

SUEZ

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## CONSUMER CONFIDENCE REPORT

SUEZ Allendale Operations PWSID # NJ0201001

2019 ANNUAL DRINKING WATER QUALITY Report - Issued March 2020

### INTRODUCTION

Providing clean, safe drinking water to you is our top priority. That's why we're pleased to present your annual Consumer Confidence Report (CCR) that details the results of the most recent water quality tests performed on your drinking water through the end of 2019. If at any time you have questions about your water quality or delivery, please call us at 855.367.6708. We want you to be informed about your water supply. **This system is reporting under PWSID # NJ0201001.**

***Este informe contiene información importante acerca de su agua potable. Haga que alguien lo traduzca para usted, ó hable con alguien que lo entienda. (This report contains important information about your drinking water. Have someone translate it for you, or speak with someone who understands it.)***

### WHERE DOES OUR WATER SUPPLY COME FROM?

In Allendale, customers receive their water from five local ground water wells and surface water reservoirs, which include Oradell Reservoir, Woodcliff Lake, and Lake Tappan in Bergen County, New Jersey and Lake DeForest in Rockland County, New York. Water from these surface supplies are treated to meet safe drinking water standards at our Haworth Water Treatment Plant. Lake DeForest and Lake Tappan reservoirs are located on the upper or freshwater portion of the Hackensack River. Woodcliff Lake is located on the Pascack Brook, while the Oradell reservoir is fed by both the Hackensack River and the Pascack Brook. Together they hold about 14 billion gallons of water and cover nearly 6,000 acres. In addition, we are partners with the North Jersey District Water Supply Commission in the Wanaque South Project. This is a regional network of pipelines, pumping stations and reservoirs that can provide up to 60 million gallons of water per day to our customers. From time to time, you may receive water from sources through interconnections with other water suppliers including the Boonton, Wanaque and Monksville reservoirs. You may also receive treated water from our Jersey City Operations, New York Operations, the Park Ridge Water Department, the Passaic Valley Water Commission or the Ridgewood Water Department. The Borough of Allendale maintains emergency interconnections with the Borough of Ramsey and the Village of Ridgewood. Allendale has two water storage tanks, including the 1 million gallon Fairhaven Tank and a 400,000 gallon elevated water storage tank located in Ramsey. EPA Safe Drinking Water Hotline: **800.426.4791**.

### ABOUT THE TREATMENT PROCESS

At SUEZ, our goal is to provide you with drinking water that meets or surpasses all federal and state standards. The Allendale wells are treated with chlorine for disinfection. Water from Allendale well numbers 2, 4, and 15 are also treated at the New Street Water Treatment Plant for removal of volatile organic compounds. Water from SUEZ' treatment plant in Haworth, New Jersey, uses ozone, a form of oxygen, to purify the water and high-rate dissolved air flotation (DAF) for sedimentation and clarification. State-of-the-art DAF technology facilitates improved water quality, enhanced service reliability, reduced chemical and energy usage, and the protection of sensitive ecosystems. Water treated at the plant is also filtered and contains a small amount of chloramine - a combination of chlorine and ammonia - to help ensure the safety of your water. The water you receive from wells or interconnections with other water suppliers is purified with chlorine. To further ensure the safety of your water, we monitor it before, during and after the treatment process. As you can see, we are committed to providing you with top quality water.

## SOURCE WATER ASSESSMENT PROGRAM

Under the Federal Safe Drinking Water Act, all states were required to establish a Source Water Assessment Program (SWAP). New Jersey's SWAP Plan incorporates the following four fundamental steps:

1. Determine the source water assessment area of each ground and surface water source of public drinking water.
2. Inventory the potential contamination sources within the source water assessment area.
3. Determine the public water system source's susceptibility to regulated contaminants. It is important to note, if a drinking water source's susceptibility is high, it does not necessarily mean the drinking water is contaminated. The rating reflects the potential for contamination of source water, not the existence of contamination.
4. Incorporate public education and participation.

In 2004, source water assessment reports were completed by NJDEP for all Community and Noncommunity Water Systems in New Jersey. The source water assessment reports and supporting documentation are available at <http://www.state.nj.us/dep/swap/index.html> or by contacting the NJDEP's Bureau of Safe Drinking Water at **609.292.5550**.

## TAP OR BOTTLED WATER?

A 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 EPA Safe Drinking Water Hotline at 800.426.4791.

