PWS ID# NJ0502001

Annual Drinking Water Quality Report

The City of Cape May Water Department

For the Year 2013, Results from the Year 2012

We are pleased to present to you 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. 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.

Our water source: We are committed to ensuring the quality of your water. Our water source is wells. Our five wells draw groundwater from the Cohansey Aquifer and the Atlantic City 800 Foot Sands. The New Jersey Department of Environmental Protection (NJDEP) has completed and issued the Source Water Assessment Report and Summary for this public water system, which is available at 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 to obtain information regarding your water system's Source Water Assessment. This Cape May City's water system's source water susceptibility ratings and a list of potential contaminant sources is attached.

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).

The City of Cape May Water Department routinely monitors for contaminants in your drinking water according to Federal and State laws. This table shows the results of our monitoring for the period of January 1st to December 31st, 2012. The state allows us to monitor for some contaminants less than once per year because the concentrations of these contaminants do not change frequently. Some of our data, though representative, are more than one year old.

TEST RESULTS

Contaminant	Violation Y/N	Level Detected	Units of Measurement	MCLG	MCL	Likely Source of Contamination
Radioactive Contaminants:						
Combined Radium 228 & 226 Test results Yr. 2012	N	1.5	pCi/1	0	5	Erosion of natural deposits
Inorganic Contaminants:						
Arsenic Test results Yr. 2012	N	0.8	ppb	N/A	5	Erosion of natural deposits; runoff from orchards; runoff from glass and electronics production wastes
Barium Test results Yr. 2012	N	0.001	ppm	2	2	Discharge of drilling wastes; discharge from metal refineries; erosion of natural deposits
Copper Test results Yr. 2011 Result at 90th Percentile	N	0.2 No samples exceeded the action level.	ppm	1.3	AL=1.3	Corrosion of household plumbing systems; erosion of natural deposits
Lead Test results Yr. 2011 Result at 90th Percentile	N	8.2 No samples exceeded the action level.	ppb	0	AL=15	Corrosion of household plumbing systems, erosion of natural deposits
Mercury (inorganic) Test results Yr. 2012	N	0.1	ppb	2	2	Erosion of natural deposits; discharge from refineries and factories; runoff from landfills; runoff from cropland
Nickel Test results Yr. 2012	N	0.6	ppb	N/A	N/A	Erosion of natural deposits
Selenium Test results Yr. 2012	N	3.5	ppb	50	50	Discharge from petroleum and metal refineries; erosion of natural deposits; discharge from mines
Volatile Organic Contaminants / Disinfection By-Products:						
TTHM Total Trihalomethanes Test results Yr. 2012	N	15.3	ppb	N/A	80	By-product of drinking water disinfection
HAA5 Haloacetic Acids Test results Yr. 2012	N	1.5	ppb	N/A	60	By-product of drinking water disinfection

Regulated Disinfectants	Level Detected	MRDL	MRDLG
Chlorine	Average = 0.7 ppm	4.0 ppm	4.0 ppm

For additional Information: If you have any questions about this report or concerning your water utility, please contact Carl Behrens at 609-884-9575. We want our valued customers to be informed about their water utility. If you want to learn more, please attend any of our regularly scheduled City Council meetings at City Hall, 643 Washington Street. Meetings are held on the first and third Tuesdays of each month. The first Tuesday's meeting is at 1:00 pm and the third Tuesday meeting is at 7:00 pm. You can also visit our web-site at: www.CapeMayCity.com

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.

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:

Non-Detects (ND) - laboratory analysis indicates that the constituent is not present.

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.

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.

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

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

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 City of Cape May Water Department is responsible for providing high quality drinking water, but can not 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.

Waivers: 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 all of these types of contaminants.

Water Quality: To ensure the continued quality of our water we use a reverse osmosis process to protect against potentially harmful contaminants, lime for Ph adjustment and sodium hypo-chlorite for disinfection.

We at Cape May City 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.

Cape May Water and Sewage Utility- PWSID # 0502001

Cape May Water and Sewage Utility is a public community water system consisting of 4 well(s), 0 wells under the influence of surface water, 0 surface water intake(s), 1 purchased ground water source(s), and 0 purchased surface water source(s).

