



*The City of Sea Isle City
Water and Sewer Department*

2023 Water Quality Report
PWSID # 0509001

Dear Customer,

This Annual Drinking Water Quality Report, also known as the CONSUMER CONFIDENCE REPORT, was mandated by the 1996 revisions to the Safe Drinking Water Act. We are pleased to send this report to you as it shows our efforts to bring to you a safe and dependable supply of drinking water and, to keep you informed of improvements to the system.

The Sea Isle Water and Sewer Utility, along with the City's Environmental Commission, is increasing initiatives to promote water conservation. Programs promoting water conservation in the home continue to be a major focus for the City. The 2009 National Standard Plumbing Code that the city adheres to requires 1.6 gal/flush toilets, 1 gal/flush urinals, 2.2 gal/min faucets, and 2.5 gal/min shower heads. We are also educating restaurants and food establishments, as upgrades to newer technology "low flow" devices can often yield significant savings in water use. Our primary objective is public education, as we believe a well-informed constituency of water consumers will understand and appreciate the benefits of water conservation – to our environment and to our budget.

Sea Isle City's water is drawn from the Atlantic City 800-foot sands aquifer. Our drinking water is aerated and then disinfected with chlorine from any one of our five wells. The chlorine levels are monitored at these wells 24/7. The water is tested as per State and Federal regulations. In 2022, we conducted annual sampling/testing for Perflourononaic Acids (Regulated PFAS) and all results were ND (non-detected). We are on reduced monitoring for this the PFAS and conduct testing once a year. We are also on reduced monitoring once every three years for TCP 1,2,3 DBCP, and EDB. Additional sampling and testing for VOC's were performed in 2022 at the 55th St. well. Most results were ND (non-detect) and well under the MCL (maximum contaminate level). The testing cycle for this is once every three years.

In 2022, there has been significant improvements to our water system. Well #6 at the 80th treatment plant well had a significant failure in the early spring. It was upgraded to a new deep well motor, column, shaft, and flow meter. Also, the well head was extended 2 ft higher to avoid possible flooding. It was back online by Memorial Weekend. Another upgrade was at the main well at 40th Street. In late January 2022, contractors replaced a deep well motor that failed. It was replaced with a brand new 40hp 3phase motor. While this well was out of service for 3 months, the wells at 50th St. and 55th Streets were able to handle the needs and production. Also, in early October, the 55th St. well has been off and without power. The main breaker has failed and is inoperable. Our electricians have been trying to coordinate with the power company to schedule for the incoming power to be shut off in order to replace the main breaker. This well can be run on generator power in an emergency situation.

This past year, we have a new instrumentation contractor that performed well meter calibrations, chlorine analyzer servicing and calibrations. They rebuilt the 55th st. well analyzer as well.

In December 2021 and January 2022, our Lead Service Line inventory was submitted to the DEP as per P.L.2021, Ch.183 (Law) and posted on the Sea Isle City website. The inventory showed that there were 58 Lead gooseneck service lines in our system of 3597 water service lines. By the end of 2022, our Lead Service Lines inventory had dropped down to 28. This was due to the Water and Sewer Departments continuing on with replacing older water service lines. We have been and are in the process of replacing the older galvanized water lines with lead goosenecks as needed. They were changed to 1” poly service lines. The DEP’s requirements are to change 6 per year for the next 10 years. Our intentions are to complete these 28 Lead Service Lines within the next year. As of January 1, 2014, we have been complying with the new DEP and EPA regulations of only installing Lead Free brass fittings.

To help address the Infiltration and Inflow issues and upgrade our sanitary sewer collection system, contractors for the Sea Isle City Water and Sewer Department, started and are currently replacing aging sewer mains and laterals on Sounds Ave from 56th Street to 60th Street. In addition, the same project extended to the 200 block of 59th Street to a portion of Central Ave.

The Water and Sewer Department is continuing the process of upgrading the older water meters throughout the town to a newer cellular version since 2018. This has been a slow process that should be completed in the next few years. Also, the departments GIS mapping system has been updated by Colliers Engineering & Design.

In order to stay within compliance and to adhere to the Water Quality Accountability Act, the Capital Improvemnet Report was submitted as well as the Cyber Security plan. We participated in the fall and the spring with the flushing of fire hydrants/water distribution system, dead end flushings and exercising of valves. This is a great way to troubleshoot and perform routine maintenance to our distribution system and its components. We have been adding new fire hydrants as needed and have been replacing older fire hydrants with new ones as well.

