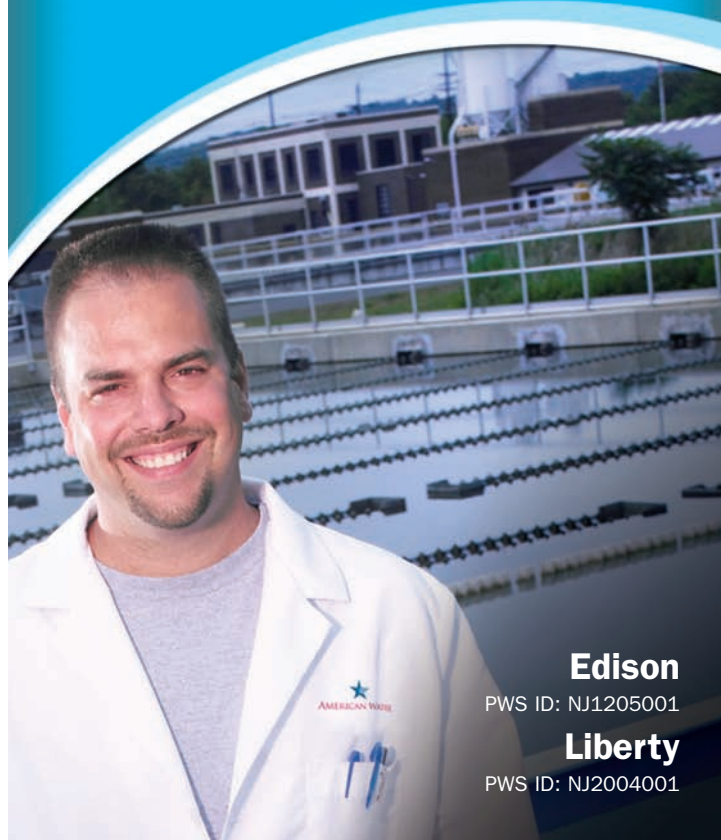


2008 Annual Water Quality Report



Edison

PWS ID: NJ1205001

Liberty

PWS ID: NJ2004001

A Message About Your Drinking Water

The Edison Water Company and the Liberty Water Company place a strong emphasis on educating customers on the quality of our drinking water.

The test results in this report confirm that your tap water not only meets federal and state standards for drinking water, but in most cases, it surpasses them. In fact, we often address drinking water regulations well before they go into effect.

Our customers are our top priority, and we are committed to providing you with the highest quality drinking water and service possible now and in the years to come.

Our Commitment to Quality

Once again we proudly present our annual water quality report which details the results of water quality testing completed from January to December, 2008. The purpose of this report is to raise your understanding of drinking water and awareness of the need to protect our drinking water sources. Included in this report are details about where your water comes from, what it contains, and how our water quality results compare to federal and state standards.

We are pleased to tell you that we had no Safe Drinking Water Act violations again in 2008. We are committed to delivering the best quality drinking water. To that end, we remain vigilant in meeting the challenges of source water protection, water conservation, and community education while continuing to serve the needs of all our water users.

We want you to be informed about your drinking water. For more information about this report, or for any questions relating to your drinking water, please contact our Customer Call Center toll-free at 1-800-272-1325.

About Your Water Company

Edison Water Company and Liberty Water Company are served by New Jersey American Water under long term contracts. New Jersey American Water is the largest investor-owned water utility in the state, providing high-quality and reliable water and/or wastewater services to more than 2.6 million people.

About American Water

Founded in 1886, American Water is the largest investor-owned U.S. water and wastewater utility company. With headquarters in Voorhees, N.J., the company employs more than 7,000 dedicated professionals who provide drinking water, wastewater and other related services to approximately 15 million people in 32 states and Ontario, Canada. More information can be found by visiting www.amwater.com.

Where Your Water Comes From

Water for the Edison System is purchased from Raritan Water System, Highland Park Water Dept. and Middlesex Water Co. Water for the Liberty System is purchased from Raritan Water System and Newark Water Dept.

Protecting Your Water Source

What is S.W.A.P.

SWAP (Source Water Assessment Program) is a program of the New Jersey Department of Environmental Protection (NJDEP) to study existing and potential threats to the quality of public drinking water sources throughout the state. Sources are rated depending upon their contaminant susceptibility. For susceptibility ratings of purchased water, refer to the specific water system's source water assessment report. Source Water Assessment Reports and Summaries are available for public water systems at www.state.nj.us/dep/swap/ or by contacting the NJDEP's Bureau of Safe Drinking Water at (609) 292-5550.

