	Erosion of natural deposits
Combined Radium	pC/L	Yes	0	5	ND	NA	Erosion of natural deposits
Uranium	PPB	Yes	0	30	ND	NA	Erosion of natural deposits

Table 3

NJDWSC Water Quality Report

PRIMARY CONTAMINANTS

Regulated Contaminant	Units	COMPLIANCE ACCHEIVED	MCLG	MCL	Highest Level	Range Detected	Source of Contamination
Turbidity	NTU	Yes	NA	TT (1 NTU)	.44	.06 - 44	Soil Runoff.
		Yes	NA	TT (% of samples <0.3 NTU) Minimum 95% Required	100.0%	99.9	
Total Organic Carbon	%	Yes	NA	TT (35% - Minimum Removal Required)	30%	30% - 52%	Naturally present in the environment.

INORGANIC CONTAMINANTS

Regulated Contaminant	UNIT	COMPLIANCE ACCHEIVED	MCLG	MCL	Highest Result	Range Detected	Source of Contamination/ and Comments
Arsenic	PPB	Yes	0	5	ND	NA	Erosion of natural deposits
Barium	PPM	Yes	2	2	0.011	NA	Erosion of natural deposits, discharge of drilling waste and discharge from metal refineries.
Bromate	PPB	Yes	0	10	ND	NA	By-product of drinking water disinfection.
Chromium	PPB	Yes	100	100	ND	NA	Erosion of natural deposits, discharge steel and pulp mills.
Fluoride	PPM	Yes	4	4	ND	NA	Erosion of natural deposits, water additive which promotes strong teeth; discharge from fertilizer and aluminum factories.
Nickel	PPB	NA	NA	NA	ND	NA	Erosion of natural deposits
Nitrate	PPM	Yes	10	10	0.26	NA	Runoff from fertilizer use; leaching from septic tanks; sewage and erosion of natural deposits.
Selenium	PPB	Yes	50	50	ND	NA	Erosion of natural deposits, discharge from steel and pulp mills.

RADIOLOGICAL CONTAMINANTS

Regulated Contaminant	UNIT	COMPLIANCE ACCHEIVED	MCLG	MCL	Highest Result	Range Detected	Source of Contamination/ and Comments
Alpha Emitters	pC/L	Yes	0	15	ND	NA	Erosion of natural deposits
Combined Radium	pC/L	Yes	0	5	ND	NA	Erosion of natural deposits
Uranium	PPB	Yes	0	30	ND	NA	Erosion of natural deposits

Table 3
NJDWSC Water Quality Report – continued

SECONDARY CONTAMINANTS:

Detected Secondary Analytes	UNIT	RUL Achieved	RUL	Results	Likely Source of Contamination/ And Comments
Alkalinity	PPM	NA	NA	37	
Aluminum	PPB	YES	200	31	
Chloride	PPM	YES	250	52	Natural mineral and road salt.
Color	CU	YES	10	3	
Corrosivity		NO	Corrosive	Corrosive	
Hardness (as CaCo3)	PPM	YES	250	65	Natural mineral deposits
Hardness (as CaCo3)	Grains /Gal	YES	14.6	3.8	Natural mineral deposits
Iron	PPB	YES	300	23	Natural mineral deposits.
Manganese	PPB	YES	50	3	Natural mineral deposits.
Odor	TON	YES	3	1	
pH	SU	YES	6.5 to 8.5	7.7	
Sodium	PPM	YES	50	28	Natural mineral deposits and road salt
Sulfate	PPM	YES	250	20	
TDS	PPM	YES	500	142	
Zinc	PPB	YES	5000	5	Natural mineral deposits

SOURCE WATER ASSESSMENT

The NJDEP has prepared Source Water Assessment reports and summaries for all public water systems. The Source Water Assessment and related questions for the PVWC system (PWSID 1605002) as well as the NJDWSC (PWSID 1613001), can be obtained by lodging onto NJDEP's source water assessment web site at www.state.nj.us/dep/swap or by contacting NJDEP's Bureau of Safe Drinking Water at 609-292-5550. If a system is rate highly susceptible for a contamination category, it does not mean a customer is – or will be – consuming contaminated 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. The source water assessments performed on the intakes for each system lists the following susceptibility ratings as indicated in Table 4. Contaminants that may be present in source water include:

Source Water Table 1

Intake Susceptibility Ratings

Intakes	<i>Pathogens</i>	<i>Nutrients</i>	<i>Pesticides</i>	<i>Volatile Organic Compounds</i>	<i>Inorganic Contaminants</i>	<i>Radio-nuclides</i>	<i>Radon</i>	<i>Disinfection Byproduct Precursors</i>
PVWC – 4 Surface Water	4-High	4-High	1 – Medium 3 - Low	4 - Medium	4-High	4-Low	4-Low	4-High
NJDWSC – 5 Surface Water	5-High	5-High	2 – Medium 3 - Low	5 - Medium	5-High	5-Low	5-Low	5-High

Source Water Table 2

Source Water Pathogen Monitoring – PVWC Source waters 2008 Data

Contaminant	<i>Pompton River</i>	<i>Passaic River</i>	<i>Typical Source</i>
Cryptosporidium, Oocysts/L	0 – 0.4	0 - 0.2	Microbial Pathogens found in surface water throughout the United States.
Giardia, Cysts/L	0 - 0.9	0 – 0.6	Microbial Pathogens found in surface water throughout the United States.
E.coli per 100 ml	16.1 – greater than 2419.6	25.6 – greater than 1553.1	Human and animal fecal waste.