The sources of drinking water (for both tap 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 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 production, 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 can also come from gas stations, 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 the 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. So, what's the bottom line? If bottled and tap water meet the federal standards, they are both safe to drink. However, your tap water is substantially less expensive than bottled water.

## MONITORING YOUR WATER

We routinely monitor for contaminants in your drinking water according to **USEPA** regulations. The following tables in this report show the results of our monitoring for the period of January 1 to December 31, 2019. Some of our data is from prior years in accordance with the Safe Drinking Water Act.

**DEFINITIONS:**

Maximum Contaminant Level (MCL): The highest level of a contaminant that is allowed in drinking water. MCLs are set as close to the MCLGs as feasible.

Maximum Contaminant Level Goal (MCLG): 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 (AL): The concentration of a contaminant which, if exceeded, triggers treatment or other requirements which a water system must follow.

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

Not Analyzed or Not Applicable (NA): Analysis of the constituent is not required.

Nephelometric Turbidity Unit (NTU): A measure of the clarity of water. Turbidity in excess of 5 NTU is just noticeable to the average person.

Parts per million (ppm): Corresponds to one part of liquid in one million parts of liquid.

Parts per billion (ppb): Corresponds to one part of liquid in one billion parts of liquid.

Parts per trillion or ng/L (ppt): Equivalent of one grain of sand in an Olympic-size swimming pool.

Picocuries per liter (pCi/L): Picocuries per liter is a measure of the radioactivity in water.

< This means "less than."

Maximum Residual Disinfectant Level (MRDL): 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.

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 disinfectant to control microbial contamination.

Milligrams per liter (mg/l): Corresponds to one part of liquid in one million parts of liquid (Parts per million - ppm)

Running Annual Average (RAA): TTHMs and HAA5 are reported by the annual average of the four quarterly samples for the year.

ND: Not detectable.

CU: Color unit.

S.U.: Standard unit.

**2019 WATER QUALITY RESULTS - TABLE OF DETECTED CONTAMINANTS**

Contaminant	Violation Yes/No	Highest Level Detected (Range of Results)	Unit of Measure	MCLG	Regulatory Limit (MCL, TT or AL)	Likely Source of Contamination
<b>Primary Standards – directly related to the safety of drinking water.</b>						
<b>Microbiological Contaminants (Haworth 2019 Data)</b>						
Turbidity <sup>1</sup>	No	Highest level <sup>2</sup> detected = 0.14 Range = 0.05 - 0.14	NTU	NA	TT=<1.0NTU	Soil runoff
Turbidity	No	100% of samples met limit	NTU	NA	TT=95% of samples <0.3NTU	Soil runoff
<b>Inorganic Contaminants (Haworth 2019 Data and Allendale 2018 Data)</b>						
Arsenic	No	Highest level detected = 2.8 Range of results = 0.55 – 2.8	ppb	0	5	Erosion of natural deposits; runoff from orchards; runoff from glass and electronics production wastes and industrial discharge
Barium	No	Highest level detected = 0.3 Range of results = 0.04 – 0.3	ppm	2	2	Discharge of drilling wastes; discharge from metal refineries; erosion of natural deposits

<b>Chromium (Total)</b>	No	Highest level detected = 6.0 Range of results = 1.0 – 6.0	ppb	100	100	Discharge from steel and pulp mills; erosion of natural deposits
<b>Fluoride</b>	No	Highest level detected = 0.22 Range of results = ND – 0.22	ppm	4	4	Erosion of natural deposits; water additive which promotes strong teeth; discharge from fertilizer and aluminum factories
<b>Nickel</b>	No	Highest level detected = 3.0 Range of results = 1.3 – 3.0	ppb	NA	NA	Erosion of natural deposits
<b>Nitrate as nitrogen</b>	No	Highest level detected = 2.0 Range of results = ND – 2.0	ppm	10	10	Runoff from fertilizer usage; leaching from septic tanks, sewage; erosion of natural deposits
<b>Total Nitrate and Nitrite</b>	No	Highest level detected = 2.0 Range of results = ND – 2.0	ppm	10	10	Runoff from fertilizer usage; leaching from septic tanks, sewage; erosion of natural deposits
<b>Organic Contaminants - Volatile (Haworth and Allendale 2019 Data)</b>						
<b>Tetrachloroethylene<sup>3</sup></b>	Yes	Highest level detected = 4.9 Range of results = ND – 4.9 RAA = 1.6	ppb	0	1	Discharge from factories and dry cleaners
<b>Toluene</b>	No	Highest level detected = 0.75 Range of results = ND – 0.75 RAA = 0.75	ppb	1000	1000	Discharge from petroleum refineries
<b>Organic Disinfection By-Products – Stage 2</b>						
<b>TTHM (Total Trihalomethanes)</b>	No	Range of results = 20 – 56 LRAA <sup>4</sup> = 51	ppb	NA	80	By-product of drinking water disinfection
<b>HAA5 (Haloacetic Acids)</b>	No	Range of results = 1.2 – 25 LRAA = 23	ppb	NA	60	By-product of drinking water disinfection
<b>Bromate (Haworth Plant)</b>	No	Range of results = ND – 1.2 RAA = 0.8	ppb	0	10	By-product of drinking water disinfection
<b>Disinfectant Residual</b>						
<b>Chlorine</b>	No	Highest level detected = 1.09 Range of results = 0.34 – 1.09	ppm	4	4	Water additive to control microbes
<b>Chloroamines</b>	No	Range of results = 0.10 – 2.6 Highest RAA = 0.81	ppm	4	4	Water additive to control microbes
<b>Radionuclides (Allendale 2018 Data)</b>						

