CONSUMER CONFIDENCE REPORT

Mountain Lakes Water Department ð PWSID# NJ1425001

Reporting Period - January 1, 2025 to December 31, 2025

The Mountain Lakes Water Department is located at the DPW Building on Pocono Road. Billing and administrative offices are located in the Borough Hall at 400 Boulevard. Questions concerning this report should be directed to the Borough Manager at (973) 334-3131. The Borough Council holds regular public meetings every second and fourth Monday of the month at 7:30 P.M. at the Borough Hall. Included in this report are details about where your water comes from, what it contains, and how it compares to Environmental Protection Agency (EPA) and State standards. As always, we are committed to providing you with the highest quality drinking water and service. Please do not hesitate to contact us at any time.

Some people may be more vulnerable to contaminants in drinking water than the general population. Immune-compromised persons such as persons with cancer undergoing chemo-therapy, 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 lesson the risk of infection by *Cryptosporidium* and other microbial contaminates are available from the Safe Drinking Water Hotline 1-(800) 426-4791.

Water for the Mountain Lakes system is derived from four (4) production wells, 2 of which are located near the Rockaway River in Denville Township. The primary well (No. 5) is located on Route 46 in Mountain Lakes, and it supplies approximately 80% of the total water used by the homes and businesses in Mountain Lakes.

Source Water Assessments: The New Jersey Department of Environmental Protection (NJDEP) has completed and issued the Source Water Assessment Report and Summary for the Borough of Mountain Lakes water system, which is available for review at www.state.nj.us/dep/swap or by contacting NJDEPõs Bureau of Safe Drinking Water at (609) 292-5550. Mountain Lakes monitors its water sources for regulated contaminants in accordance with NJDEP requirements.

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 water poses a health risk. More information about contaminants and potential health effects can be obtained by calling the EPAõs Safe Drinking Water Hotline 1-(800) 426-4791.

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 before we treat it include:

Microbial contaminants, such as viruses and bacteria, which may come from sewage treatment plants, septic systems, agricultural livestock operations, and wild life.

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 and residential uses.

Radioactive contaminants, which are naturally occurring.

Organic chemical contaminants, including synthetic and volatile organic chemicals, which are by-products of industrial processes and petroleum production, and can also come from gas station, urban stormwater runoff, and septic systems.

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. We treat our water according to EPAõs regulations. Food and Drug Administrations (FDA) establish limits of contaminants in bottled water, which must provide the same protection for public health.

WATER QUALITY DATA

The table below lists all the drinking water contaminants that we detected during the 2025 calendar year. The presence of these contaminants in the water does not necessarily indicate that the water poses a health risk. Unless otherwise noted, the data presented in this table is from testing performed between January 1, 2025 and December 31, 2025. The State of New Jersey requires us to monitor for certain contaminants less than once per year because the concentrations of these contaminants are not expected to vary significantly from year to year. Therefore, some of the data, though representative of the water quality, is more than one year old.

Terms & abbreviations used below:

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 using the best available treatment technology.

Maximum Contaminant Level Goal (MCLG): the level of a contaminant in drinking water below which there is no known or expected risk to health. MCLG's allow for a margin of safety.

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 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

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

Primary Contaminants: substances that are health-related. Water suppliers must meet all primary drinking water standards.

Secondary Contaminants: 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.

Action Level (AL): the concentration of a contaminant which, when 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.

n/a: not applicable; **nd**: not detectable at testing limit; **ppb** parts per billion or micrograms per liter; **ppm**: parts per million or milligrams per liter; **pCi/l**: picocuries per liter (a measure of radiation).

Contaminants (units)	MCL	MCLG	Mountain Lakes Water	Range of Detections	Sample Date	Violation Y or N	Typical Source of Contaminant
Microbiological Contaminants							
Total Coliform Bacteria	1	0	0	0	2025	N	Naturally present in the environment
Fecal coliform and E. coli	0	0	0	0	2025	N	Human and animal fecal waste
Secondary Contaminants							
Foaming Agents (ppm)	500	500	0.0	nd	02-26-24	N	Synthetic detergents
Aluminum (ppb)	200	200	0.0	nd	02-26-24	N	Naturally occuring element
Chloride (ppm)	250	250	65.0	12 - 124	02-26-24	N	Erosion from natural deposits; Discharge of human and animal wastes; Discharge from industry
Color (Color Units)	10	10	5.0	5	02-26-24	N	Physical characteristic
Corrosivity	+/- 1.0	+/- 1.0	1.6	1.25 - 2.03	02-26-24	N	Physical characteristic
Hardness (ppm)	250	250	182.3	77 - 293	02-26-24	N	Naturally ocurring minerals
Iron (ppb)	300	300	0.0	nd	02-26-24	N	Naturally occuring element
Manganese (ppb)	50	50	2.0	0 - 6.4	02-26-24	N	Naturally occuring element
Odor (Threshold Number)	3	3	0.0	nd	02-26-24	N	Physical characteristic
pH (Standard Units)	6.5 - 8.5	6.5 - 8.5	7.8	7.07 - 8.63	02-26-24	N	Physical characteristic
Silver (ppb)	100	100	0.0	nd	02-26-24	N	Naturally occuring element
Sulfate (ppm)	250	250	21.1	13.5 - 25.0	02-26-24	N	Discharge from petroleum and metal refineries; Erosion of natural deposits; Discharge from mines
Total Dissolved Solids (ppm)	500	500	209	16 - 388	02-26-24	N	Erosion of natural mineral deposits
Zinc (ppm)	5	5	0	nd	02-26-24	N	Naturally occuring element

