

How Does The City of Bridgeton's Water Measure Up?

This annual report, which covers some of 2011 and all of 2012, describes the quality of our drinking water, where it comes from and where to get more information.

Consumers of the City of Bridgeton Water Department receive their drinking water from eight different wells throughout the City that take water from the Cohansey, and the Piney Point underground aquifers.

Help us protect our source water. Carefully follow instructions of pesticides and herbicides you use for your lawn and garden, and properly dispose of household chemicals, paints and waste oil.

The sources of drinking water (both tap and bottled water) include rivers, lakes, streams, ponds, reservoirs, natural 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 animal 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 operations 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 projection, 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 also can come from gas station, 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.

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 amount of some contaminants. The presence of contaminants does not necessarily indicate that water poses a health risk. More information about contaminants and potential health effects can be obtained by calling the U.S. Environmental Protection Agency's (EPA) Safe Drinking Water Hotline (1-800-426-4791).

For more information about your drinking water, please contact Mark Lavenberg, at (856) 455-7257. Members of the public are encouraged to provide their input by attending City Council meetings. These are normally scheduled for the first and third Tuesday of every month and are located at 330 Fayette Street, Bridgeton, NJ in Council Chambers at 6:00 p.m.

*****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 City of Bridgeton Water Department 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 seconds to 2 minutes before using water for drinking or cooking. If you are concerned about lead in your water, you may wish to have your water tested. Information on lead in drinking water is available from the Safe Drinking Water Hotline or at <http://www.epa.gov/safewater/lead>.***

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