This system's source water comes from the following aquifer(s) and/or surface water body(s) (if applicable): Kirkwood-Cohansey water-table aquifer system

This system purchases water from the following water system(s) (if applicable): LOWER TWP MUA

Susceptibility Ratings for Cape May Water and Sewage Utility Sources

The table below illustrates the susceptibility ratings for the seven contaminant categories (and radon) for each source in the system. The table provides the number of wells and intakes that rated high (H), medium (M), or low (L) for each contaminant category. For susceptibility ratings of purchased water, refer to the specific water system's source water assessment report.

The seven contaminant categories are defined at the bottom of this page. DEP considered all surface water highly susceptible to pathogens, therefore all intakes received a high rating for the pathogen category. For the purpose of Source Water Assessment Program, radionuclides are more of a concern for ground water than surface water. As a result, surface water intakes' susceptibility to radionuclides was not determined and they all received a low rating.

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.

	Pathogens			Nutrients			Pesticides			Volatile Organic Compounds			Inorganics			Radio-nuclides			Radon			Disinfection Byproduct Precursors		
Sources	H	M	L	H	M	L	H	M	L	H	M	L	H	M	L	H	M	L	H	M	L	H	M	L
Wells - 4			4			4			4			4			4			4			4	4		
GUDI - 0																								
Surface water intakes - 0																								

- **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.
- **Radionuclides:** Radioactive substances that are both naturally occurring and man-made. Examples include radium and uranium.
- **Radon:** Colorless, odorless, cancer-causing gas that occurs naturally in the environment. For more information go to http://www.nj.gov/dep/rpp/radon/index.htm or call (800) 648-0394.
- **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.

CONSERVATION REMINDER

The City of Cape May Water/Sewer Utility requests that each customer become aware of REQUIRED WATER CONSERVATION ORDINANCE NO. 1025-94.
Copies are available in the Utility Office at the above address between 8:30 a.m. and 4:30 p.m., or call 884-9575.

Restrictions are as follows:

1. Outdoor watering of lawns, plants and gardens is prohibited between the hours of 10:00 a.m. to 6:00 p.m. from May 15 through September 15.
   a. Watering shall be permitted before 10:00 a.m. and after 6:00 p.m. West of Madison Avenue on odd numbered days (1, 3, 5, etc.)
   b. Watering shall be permitted before 10:00 a.m. and after 6:00 p.m. East of Madison Avenue on even numbered days (2, 4, 6, etc.)

2. No outdoor watering shall be permitted at any time on Saturdays, Sundays, or Federal Holidays from May 15 through September 15.

3. No car washing shall be permitted at any time on Saturdays, Sundays or Federal Holidays from May 15 through September 15.

4. Washing of sidewalks and driveways by hose is prohibited except in emergencies or circumstances approved in advance by the Superintendent.

5. All automatic irrigation or sprinkler systems shall have rain sensor devices or switches to override the automatic irrigation or sprinkler cycle when adequate rainfall has occurred. Any system without a rain sensor device is in violation.

6. Automatic shut-off nozzles shall be used on hoses for outdoor washing (vehicles, boats, windows, etc.).

WATER CONSERVATION SUGGESTIONS

Morning is the best time to water most lawn areas and the earlier the better. As the sun rises so does the mercury. After about 10 a.m. heat steals moisture from your lawn through evaporation. When you water **EARLY**, you can water **LESS** because more of the water is absorbed into your lawn. You save time and money when you water at daybreak.

Watering during the heat of the day can actually harm your lawn. "Scald" or "burn" damage occurs when hot sunlight hits water droplets that cling to leaves. The tiny droplets imitate powerful, miniature magnifying glasses.

Don't drizzle. A light sprinkling is the **LEAST EFFECTIVE** method of watering. In fact, it can damage your lawn. A good soaking gets to the "root" of the problem by encouraging deep, solid root growth. Lawns without deep root growth are less drought resistant and more prone to winter kill.

Water **ONLY** when your lawn needs it. You don't have to water on a set schedule. Water only when the grass or plants show signs of needing it. To test whether or not your lawn needs a soaking, step on the grass. If it springs back up, you don't need to water. If it stays flat, it's time to water again - in the morning.