Source water protection is a long-term dedication to clean and safe drinking water. It is more cost effective to prevent contamination than to address contamination after the fact. Every member of the community has an important role in source water protection. NJDEP recommends controlling activities and development around drinking water sources whether it is through land acquisition, conservation easements or hazardous waste collection programs. We will continue to keep you informed of SWAP's progress and developments.

Public Participation – How You Can Get Involved

Customers can participate in decisions that may affect the quality of water by:

- Reading the information provided in bill inserts and special mailings
- Contacting the company directly with questions or to discuss issues
- Responding to company requests for participation in focus groups and roundtables
- Attending open houses conducted by the company
- Responding to survey requests

Remember to be Water Smart

Wise water use is an important first step in protecting our water supply. Such measures not only save the supply of our source water, but can also save you money by reducing your water bill.

Wise water tips you can use inside your home include:

- Fix leaking faucets, pipes, toilets, etc.
- Replace old fixtures; install water-saving devices in faucets, toilets and appliances.
- Wash only full loads of laundry.
- Do not use the toilet for trash disposal.
- Take shorter showers.
- Do not let the water run while shaving or brushing teeth.
- Soak dishes before washing.
- Run the dishwasher only when full.

You can be water smart outdoors as well:

- Use mulch around plants and shrubs.
- Repair leaks in faucets and hoses.
- Use water-saving nozzles.

Vulnerable Populations Statement

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 microbial pathogens are available from the Safe Drinking Water Hotline (1-800-426-4791).

Cryptosporidium

Cryptosporidium is a microbial pathogen found in surface water throughout the US. Although Cryptosporidium can be removed through commonly-used filtration methods, US EPA issued a new rule in January 2006 that requires systems with higher Cryptosporidium levels in their source water to provide additional treatment. New Jersey American Water — Raritan system monitored for Cryptosporidium in its raw water in 2007. Sample results do not show a need to provide additional treatment.

Water Quality Facts

The data presented in the Table of Detected Contaminants is the same data collected to comply with U.S. Environmental Protection Agency and New Jersey state monitoring and testing requirements. We have learned through our testing that some contaminants have been detected, however, these contaminants were detected well below the levels set by the EPA to protect public health. To assure high quality water, individual water samples are taken each year for chemical, physical and microbiological tests. Tests are completed on water taken at the source, from the distribution system after treatment and, for lead and copper monitoring, from the customer's tap. Testing can pinpoint a potential problem so that preventive action may be taken. 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 has received monitoring waivers for asbestos and synthetic organic chemicals.