We were able to perform routine jetting of a large portion of the sewer collection system, including the pump stations. We kept the statement about the flushable wipes that cause a problem in the sanitary sewer system on the website. In the Fall, we were able to complete the entire storm and catch basin cleaning throughout the city. Most catch basins were also labeled with turtles and “Drains to Waterway” stencils after various road pavings.

Included as an attachment to this report is information regarding stormwater and stormwater management. Please review this information as this program helps keep our ocean and bay waters clean, and the beaches open.

The Sea Isle Water and Sewer Utility is a Division of the Public Works Department and takes the aforementioned health, safety and welfare issues seriously. We would like to encourage you to conserve water throughout the year, and please don’t hesitate to contact us in the event of any concerns. In addition, we take security very serious at our numerous pumping facilities through the town. We asking for your assistance in the event that something seems suspicious or out of the ordinary to report it to the Sea Isle City Water and Sewer Department or the Sea Isle City Police Department.

Sincerely,

**Donald J. Teefy, Jr.
Assistant Superintendent/Water & Sewer Department/ CPWM
Licensed Operator in Charge
dteefyjr@seaislecitynj.us**

Annual Drinking Water Quality Report

Sea Isle City Water Department

For the Year 2023, Results from the Year 2022

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.

If you are a landlord, you must distribute this Drinking Water Quality Report to every tenant as soon as practicable, but no later than three business days after receipt. Delivery must be done by hand, mail, or email, and by posting the information in a prominent location at the entrance of each rental premises, pursuant to section #3 of NJ P.L. 2021, c.82 (C.58:12A-12.4 et seq.).

We are committed to ensuring the quality of your water. Our water source is wells. Our five wells draw groundwater from the Atlantic City "800-foot" Sand Aquifer System. 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 water system's source water susceptibility ratings and a list of potential contaminant sources is attached.

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).

TEST RESULTS						
Contaminant	Violation Y/N	Level Detected	Units of Measurement	MC LG	MCL	Likely Source of Contamination
Inorganic Contaminants:						
Copper Test results Yr. 2020 Result at 90 th Percentile	N	0.07 No samples exceeded the action level	ppm	1.3	AL=1.3	Corrosion of household plumbing systems; erosion of natural deposits
Fluoride Test results Yr. 2021	N	Range = 0.13 – 0.14 Highest detect = 0.14	ppm	4	4	Erosion of natural deposits; water additive which promotes strong teeth; discharge from fertilizer and aluminum factories
Lead Test results Yr. 2020 Result at 90 th Percentile	N	ND No samples exceeded the action level	ppb	0	AL=15	Corrosion of household plumbing systems, erosion of natural deposits
Disinfection Byproducts:						
TTHM Total Trihalomethanes Test results Yr. 2022	N	Range = 1 Highest detect = 1	ppb	N/A	80	By-product of drinking water disinfection
Regulated Disinfectants		Level Detected		MRDL		MRDLG
Chlorine Test results Yr. 2022		Range = 0.2 – 0.3 ppm Average = 0.3 ppm		4.0 ppm		4.0 ppm

Chlorine: Water additive used to control microbes

The Sea Isle City Water Department routinely monitors for contaminants in your drinking water according to Federal and State laws. The table shows the results of our monitoring for the period of January 1st to December 31st, 2022. 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.

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 production, 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.

If you have any questions about this report or concerning your water utility, please contact George Savastano, Administrator at 609-263-6000. 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 the Municipal Complex. Additionally, you can contact Donald J. Teefy, Jr., NJDEP Licensed Operator, at 609-263-6000, or dteefvjr@seaislecitynj.us

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 a monitoring waiver for synthetic organic chemicals and asbestos.

Sources of Lead in Drinking Water

The Sea Isle City Water Department is responsible for providing high quality drinking water but cannot control the variety of materials used in plumbing components. Although most lead exposure occurs from inhaling dust or from contaminated soil, or when children eat paint chips, the U.S. Environmental Protection Agency (USEPA) estimates that 10 to 20 percent of human exposure to lead may come from lead in drinking water. Infants who consume mostly mixed formula can receive 40 percent to 60 percent of their exposure to lead from drinking water. Lead is rarely found in the source of your drinking water but enters tap water through corrosion, or wearing away, of materials containing lead in the water distribution system and household plumbing materials. These materials include lead-based solder used to join copper pipes, brass, and chrome-brass faucets, and in some cases, service lines made of or lined with lead. New brass faucets, fittings, and valves, including those advertised as "lead-free", may still contain a small percentage of lead, and contribute lead to drinking water. The law currently allows end-use brass fixtures, such as faucets, with up to 0.25 percent lead to be labeled as "lead free". However, prior to January 4, 2014, "lead free" allowed up to 8 percent lead content of the wetted surfaces of plumbing products including those labeled National Sanitation Foundation (NSF) certified. Visit the NSF website at www.nsf.org to learn more about lead-containing plumbing fixtures. Consumers should be aware of this when choosing fixtures and take appropriate precautions. When water stands in lead service lines, lead pipes, or plumbing systems containing lead for several hours or more, the lead may dissolve into your drinking water. This means the first water drawn from the tap in the morning, or later in the afternoon if the water has not been used all day, can contain fairly high levels of lead.

