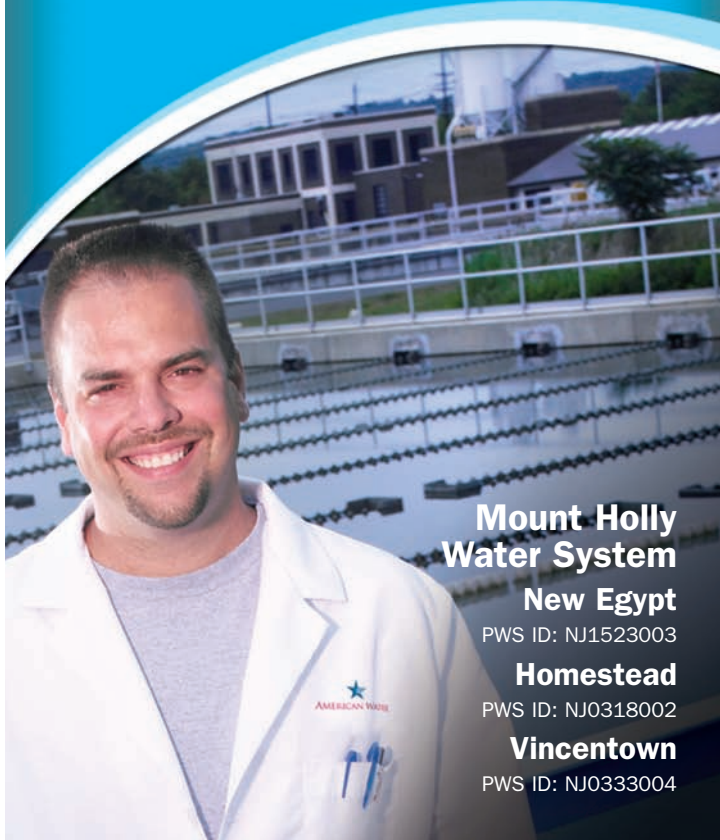


# 2008 Annual Water Quality Report



## Mount Holly Water System

New Egypt

PWS ID: NJ1523003

Homestead

PWS ID: NJ0318002

Vincentown

PWS ID: NJ0333004

## A Message from the President

As a trusted leader in the industry, New Jersey American Water places a strong emphasis on sharing information about the quality of the water we provide with our customers.

One way we do this is by reporting to you annually the results of our tests on the water we deliver to your home. Please review this Consumer Confidence Report (CCR), which outlines information applicable to your local water system for testing completed through December, 2008. You'll find that we provide water that surpasses or meets all federal and state water quality regulations. In fact, we often address regulations well before they go into effect.

Just as important, New Jersey American Water makes the necessary investments to maintain and upgrade its facilities, so that we can deliver quality water directly to your tap 24 hours a day, seven days a week.

Our customers are our top priority, and we are committed to providing them with the highest quality drinking water and service possible now and in the years to come. In addition to this written report, you can view information about New Jersey American Water and your water system on our website at [www.amwater.com](http://www.amwater.com). For more information or for any questions about this report relating to your drinking water, please contact New Jersey American Water at (800) 834-4787.

Sincerely,

John Bigelow  
President, New Jersey American Water

## Where Your Water Comes From

Source Water for the Homestead System comes from the Potomac-Raritan-Magothy (PRM) aquifer. The Englishtown aquifer system supplies New Egypt. Mount Laurel-Wenonah aquifer serves as the source for the Vincentown System.

## About New Jersey American Water

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](http://www.amwater.com).