Source Water Table 3

Additional Monitoring – 2011 Data

Contaminant	<i>PVWC Intake Highest Result</i>	<i>PVWC Intake Range of Results</i>	<i>PVWC Plant Effluent Highest Result</i>	<i>PVWC Plant Effluent Range of Results</i>
Perfluorooctanoic Acid (PFOA), PPB	0.015	ND – 0.015	0.013	ND - 0.013
Perfluorooctanoic Sulfonate (PFOS), PPB	0.011	ND – 0.011	0.012	ND - 0.012
Perchlorate, PPB	0.21	0.09 – 0.21	0.27	0.15 - 0.27

General Notes

Cryptosporidium is a microbial pathogen found in surface water throughout the US. Although filtration removes Cryptosporidium, the most commonly used filtration methods cannot guarantee 100 percent removal. PVWC monitoring indicates the presence of these organisms in our source water. Current test methods do not allow us to determine if the organisms are dead or if they are 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 may be spread through means other than drinking water.

Source Water Table 3 presents data collected by the NJDEP as part of a preliminary study to determine the general occurrence of PFOA, PFOS and Perchlorate in surface water in New Jersey. Currently there is no drinking water standard for these compounds. PVWC continues to participate in and support these types of regulatory and research efforts to maintain a position of leadership in cutting edge water treatment technology. Additional information can be found at <http://www.epa.gov/opptintr/pfoa/index.html>.

Sodium – PVWC was above New Jersey's 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 may be of concern to individuals on a sodium restricted diet.

Lead & Copper - The Borough of Elmwood Park is on a reduced monitoring program for lead and copper and was did not conduct monitoring in 2011. In 2009 the Department collected over 30 samples from residences throughout the distribution system. The number reported is the 90th percentile or more correctly the highest sample reported for the 27th sample. All samples collected were in compliance with the action levels established by the NJDEP and USEPA. Please note the following;

Infants and young children are typically more vulnerable to lead in drinking water than the general population. It is possible that lead levels at your home may be higher than at other homes in the community as a result of material used in your homes plumbing. If you are concerned about elevated lead levels in your homes water, you may wish to have your water tested. Flushing your tap for 30 seconds to 2 minutes before using tap water can reduce the levels of lead. Additional information is available from the Safe Drinking Water Hot Line (800-426-4791).

The Borough of Elmwood Park is pleased to provide you this information along with the results compiled by the PVWC. Please note that Elmwood Park receives a blend of water from the PVWC and NJDWAC.

This booklet contains important information about the water in your community. Translate or speak to someone who understands it well.

El informe contiene informacion impotante sobre calidad del agua en su comunidad. Traduzcalo o hable con alguien que lo entienda bien.

La reiazione contiene importanti informazioni su la del qualita del acqua de la Comunita. Tradurio o parfame con un amico che lo comprenda.

Definitions

In the following table, you will find many terms and abbreviations you might not be familiar with. To help you better understand these terms: we've provided the following definitions:

<u>Term</u>	<u>Description</u>
AL	<u>Action Level</u> : The concentration of contaminant which, if exceeded, triggers treatment or other requirements which a water system must follow.
MCL	<u>Maximum Contaminant Level</u> is the highest level of contaminant that is allowed in the drinking water. MCLs are set as close as to the MCLGs as feasible using the best available treatment technology.
MCLG	<u>Maximum Contaminant Level Goal</u> is the level of a contaminant in drinking water below which there is no known expected risk to health MCLGs allow a margin of safety.
MRDL	<u>Maximum Residual Disinfectant Level</u> is the highest level of disinfectant allowed in drinking water. There is convincing evidence that addition of a disinfectant is necessary for control of microbial contaminants.
MRDLG	<u>Maximum Residual Disinfectant Level Goal</u> the level of disinfectant allowed in drinking water below which there is no known or expected risk to health. MRDLG's do not reflect the benefits of the use of disinfectants to control microbial contaminants.
Mrem/yr.	<u>Millirems per year</u> is a measure of radiation absorbed by the body.
MFL	<u>Million fibers per liter</u> is a measure of the presence of Asbestos fibers that are longer than 10 micrometers.
NA	Not Applicable
ND	<u>Not Detected</u> is a term used when a laboratory analysis demonstrates that the constituent is not present.
NS	<u>No Standard</u>
NTU	<u>Nephelometric Turbidity Unit</u> is the measure of the clarity of water. Turbidity is excess of 5 NTU is just noticeable to the average person.
pC/L	<u>Picocuries per liter</u> is a measure of radioactivity in water.
PPB	<u>Parts per billion</u> or micrograms per liter equals one part per billion and corresponds to one minute in 2,000 years, or a single penny in \$10,000,000.
POE	<u>Point of Entry</u> to the water distribution system
PPM	<u>Parts per Million</u> or milligrams per liter (mg/l) equals one part per million and corresponds to one minute in to years or a single penny in \$10,000.
RUL	<u>Recommended Upper Limit</u> : the highest level of a constituent of drinking water that is recommended in order to protect aesthetic quality.
SMCL	<u>Secondary Maximum Contaminant Level</u> is Federal drinking water measurements for substances that do not have an impact on health. These reflect aesthetic qualities such as odor, taste, or appearance. Secondary standards are recommendations, not mandates.
TT	<u>Treatment Technique</u> is a required process intended to reduce the level of contaminant in drinking water.

**Borough of Elmwood Park
Water Department
182 Market Street
Elmwood Park, NJ 07407**

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CONSUMER CONFIDENCE REPORT 2011 WATER SYSTEM