Liberty and Edison Water Company Systems

Table of Detected Contaminants – 2008

Regulated Substances											
Contaminant	Unit	MCL	MCLG	Maximum Detected Level		Range		Major Sources in Drinking Water	Violation		
				Edison	Liberty	Edison	Liberty				
Microbiological Contaminants											
Total Coliform Bacteria	Percentage of samples	Coliform detected in no more than 5% of monthly samples	0	1.35 % ¹	2.33% ¹	N/A	N/A	Naturally present in the environment	No		
Disinfectant Byproducts											
Total Trihalomethanes (TTHM)	ppb	80	N/A	32 ²	61.6 ²	11.9 – 83.2	12.8 – 96.7	By-product of drinking water disinfection	No		
Five Haloacetic Acids (HAA5)	ppb	60	N/A	24.4 ³	32 ³	ND – 71.6	1.1 – 55.1	By-product of drinking water disinfection	No		
Inorganic Contaminants											
Barium	ppm	2	2	0.04	0.04	0.02 – 0.04	0.01 – 0.04	Discharge of drilling wastes; discharge from metal refineries; erosion of natural deposits	No		
Nitrate ⁴	ppm	10	10	0.78	0.77	0.38 – 1.41	0.38 – 1.41	Runoff from fertilizer use; leaching from septic tanks, sewage; erosion of natural deposits	No		
Contaminant	Unit	MCL	MCLG	Maximum Detected Level		Range		Major Sources in Drinking Water	Violation		
Turbidity											
Turbidity ⁵	NTU	TT = 1 NTU	N/A	0.43		0.07 – 0.43		Soil runoff	No		
Treatment Byproducts Precursor Removal											
Total Organic Carbon	ppm	TT	N/A	3.26		0.86 – 3.26		Naturally present in the environment	No		
Disinfectants											
Chloramines	ppm	MRDL = 4.0 as Cl ₂	MRDLG = 4	0.6 ⁶		0.2 – 3.6 ⁶		Water additive used to control microbes	No		
Organic Contaminants											
Dichloromethane	ppb	3	0	0.9		ND – 0.9		Discharge from pharmaceuticals and chemical factories	No		
Trichloroethylene	ppb	1	0	0.6 ⁷		ND – 0.6		Discharge from factories and dry cleaners	No		
Methyl t-Butyl Ether (MTBE)	ppb	70	0	0.5		ND – 0.5		Leaking underground gasoline and fuel oil tanks, gasoline and fuel oil spills	No		
Radiological Contaminants											
Alpha emitters ⁸	pCi/L	15	0	0.37		N/A		Erosion of natural deposits	No		
Combined Radium 226 and 228	pCi/L	5 ⁸	0	0.67		N/A		Erosion of natural deposits	No		
Tap water samples were collected for lead and copper analysis from homes in the service area											
Lead and Copper	Unit	Action Level ⁹	MCLG	Number of Samples		Amount Detected (90th Percentile)		Number of samples above action level		Major Sources in Drinking Water	Violation
				Edison	Liberty	Edison	Liberty	Edison	Liberty		
Lead	ppb	15	0	33	51	2	5	0	1	Corrosion of household plumbing systems	No
Copper	ppm	1.30	1.30	33	51	0.3	0.26	0	0	Corrosion of household plumbing systems; erosion of natural deposits	No
¹ Maximum percentage of positive samples collected in any one month. ² Maximum Detected Level indicated is the maximum running annual average. Range indicates the values detected of all samples collected in 2008. Some people who drink water containing trihalomethanes in excess of the MCL over many years may experience problems with their liver, kidneys, or central nervous systems, and may have an increased risk of getting cancer. ³ Maximum Detected Level indicated is the maximum running annual average. Range indicates the values detected of all samples collected in 2008. Some people who drink water containing haloacetic acids in excess of the MCL over many years may have an increased risk of getting cancer. ⁴ 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 an infant, you should ask for advice from your health care provider. ⁵ 99% of the turbidity readings were below the treatment technique requirement of 0.3 NTU. Turbidity is a measure of the cloudiness of the water. We monitor it because it is a good indicator of water quality. High turbidity can hinder the effectiveness of disinfectants. ⁶ Maximum Detected Level indicated is the maximum running quarterly average. Range indicates the monthly averages detected. ⁷ Some people who drink water containing trichloroethylene in excess of the MCL over many years could have problems with their liver, and may have an increased risk of getting cancer. ⁸ Maximum Detected Level indicated is the maximum running annual average. Range indicates the values detected. Some people who drink water containing alpha emitters or radium 226 or 228 in excess of the MCL over many years may have an increased risk of getting cancer. Radium 266 and Radium 228 have a combined MCL of 5 pCi/L. ⁹ Action Level: The concentration of a contaminant which, if exceeded, triggers a treatment technique or other requirement, which a water system must follow.											
Unregulated Contaminant Monitoring Rule (UCMR-2)											
During 2008, New Jersey American Water participated in the Unregulated Contaminant Monitoring Rule. Unregulated contaminants are those for which the EPA has not established drinking water standards. The purpose of unregulated contaminant monitoring is to assist the EPA in determining the occurrence of unregulated contaminants in drinking water and whether regulation is warranted. For testing conducted in the Raritan System, the following substance was found.											
Contaminant	Units	Range Detected		Use or Environmental Source							
N-nitrosopyrrolidine (NPYR)	ppb	ND to 0.0172		Nitrosamines can form as intermediates and by-products in chemical synthesis and manufacture of rubber, leather, and plastics; can form spontaneously by reaction of precursor amines with nitrosating agents (nitrate and related compounds), or by action of nitrate-reducing bacteria. Foods such as bacon and malt beverages can contain nitrosamines; there is also evidence that they form in the upper GI tract.							

How do I read the Table of Detected Contaminants?

Starting with the **Contaminant**, read across from left to right. A “No” under **Violation** means the amount of the substance met government requirements. The column marked **MCLG, Maximum Contaminant Level Goal**, 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. The shaded column marked **MCL, Maximum Contaminant Level**, 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. The shaded column marked **Range** shows the highest and lowest test results for the year. The column marked **Maximum Detected Level** shows the highest test results during the year. **Major Sources in Drinking Water** shows where this substance usually originates. Compare the Range values with the MCL column. To be in compliance, the Maximum Detected Level must be lower than the MCL standard. As you can see from the table, our system had no MCL violations again this year.

Footnotes and the definitions below will help you interpret the data presented in the Table of Detected Contaminants.

90th Percentile Value: Of the samples taken, 90 percent of the values of the results were below the level indicated in the table.

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

MRDL (Maximum Residual Disinfectant Level): The highest level of disinfectant allowed in drinking water. There is convincing evidence that addition of a disinfectant is necessary for control of microbial contaminants.