## 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



## 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.

## Water Quality Results

## Table of Detected Contaminants – 2008

Regulated Substances														
Contaminant	Unit	MCL	MCLG	Maximum Detected Level			Range	Major Sources in Drinking Water	Violation					
				New Egypt	Homestead	Vincetown								
<b>Microbiological Contaminants</b>														
Total Coliform Bacteria	Percentage of samples	Coliform detected in more than 5% of monthly samples	N/A	0	0	0	N/A	Naturally present in the environment	No					
<b>Disinfectants</b>														
Chlorine	ppm	MRDL = 4	MRDLG = 4	0.56	0.36	0.72	0.20 - 0.76 <sup>1</sup>	Water additive used to control microbes	No					
<b>Disinfection Byproducts</b>														
Total Trihalomethanes (TTHM)	ppb	80	N/A	12.9	1.6	2.8	N/A	By-product of drinking water disinfection	No					
Five Haloacetic Acids (HAA5)	ppb	60	N/A	4.5	0	0	N/A	By-product of drinking water disinfection	No					
<b>Inorganic Contaminants</b>														
Barium	ppm	2	2	0.07	0.15	0.02	N/A	Discharge of drilling wastes; discharge from metal refineries; erosion of natural deposits	No					
Fluoride	ppm	4	4	0.1	0.1	0.2	N/A	Erosion of natural deposits; water additive that promotes strong teeth	No					
<b>Radiological Contaminants</b>														
Alpha emitters <sup>2</sup>	pCi/L	15	0	3.2	8.4	ND	N/A	Erosion of natural deposits	No					
Combined Radium 226 and 228	pCi/L	5 <sup>2</sup>	0	ND	1.1	ND	N/A	Erosion of natural deposits	No					
<b>Tap water samples were collected for lead and copper analysis from homes in the service area</b>														
Lead and Copper <sup>3</sup>	Unit	Action Level <sup>4</sup>	MCLG	Number of Samples			Amount Detected (90th Percentile) <sup>5</sup>			Number of samples above action level			Major Sources in Drinking Water	Violation
				New Egypt	Homestead	Vincetown	New Egypt	Homestead	Vincetown	New Egypt	Homestead	Vincetown		
Lead (2006)	ppb	15	0	10	11	11	3	6	14	0	1	1	Corrosion of household plumbing systems	No
Copper (2006)	ppm	1.3	1.3	10	11	11	0.28	0.23	0.27	0	0	0	Corrosion of household plumbing systems; erosion of natural deposits	No
<sup>1</sup> Maximum Detected Level indicated is the maximum running quarterly average. Ranges indicate the monthly averages detected. <sup>2</sup> 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 226 and Radium 228 have a combined MCL of 5 pCi/L. <sup>3</sup> 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. <sup>4</sup> Action Level: The concentration of a contaminant which, if exceeded, triggers a treatment technique or other requirement, which a water system must follow. <sup>5</sup> Ninety percent of the samples are below the indicated values.														
<b>New Egypt Water System – Secondary Contaminants</b>														
Contaminants	Unit	MCL	Maximum Detected Level	Range	Typical Source									
Iron <sup>1</sup>	ppm	0.3	0.4	0.1 - 0.4	Erosion of natural deposits									
<sup>1</sup> The recommended upper limit for iron is based on unpleasant taste of the water and staining of the laundry. Iron is an essential nutrient, but some people who drink water with iron well above the recommended upper limit could develop deposits of iron in a number of organs in the body.														

## 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
- **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.

## 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.

## 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 New Egypt and Homestead System and 371 pCi/L in Vincentown 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.

## 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>.

## 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).**

## 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 1-800-834-4787.

## 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 1-800-834-4787 if you have questions:

**New Jersey American Water**  
7303 Plantation Road  
Pensacola, FL 32504  
[www.amwater.com](http://www.amwater.com)

## Water Information Sources

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

**US Environmental Protection Agency**  
[www.epa.gov/safewater](http://www.epa.gov/safewater)

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

**American Water Works Association**  
[www.awwa.org](http://www.awwa.org)

**Centers for Disease Control and Prevention**  
[www.cdc.gov](http://www.cdc.gov)

**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 보고서는 귀하께서 사용하고 계시는 식수에 관한 정보가 들어있습니다. 만약에 이해를 못하시면 누군가에게 번역을 의뢰하십시오.

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અગત્ય ની જાણકારી આપવા માટે આપ્યું છે.  
આનો અર્થુહાર કરી અથવા જેને સમજાવવા પડશે  
તેમ તેની સહાયતા કરો



NEW JERSEY  
AMERICAN WATER