

IMPORTANT INFORMATION ABOUT YOUR DRINKING WATER

Wanaque Water Department Does/Did Not Meet Treatment Requirements

Our water system recently violated a drinking water requirement. Although this situation does not require that you take immediate action, as our customers, you have a right to know what happened, what you should do, and what we are doing to correct this situation.

During the months of August 2024, disinfectant residual was undetectable in more than 5% of samples. The standard is that disinfectant may be undetectable in no more than 5% of samples each month for two months in a row.

All samples passed bacteria testing, confirming that the water is safe to drink. Out of the 10 samples collected, 3 were deemed undetectable; despite the presence of chlorine residual, it was not at a NJDEP detectable level. The Wanaque Water Department prioritizes maintaining chlorine in the system, ensuring it is present but not at excessive levels that could affect the taste and quality of the drinking water.

What should I do?

- **There is nothing you need to do.** You do not need to boil your water or take other corrective actions. However, if you have specific health concerns, consult your doctor.
- If you have a severely compromised immune system, have an infant, are pregnant, or are elderly, you may be at increased risk and should seek advice from your healthcare providers about drinking this water. General guidelines on ways to decrease the risk of infection by microbes are available on the EPA Ground Water and Drinking Water Website at <https://www.epa.gov/ground-water-and-drinking-water>.

What does this mean?

This is not an emergency. If it had been, you would have been notified within 24 hours. Tests taken during this same time **did not indicate the presence of bacteria in the water.**

**Inadequately treated water may contain disease-causing organisms. These organisms include bacteria, viruses, and parasites which can cause symptoms such as nausea, cramps, diarrhea, and associated headaches. **

These symptoms, however, are not caused only by organisms in drinking water, but also by other factors. If you experience any of these symptoms and they persist, you may want to seek medical advice.

What is being done?

The Wanaque Water Department continues to closely monitor chlorine residuals throughout the system and is working on upgrades to enhance quality control and water quality.

For more information, please contact Tad J. Skawinski Sr. at 973-839-3000 or 579 Ringwood Avenue, Wanaque NJ 07465

**Please share this information with all the other people who drink this water, especially those who may not have received this notice directly (for example, people in apartments, nursing homes, schools, and businesses). You can do this by posting this notice in a public place or distributing copies by hand or mail. **

This notice is being sent to you by the Wanaque Water Department. State Water System ID#: PWSID NJ1613002

Date distributed: November 2024