Steps You Can Take to Reduce Exposure to Lead in Drinking Water

For a full list of steps visit: <https://www.state.nj.us/dep/watersupply/dwc-lead-consumer.html>

Run the cold water to flush out lead. Let the water run from the tap before using it for drinking or cooking any time the water in the faucet has gone unused for more than six hours. The longer the water resides in plumbing the more lead it may contain. Flushing the tap means running the cold-water faucet. Let the water run from the cold-water tap based on the length of the lead service line and the plumbing configuration in your home. In other words, the larger the home or building and the greater the distance to the water main (in the street), the more water it will take to flush properly. Although toilet flushing or showering flushes water through a portion of the plumbing system, you still need to flush the water in each faucet before using it for drinking or cooking. Flushing tap water is a simple and inexpensive measure you can take to protect your health. It usually uses less than one gallon of water.

Use cold, flushed water for cooking and preparing baby formula. Because lead from lead-containing plumbing materials and pipes can dissolve into hot water more easily than cold water, never drink, cook, or prepare beverages including baby formula using hot water from the tap. If you have not had your water sampled or if you know, it is recommended that bottled or filtered water be used for drinking and preparing baby formula. If you need hot water, draw water from the cold tap and then heat it.

Do not boil water to remove lead. Boiling water will not reduce lead; however, it is still safe to wash dishes and do laundry. Lead will not soak into dishware or most clothes.

Use alternative sources or treatment of water. You may want to consider purchasing bottled water or a water filter. Read the package to be sure the filter is approved to reduce lead or contact NSF International at 800-NSF-8010 or www.nsf.org for information on performance standards for water filters.

Determine if you have interior lead plumbing or solder. If your home/building was constructed prior to 1987, it is important to determine if interior lead solder or lead pipes are present. You can check yourself, hire a licensed plumber, or check with your landlord.

Replace plumbing fixtures and service lines containing lead. Replace brass faucets, fittings, and valves that do not meet the current definition of "lead free" from 2014 (as explained above). Visit the NSF website at www.nsf.org to learn more about lead-containing plumbing fixtures.

Remove and clean aerators/screens on plumbing fixtures. Over time, particles and sediment can collect in the aerator screen. Regularly remove and clean aerators screens located at the tip of faucets and remove any particles.

Test your water for lead. Please call 609-263-6000 to find out how to get your water tested for lead. Testing is essential because you cannot see, taste, or smell lead in drinking water.

Get your child tested. Contact your local health department or healthcare provider to find out how you can get your child tested for lead if you are concerned about lead exposure. New Jersey law requires that children be tested for lead in their blood at both 1 and 2 years of age and before they are 6 years old if they have never been tested before or if they have been exposed to a known source of lead.

Have an electrician check your wiring. If grounding wires from the electrical system are attached to your pipes, corrosion may be greater. Check with a licensed electrician or your local electrical code to determine if your wiring can be grounded elsewhere. DO NOT attempt to change the wiring yourself because improper grounding can cause electrical shock and fire hazards.

Water softeners and reverse osmosis units will remove lead from water but can also make the water more corrosive to lead solder and plumbing by removing certain minerals; therefore, the installation of these treatment units at the point of entry into homes with lead plumbing should only be done under supervision of a qualified water treatment professional.

Health Effects of Lead

Lead can cause serious health problems if too much enters your body from drinking water or other sources. It can cause damage to the brain and kidneys and can interfere with the production of red blood cells that carry oxygen to all parts of your body. The greatest risk of lead exposure is to infants, young children, and pregnant women. Scientists have linked the effects of lead on the brain with lowered IQ in children. Adults with kidney problems and high blood pressure can be affected by low levels of lead more than healthy adults. Lead is stored in the bones, and it can be released later in life. During pregnancy, the child receives lead from the mother's bones, which may affect brain development. Contact your local health department or healthcare provider to find out how you can get your child tested for lead if you are concerned about lead exposure. You can find out more about how to get your child tested and how to pay for it at <https://www.state.nj.us/health/childhoodlead/testing.shtml>.