Gross Alpha	No	Highest level detected = 7.0 Range of results = 2.0 – 7.0	pCi/L	0	15	Erosion of natural deposits
Uranium	No	Highest level detected = 3.1 Range of results = 2.7 – 3.1	ppb	0	30	Erosion of natural deposits
<b>Perfluoroalkyl Substances (Haworth and Allendale 2019 Data)</b>						
PFNA	No	Highest level detected = 2.6 Range of results = ND – 2.6	ppt	NA	13	Used in products to make them stain, grease, heat and water resistant
<b>Lead and Copper (Allendale 2018 Data)</b>						
Copper <sup>5</sup>	No	90th percentile = 0.63 Range = 0.059 - 0.85 # samples above Action Level = 0	ppm	1.3	AL = 1.3	Corrosion of household plumbing systems; erosion of natural deposits
Lead <sup>6</sup>	No	90th percentile = 7.6 Range = ND – 105 # samples above Action Level = 1	ppb	0	AL = 15	Lead service lines, corrosion of household plumbing including fittings and fixtures; erosion of natural deposits
<b>Lead and Copper – Water Quality Parameters</b>						
<b>SWNJ Interconnection (CC015029)</b>						
Parameter	Minimum Level Detected	Maximum Level Detected	Unit Measure	MCLG	Required Minimum Level	Number of Excursions
pH	7.3	8.0	s.u.	NA	NA	NA
Alkalinity (as CaCO <sub>3</sub> )	69	98	ppm	NA	NA	NA
Orthophosphate (as Total P)	0.24	0.54	ppm	NA	NA	NA
<b>Distribution System</b>						
Parameter	Minimum Level Detected	Maximum Level Detected	Unit Measure	MCL G	Required Minimum Level	Number of Excursions
pH	7.5	7.8	s.u.	NA	NA	NA
Alkalinity (as CaCO <sub>3</sub> )	79	171	ppm	NA	NA	NA
Orthophosphate (as Total P)	0.04	0.39	ppm	NA	NA	NA
<b>Secondary Standards – water quality parameters related to the aesthetic quality of drinking water. (Haworth and Allendale 2019 Data)</b>						
Parameter	RUL Exceeded Yes/No	Highest Level Detected (Range of Results)	Unit Measure	MCLG	RUL	Likely Source
Aluminum	No	Highest level detected = 90 Range of results = ND – 90	ppb	NA	200	Naturally occurring element