MRDLG (Maximum Residual Disinfectant Level Goal): The level of 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.

N/A: not applicable

Nephelometric Turbidity Units (NTU): Measurement of the clarity, or turbidity, of the water.

None Detected (ND): Laboratory analysis indicates that the constituent is not present

Parts per Billion (ppb): Corresponds to one part substance in one billion parts of water.

Parts per Million (ppm): Corresponds to one part substance in one million parts of water.

Picocuries per Liter (pCi/L): A measure of the radioactivity in water.

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

What's in the source water before we treat it?

In general, the sources of drinking water (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 can pick up substances resulting from the presence of animals or from human activities.

Substances that may be present in source water include:

Microbiological Contaminants: such as viruses and bacteria, which may come from sewage treatment plants, septic systems, agricultural livestock operations or wildlife.

Inorganic Contaminants: such as salts and metals which can be naturally occurring or may 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 by-products of industrial processes and petroleum production, and may also come from gas stations, urban stormwater runoff and septic systems.

Radioactive Contaminants: which can be naturally occurring or may be the result of oil and gas production and mining activities.

For more information about contaminants and potential health effects, call the EPA's Safe Drinking Water Hotline at 1-800-426-4791.

Do I Need to Take Special Precautions?

To ensure that tap water is safe to drink, the U.S. EPA prescribes regulations limiting the amount of certain contaminants in water provided by public water systems. U.S. 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 water poses a health risk. More information about contaminants and potential health effects can be obtained by calling the EPA's Safe Drinking Water Hotline at 1-800-426-4791.

The EPA and the Center for Disease Control guidelines on appropriate means to lessen the risk of infection by *Cryptosporidium*, *Giardia* and other microbial pathogens are available from the Safe Drinking Water Hotline (1-800-426-4791).

Special Informational Statement for 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. New Jersey American Water 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, 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>.

What is Radon?

Radon is a radioactive gas that occurs naturally in some groundwater. It may pose a health risk when the gas is released from water into air, as occurs while showering, washing dishes and performing other household activities. Radon can move up through the ground and into a home through cracks in the foundation. Compared to radon entering the home through soil, radon entering through tap water is, in most cases, a small source of radon in indoor air. Inhalation of radon gas has been linked to lung cancer, however the effects of radon ingested in drinking water are not yet clear. If you are concerned about radon in your home, tests are available to determine the total exposure level.

During testing, radon was detected less than 100 pCi/L in the Edison Water Company system and Liberty Water Company system. The EPA is developing regulations to reduce radon in drinking water. Radon in the air is inexpensive to test and easy to correct. For additional information, call the EPA's Radon Hotline at 1-800-SOS-RADON.

Share This Report:

Landlords, businesses, schools, hospitals and other groups are encouraged to share this important water quality information with water users at their location who are not customers. Additional copies of this report are available by contacting customer service at 1-800-272-1325.

How to Contact Us

Thank you...for allowing us to continue to provide your family with quality drinking water this year. We ask that all our customers protect our water sources. Please call our Customer Call Center toll-free at 1-800-272-1325 if you have questions:

**Edison Water Company and
Liberty Water Company
Served by New Jersey American Water
7303 Plantation Road
Pensacola, FL 32504
www.amwater.com**

Water Information Sources

New Jersey Department of Environmental Protection
Bureau of Safe Drinking Water: (609) 292-5550
www.state.nj.us/dep

New Jersey Board of Public Utilities:
(973) 648-2350

Two Gateway Center, Newark, NJ 07102

Division of Customer Relations:
1-800-624-0241 • www.state.nj.us/bpu

US Environmental Protection Agency:
www.epa.gov/safewater

Safe Drinking Water Hotline:
1-800-426-4791

American Water Works Association:
www.awwa.org

Centers for Disease Control and Prevention:
www.cdc.gov



131 Woodcrest Road
P.O. Box 5079
Cherry Hill, NJ 08034

**This report contains important information about your drinking water.
If you do not understand it, please have someone translate it for you.**

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

本报告与您的饮用水有关。

如果您不了解其内容，应请别人为您翻译解说。

이 보고서에는 귀하께서 사용하고 계시는 식수에 관한 정보가 포함되어 있습니다. 만약에 이해를 못하시면 누군가에게 번역을 의뢰하십시오.

આ અહેવાલ મેં તમારા પીવાના પાણી વિષે
અગત્ય ની જાણકારી આપવા માં આવી છે.
એનો અનુવાદ કરો અથવા જેને સમજાવો પડે
તેમ તેની સાથે વાત કરો