In July 2021, P.L.2021, Ch.183 (Law) was enacted, requiring all community water systems to replace lead service lines in their service area within 10 years. Under the law, The Sea Isle City Water Department is required to notify customers, non-paying consumers, and any off-site owner of a property (e.g., landlord) when it is known they are served by a lead service line*. Our service line inventory is available upon request, and on the Sea Isle City website.

DEFINITIONS

In the "Test Results" table you may find some 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.

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

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.

Secondary Contaminant- Substances that do not have an impact on health. Secondary Contaminants affect aesthetic qualities such as odor, taste or appearance. Secondary standards are recommendations, not mandates.

Recommended Upper Limit (RUL) – Recommended maximum concentration of secondary contaminants. These reflect aesthetic qualities such as odor, taste or appearance. RULs are recommendations, not mandates.

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.

Sea Isle City Water Department- PWSID # NJ0509001

Sea Isle City Water Department is a public community water system consisting of 5 active wells.

This system's source water comes from the following aquifer: Atlantic City "800-foot" Sand Aquifer System.

Susceptibility Ratings for Sea Isle City Water Department 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. The 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.

Sources	Pathogens			Nutrients			Pesticides			Volatile Organic Compounds			Inorganics			Radionuclides			Radon			Disinfection Byproduct Precursors		
	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 - 5			5			5			5			5	5				5			5				5

- 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.

The Sea Isle City Water Department works hard to provide top quality water to every tap. We ask that all of our customers help us to protect our water sources, which are the heart of our community, our way of life and our children's future. In addition, we take security very serious at our numerous pumping facilities through the town. We asking for your assistance in the event that something seems suspicious or out of the ordinary to report it to the Sea Isle City Water and Sewer Department or the Sea Isle City Police Department.

Please call our office if you have questions.



Solutions to Stormwater Pollution

Easy Things You Can Do Every Day To Protect Our Water

A Guide to Healthy Habits for Cleaner Water

Pollution on streets, parking lots and lawns is washed by rain into storm drains, then directly to our drinking water supplies and the ocean and lakes our children play in. Fertilizer, oil, pesticides, detergents, pet waste, grass clippings: You name it and it ends up in our water.

Stormwater pollution is one of New Jersey's greatest threats to clean and plentiful water, and that's why we're all doing something about it.

By sharing the responsibility and making small, easy changes in our daily lives, we can keep common pollutants out of stormwater. It all adds up to cleaner water, and it saves the high cost of cleaning up once it's dirty.

As part of New Jersey's initiative to keep our water clean and plentiful and to meet federal requirements, many municipalities and other public agencies including colleges and military bases must adopt ordinances or other rules prohibiting various activities that contribute to stormwater pollution. Breaking these rules can result in fines or other penalties.



As a resident, business, or other member of the New Jersey community, it is important to know these easy things you can do every day to protect our water.

- **Clean up after your pet**
- **Limit your use of fertilizers and pesticides**
- **Don't wash your car in the driveway**
- **Properly use and dispose of hazardous products**
- **Keep pollution out of storm drains**
- **Dispose of yard waste properly**
- **Don't litter**
- **Don't feed wildlife**

**IF YOU DON'T
PICK UP AFTER YOUR PET,
IT MIGHT AS WELL
POOP IN THE RIVER.**

Rain washes pollutants into storm drains which flows directly into our streams, lakes, rivers and the ocean. So what can you do?

CLEAN WATER
It's Up to You New Jersey
www.cleanwaterNJ.org

WHAT'S THE PROBLEM WITH PETWASTE?

Rain can wash pet waste that sits on a lawn or unpaved surface into storm drains, ultimately ending up in our lakes, rivers and the ocean. Pet waste contains coliform bacteria and other pollutants that can make people sick, and often cause beach closures on lakes or the ocean. Coliform bacteria can contaminate shellfish, which causes people to get very sick when they are eaten. Bacteria from pet waste can also pollute your drinking water, as well as kill fish, wildlife and plants. Pet waste is not only a health hazard but also a nuisance in our neighborhoods.

YOU CAN HELP!

- Use newspaper, plastic bags, or a pooper-scooper to pick up the waste when you walk your pet.
- Properly dispose of pet waste into the trash or toilet. (Do NOT dispose of newspaper or plastic bags in the toilet.)
- Do not dispose of pet waste in storm drains.

WHAT'S THE PROBLEM WITH FERTILIZERS AND PESTICIDES?

Fertilizers help plants grow by adding nutrients to the soil. Pesticides (including herbicides) are any toxic substances used to kill insects, animals or plants. If fertilizers or pesticides are improperly applied, they can wash off your lawn or garden into storm drains and directly to our lakes, rivers, and the ocean. These chemicals can contaminate your drinking water, as well as kill fish, wildlife and plants.