<b>Chloride</b>	No	Highest level detected = 242 Range of results = 87 – 242	ppm	NA	250	Naturally occurring element
<b>Color</b>	No	Highest level detected = 3 Range of results = ND – 3	CU	NA	10	Naturally occurring organic matter
<b>Hardness (as CaCO<sub>3</sub>)</b>	No	Highest level detected = 164 Range of results = 97 – 164	ppm	NA	250	Naturally occurring element
<b>pH</b>	No	Highest level detected = 8.4 Range of results = 7.2 – 8.4	s.u.	NA	6.5 – 8.5	Natural property of water
<b>Sodium <sup>7</sup></b>	Yes	Highest level detected = 136 Range of results = 50 – 136	ppm	NA	50	Naturally occurring element
<b>Sulfate</b>	No	Highest level detected = 15	ppm	NA	250	Naturally occurring element
<b>Total Dissolved Solids <sup>8</sup></b>	Yes	Highest level detected = 547 Range of results = 237 – 547	ppm	NA	500	Minerals and salts dissolved in the water
<b>Zinc</b>	No	Highest level detected = 0.36 Range of results = 0.17 – 0.36	ppm	NA	5	Naturally occurring element
<b>Unregulated Substances – for which the EPA requires monitoring.</b>						
<b>Parameter</b>	<b>Violation Yes/No</b>	<b>Highest Level Detected (Range of Results)</b>	<b>Unit Measure</b>	<b>MCLG</b>	<b>MRL</b>	<b>Likely Source</b>
<b>Substance (Haworth and Allendale 2019 Data)</b>						
<b>HAA5</b>	No	Highest level detected = 29 Range of results = 6.7 – 29	ppb	NA	NA	By-product of drinking water disinfection
<b>HAA6Br</b>	No	Highest level detected = 15 Range of results = 4.2 – 15	ppb	NA	NA	By-product of drinking water disinfection
<b>HAA9</b>	No	Highest level detected = 42 Range of results = 12 – 42	ppb	NA	NA	By-product of drinking water disinfection

<b>Manganese</b>	No	Highest level detected = 38 Range of results = ND – 38	ppb	NA	0.4	Naturally occurring element
<b>PFOA</b>	No	Highest level detected = 17 Range of results = 5.8 – 17	ppt	NA	20	Used in manufacturer of fluoropolymers, firefighting foams, cleaners, cosmetics, greases, lubricants, paints, polishes, adhesives and photographic films
<b>PFOS</b>	No	Highest level detected = 17 Range of results = ND – 17	ppt	NA	40	Used in firefighting foam, circuit board etching, cleaners, floor polish, and pesticides
<b>PFBS</b>	No	Highest level detected = 3.9 Range of results = ND – 3.9	ppt	NA	90	Used in products to make them stain, grease, heat and water resistant
<b>PFHpA</b>	No	Highest level detected = 4.2 Range of results = ND – 4.2	ppt	NA	10	Used in products to make them stain, grease, heat and water resistant
<b>PFHxS</b>	No	Highest level detected = 6.3 Range of results = ND – 6.3	ppt	NA	30	Used in products to make them stain, grease, heat and water resistant

#### NOTES:

1. Turbidity is a measure of the cloudiness of the water. We test it because it is a good indicator of the effectiveness of our filtration system. State regulations require that turbidity must always be below 1 NTU at the treatment system. State regulations require that turbidity must always be below 5 NTU in the distribution system and that 95% of the turbidity samples collected (at the treatment system entry point) have measurements below 0.3 NTU.
2. Highest Level Detected is based upon the highest single sample.
3. During two sampling events, 7/10/2019 and 10/9/2019, individual samples had elevated levels, meaning our treatment system failed to consistently remove tetrachloroethylene from the drinking water. Allendale's water system utilizes diffused aeration (i.e. blowers) to inject air bubbles into water tanks to remove VOCs. During operation at the New Street Treatment Plant, the connections inside the treatment device opened, which led to the failure of the unit and the MCL violation. This treatment equipment has been repaired and prior to putting the treatment system back on line, a special purpose sample was collected on 11/25/2019 at the treatment system and was non detect for tetrachloroethylene. Additionally on 11/25/2019, SUEZ installed a safety catch so the connections do not open inside the air diffusers.

A required compliance sample collected on 1/10/2020 for tetrachloroethylene was also non-detect, demonstrating the effectiveness of the remedial measures taken to date.

Since compliance is based on a running annual average, Allendale Water Department continues to exceed the MCL based on the previous elevated sample results and anticipates exceeding the running annual average through the 2nd calendar quarter of 2020.

Tetrachloroethylene, also known as tetrachloroethene, perchloroethylene, perchlor, PCE, and perc, is a chemical manufactured for use in the dry cleaning, metal degreasing and aerospace industry, and is an environmental pollutant. It is a colorless, nonflammable liquid that easily evaporates from water to air with multiple routes of exposure, including direct ingestion of contaminated water and inhalation during bathing.

Some people who drink water containing tetrachloroethylene in excess of the MCL over many years could have problems with their liver, and may have an increased risk of getting cancer.

SUEZ will continue the following corrective actions:

- Install new instrumentation in the air diffusers at the New Street Treatment Plant to monitor pressure through the diffuser in real-time. This is due to be completed by 4/1/2020.
- Increase the frequency of cleaning/inspection of the air diffusers from annual to semiannual. This is due to be completed by 4/1/2020.