WATER QUALITY DATA

Contaminants (units)	MCL	MCLG	Mountain Lakes Water	Range of Detections	Sample Date	Violation Y or N	Typical Source of Contaminant
Lead and Copper							
Lead (ppb)	AL=15	15	3	0 to 4	07-30-25	N	Corrosion of household plumbing systems; Erosion of natural deposits
Copper (ppm)	AL=1.3	1.3	0.263	0.023 to 0.458	07-30-25	N	Corrosion of household plumbing systems; Erosion of natural deposits; Leaching from wood preservatives
Inorganic Contaminants							
Antimony (ppb)	6	6	0	nd	02-26-24	N	Discharge from petroleum refineries; fire retardants; ceramics; electronics; solder
Arsenic (ppb)	5	n/a	0	nd	02-26-24	N	Erosion from natural deposits; Runoff from orchards; Runoff from glass and electronics productions wastes
Barium (ppm)	2	2	0.011	0.006 - 0.014	02-26-24	N	Discharge of drilling wastes; Discharge from metal refineries; Erosion of natural deposits
Beryllium (ppb)	4	4	0	nd	02-26-24	N	Discharge of metal refineries and coal-burning factories; Discharge from electrical, aerospace, and defense industries
Cadmium (ppb)	5	5	0	nd	02-26-24	N	Corrosion of galvanized pipes; Erosion of natural deposits; Discharge from metal refineries; Runoff from waste batteries and paints
Chromium (ppb)	100	100	0	nd	02-26-24	N	Discharge from steel and pulp mills; Erosion of natural deposits
Cyanide (ppb)	200	200	0	nd	02-26-24	N	Discharge from steel /metal factories; Discharge from plastic and fertilizer factories
Fluoride (ppm)	4	4	0.047	0.06 - 0.08	02-26-24	N	Erosion from natural deposits; Water additive which promotes strong teeth; Discharge from fertilizer and aluminum factories
Mercury (ppb)	2	2	0.000	nd	02-26-24	N	Discharge from steel /metal factories; Discharge from plastic and fertilizer factories
Nickle (ppb)	100	100	0.000	nd	02-26-24	N	Runoff from fertilizer use; Leaching from septic tanks, sewage; Erosion of natural deposits
Nitrate (ppm)	10	10	2.35	2.35	12-30-25	N	Runoff from fertilizer use; Leaching from septic tanks, sewage; Erosion of natural deposits
Selenium (ppb)	50	50	0	nd	02-26-24	N	Discharge from petroleum and metal refineries; Erosion of natural deposits; Discharge from mines
Thallium (ppb)	2	0.5	0	nd	02-26-24	N	Leaching from ore-processing sites; Discharge from electronics, glass, and drug factories
Sodium (ppm)	50	50	18.81	5.62 - 27.8	02-26-24	N	Discharge from petroleum and metal refineries; Erosion of natural deposits; Discharge from mines
Stage 2 Disinfectant Byproducts							
TTHMs [Total trihalomethanes] (ppb)	80	n/a	3.06	2.07 - 4.04	08-14-25	N	By-product of drinking water chlorination
HAA5 [Five Haloacetic Acids] (ppb)	60	n/a	0	0	08-14-25	N	By-product of drinking water chlorination

WATER QUALITY DATA

Contaminants (units)	MCL	MCLG	Mountain Lakes Water	Range of Detections	Sample Date	Violation Y or N	Typical Source of Contaminant
Regulated Disinfectants							
Chlorine (ppm) 2025	**Levels Detected - Average & Highest**				**MRLD**		**MRDLG**
	0.75		1.65		4.0 ppm		4.0 ppm
Synthetic Organic Compounds							
1,2,3-TCP (ppb)	0.03	n/a	0	nd	2025	N	Discharge from industry. Used as an industrial solvent, a degreasing agent, a paint and varnish remover.
EDB ethylene dibromide (ppb)	0.05	n/a	0	nd	2025	N	Agricultural fumigant
(DBCP) 1,2 dibromo-3-chloropropane (ppb)	0.20	n/a	0	nd	2025	N	Agricultural pesticide
Perfluorinated Chemicals							
Perfluoroctane Sulfonic Acid (PFOS) (ppt)	13	n/a	1.66	0 - 2.56	2025	N	Discharge from industry,polymers, surfactants,lubricants, and in consumer products as textile coatings.
Perfluoroctanoic Acid (PFOA) (ppt)	14	n/a	9.35	6.34 - 18.4	2025	N	Discharge from industry,polymers, surfactants,lubricants, and in consumer products as textile coatings.
Perfluorononanoic Acid (PFNA) (ppt)	13	n/a	nd	nd	2025	N	Discharge from industry,polymers, surfactants,lubricants, and in consumer products as textile coatings.
Radioactive Contaminants							
Total Alpha w/ Uranium (pCi/l)	15	0	0	0	7-19-24	N	Erosion of natural deposits
Radium 228 (pCi/l)	5	0	0	0	7-19-24	N	Erosion of natural deposits
Combined Radium (pCi/l)	30	0	1.5	1.5	7-19-24	N	Erosion of natural deposits