**IF YOU USE TOO MUCH
FERTILIZER ON YOUR LAWN,
YOU MIGHT AS WELL
FERTILIZE THE STREAM.**

Rain washes pollutants into storm drains which flows directly into our streams, lakes, rivers and the ocean. So what can you do?

CLEAN WATER
It's Up to You New Jersey
www.cleanwaterNJ.org

Too much fertilizer washing into a lake can cause algae to bloom in lakes, which will affect swimming, fishing and boating.

YOU CAN HELP!

- Test your soil at your County's Rutgers Cooperative Research and Extension office, or buy a self-test kit.
- Use natural, slow-release nitrogen, or low phosphorus fertilizers.
- Look into natural alternatives to fertilizers and pesticides, such as integrated pest management (IPM).
- If you need to use fertilizers or pesticides, follow the instructions on the label on how to correctly apply.
- Do not apply fertilizers or pesticides before it rains. This will not allow the fertilizers or pesticides to penetrate through the soil.
- Use drought-resistant native plants in gardens; they require less fertilizer and less water.
 - Use a mulching mower instead of bagging grass clippings.



Solutions to Stormwater Pollution

Easy Things You Can Do Every Day To Protect Our Water

IF YOU WASH
YOUR CAR IN THE DRIVEWAY,
YOU MIGHT AS WELL WASH IT
IN THE LAKE.



Rain washes pollutants into storm drains which flows directly into our streams, lakes, rivers and the ocean. So what can you do?



www.cleanwaterNJ.org

WHAT'S THE PROBLEM WITH WASHING YOUR CAR?

Washing your car on a paved surface can allow the soapy wash water and other pollutants, like oil and grease, to run off into a storm drain. Most soap contains phosphates and other chemicals that, in large amounts can contaminate your drinking water, as well as kill fish, wildlife and plants. The soap, together with the dirt and oil washed from your car, flows into nearby storm drains, which flows directly into lakes, rivers and the ocean. The phosphates from the soap can cause excess algae to grow, which can be harmful to the water quality.

YOU CAN HELP!

- Take your car to a car washing facility, rather than washing it yourself. Commercial car washes treat and recycle the water.
- If you can't get to a car washing facility, wash your car on an unpaved surface and use biodegradable soap.
- Organize a CarWash Fundraiser for a local organization. Visit www.cleanwaterNJ.org to learn how.

WHY SHOULD YOU CARE ABOUT CLEANWATER?

Stormwater pollution is one of the greatest threats to New Jersey's clean water supply. Clean water provides access to safe drinking water, places for recreation, commercial opportunities, healthy wildlife habitats, and adds beauty to our landscape. Rain washes pollution from streets, parking lots, and lawns into storm drains, then directly to our streams, rivers, lakes and oceans.

Did you know more than 60 percent of water pollution comes from things like motor oil, fertilizers, pet waste, and detergents? By sharing the responsibility and making small, easy changes in our daily lives, we can keep common pollutants out of stormwater.



www.cleanwaterNJ.org




Thanks to the Washington State Department of Ecology, King County, and the cities of Bellevue, Seattle and Tacoma.


WHAT'S THE PROBLEM WITH LITTER?

When was the last time you saw someone littering? Litter just doesn't appear—it's the result of careless actions. No matter where litter is discarded, it usually ends up in the street, where it washes down storm drains and ultimately flows to local waterways. Littering is not only unsightly, it's a threat to wildlife and their habitat. Before you flick a cigarette butt out of your window or throw out a plastic bottle, consider this: Cigarette filters have been found in the stomachs of marine life, birds and other animals, because they thought it was food. Birds and marine life have also been found trapped or tangled in plastic items such as six-pack drink holders, plastic bags and fishing line. *Please be considerate, and protect our wildlife and our water.*

IF YOU LITTER
IN THE STREET,
YOU MIGHT AS WELL
LITTER IN THE RIVER.



Rain washes pollutants into storm drains and directly into our lakes, rivers and the ocean. So what can you do?



www.cleanwaterNJ.org

YOU CAN HELP!

- Set an example for others, especially children by not littering.
- Carry a litterbag in your car.
- Make sure trash cans have lids that can be securely fastened.
- If you have curbside trash collection, don't put loose trash in boxes.
- Prevent trash cans from being knocked over by the wind and animals.
- If you own a business, check dumpsters daily to see that top and side doors are closed.
- Report areas where people have illegally dumped garbage and debris and ask that the material be removed.