4. LRAA=the highest locational running annual average results.

5. The Copper level presented represents the 90th percentile of the 21 sites tested. A percentile is a value on a scale of 100 that indicates the percent of a distribution that is equal to or below it. The 90th percentile is equal to or greater than 90% of the copper values detected at your water system. In this case, 21 samples were collected at your water system and the 90th percentile value was 0.63 ppm value with the highest being 0.85 ppm. The action level for copper was not exceeded at any of the sites tested.

6. The Lead level presented represents the 90th percentile of the 21 sites tested. A percentile is a value on a scale of 100 that indicates the percent of a distribution that is equal to or below it. The 90th percentile is equal to or greater than 90% of the lead values detected at your water system. In this case, 21 samples were collected at your water system and the 90th percentile value was 7.6 ppb with the highest value being 105 ppb. One site exceeded the action level for lead.

7. Health Note for Sodium: Water containing more than 20 ppm of sodium should not be used for drinking water by people on diets that severely restrict sodium. Water containing more than 270 ppm of sodium should not be used for drinking by people on diets that moderately restrict sodium. SUEZ 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 RUL may be of concern to individuals on a sodium restricted diet. Please see additional sodium information on page 9.

8. Note on exceedences: Secondary standards are non-mandatory guidelines to assist public water systems in managing their drinking water for aesthetic considerations, such as taste, color and odor. These contaminants are not considered to present a risk to human health.

## WAIVER INFORMATION

The Safe Drinking Water Act (SDWA) regulations allow monitoring waivers to reduce or eliminate the monitoring requirements for asbestos, volatile organic chemicals (VOCs) and synthetic organic chemicals (SOCs). Our system received monitoring waivers for SOCs because we are not vulnerable to this type of contamination.

## IMPORTANT INFORMATION

Please pass this information along to those who speak Spanish, Portuguese, Korean, Gujarati or Arabic:

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

• Este reporte contem informações importantes sobre a sua água de beber. Traduza-o ou fale com alguém que o compreenda.

• 아래의 보고는 귀하께서 드시는 식수에 대한 중요한 정보가 포함되어 있습니다. 번역을 하시거나 아니면 이 보고를 알고 이해하시는 분과 다른 하사기를 바랍니다.

• આ અહેવાલ મને તમારી પાણીના પાણી વિશે અગત્યની માહિતી આપવા માટે આપેલ છે. એનો અનુવાદ કરો અથવા જેને સમજી શકો તેમ જણાવવા માટે કૃપા કરો.

• المعلومات في هذا التقرير تحتوي على معلومات مهمة عن مياه الشرب التي تشربها. من فضلك اذا لم تفهم هذه المعلومات اطلب من يترجمها لك.



## HEALTH EFFECTS

### Lead

If present, elevated levels of lead can cause serious health problems, especially for pregnant women and young children. Your water is lead-free when it leaves our treatment plant. Lead in drinking water is primarily from materials and components associated with service lines and home plumbing. SUEZ 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 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 at **800.426.4791** or at <http://www.epa.gov/safewater/lead>.

To learn more about lead, please visit <http://www.mysuezwater.com> or <http://www.epa.gov/lead>

### Special Considerations for Children, Nursing Mothers, Pregnant Women and Others

Some people may be more vulnerable to contaminants in drinking water than the general population. Immunocompromised 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 microbial contaminants are available from the *Safe Drinking Water Hotline* 800.426.4791.

## SODIUM AND YOUR DRINKING WATER

SUEZ routinely monitors its drinking water to ensure that it meets the standards set by the United States Environmental Protection Agency (EPA) and the New Jersey Department of Environmental Protection (DEP). While the EPA does not have a maximum level for sodium in drinking water, the NJDEP has a recommended upper limit (RUL) of 50 parts per million (ppm).

2019 test results show that SUEZ exceeded the recommended upper limit for sodium. The highest result at the Haworth Water Treatment Plant was 136 ppm, with a range of results of 50 ppm to 136 ppm.

According to the DEP, 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, elevated levels of sodium may be a concern for persons on a sodium-restricted diet. If you have any concerns, please consult your health care provider.

Road salt run-off affecting our source water quality is the leading cause of elevated sodium levels in the drinking water supply. We are meeting with communities within our source water area to discuss options for minimizing use of and/or alternatives to road salt.

For more information, please call **800.422.5987**.

State Water System ID#: 0238001 (Haworth Plant]

State Water System ID#: NJ0201001 (Allendale System]