Water Standards Information

Regarding chemical contaminants and health related standards. Mountain Lakes is proud of the fact that our water complies with all drinking water standards for chemical contaminants as set by the State of New Jersey and the U.S. EPA.

Regarding PFOA, you were previously notified in the third quarter of 2023 of a violation of the maximum contaminant level (MCL) of 14 parts per trillion. On July 14, 2023, we received notice that our system exceeded the PFOA MCL at Well #4, specifically 17 parts per trillion based on the average of samples collected over the prior four quarters. We are pleased to advise you that the water currently being delivered to you is in compliance with the 14 parts per trillion MCL as a result of taking the affected well out of service in May of 2023.

The United States EPA conducted UCMR 5 sampling at 3 of the Borough's water supply wells; i.e., TP001001, TP003007, and TP007017. The samples were collected on 7/15/2025. The results of the samples are presented in the table below.

Contaminant	MRL (ppt)	EPA MCL	TP001001	TP003007	TP007017
PFOS	4	4	< MRL	< MRL	< MRL
PFOA	4	4	6.3	9.5	9
HFPO-DA (GenX)	5	10	< MRL	< MRL	< MRL
PFHxS	3	10	< MRL	< MRL	< MRL
PFNA	4	10	< MRL	< MRL	< MRL
PFBS	3	none	< MRL	< MRL	< MRL

Water Standards Information

The Water Department received violation notices in 2025 for failure to sample for nitrate at TP001001 and TP007017. The samples were not taken due to a scheduling mis-directive. The historical data for these two (2) facilites has shown compliance with the MCL of 10 ppm. Water quality was not impacted by the missed sampling.

The Water Department received a violation notice in 2025 for failure to report chlorine residuals for the month of July. No water quality issues resulted from this administrative oversight.

The Water Department received a violation notice in 2025 for failure to submit certifications of lead and copper results. The certification was submitted in March 2026.

What are PFOA and PFOS? - Perfluorooctanoic acid (PFOA) and perfluoroctane sulfonate (PFOS) are per and polyfluoroalkyl substances (PFAS), previously referred to as perfluorinated compounds, or PFCs, that are man-made and used in industrial and commercial applications. PFOA was used as a processing aid in the manufacture of fluoropolymers used in non-stick cookware and other products, as well as other commercial and industrial uses based on its resistance to harsh chemicals and high temperatures. PFOS is used in metal plating and finishing as well as in various commercial products. PFOS was previously used as a major ingredient in aqueous film forming foams for firefighting and training, and PFOA and PFOS are found in consumer products such as stain resistant coatings for upholstery and carpets, water resistant outdoor clothing, and grease proof food packaging. Although the use of PFOA and PFOS has decreased substantially, contamination is expected to continue indefinitely because these substances are extremely persistent in the environment and are soluble and mobile in water. More information can be found at: https://www.state.nj.us/dep/wms/bears/docs/2019-4-15-FAQs_PFOS-PFOA-websites-OLA%204-24-19SDM-(003).pdf

Special Considerations Regarding Children, Pregnant Women, Nursing Mothers, and Others

Children may receive a slightly higher amount of a contaminant present in the water than do adults, on a body weight basis, because they may drink a greater amount of water per pound of body weight than do adults. For this reason, reproductive or developmental effects are used for calculating a drinking water standard if these effects occur at lower levels than other health effects of concern. If there is insufficient toxicity information for a chemical (for example, lack of data on reproduction or developmental effects), an extra uncertainty factor may be incorporated into the calculation of the drinking water standard, thus making the standard more stringent, to account for additional uncertainties regarding these effects. In the cases of lead and nitrate, effects on infants and children are the health endpoints upon which the standards are based.

Nitrate: Nitrate in drinking water at levels above 10 ppm is a health risk for infants of less than six months of age. High nitrate levels in drinking water can cause blue baby syndrome. Nitrate levels may rise quickly for short periods of time because of rainfall or agricultural activity. If you are caring for a infant, you should ask advise from your health care provider.

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. Mountain Lakes 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.