

Readington Township Well Water Testing 2024

Private well owners are responsible for the safety of their water and regular testing is the only way to know for certain that the water is safe to drink. Each year, Readington Township partners with Raritan Headwaters Association to hold a water testing event enabling residents the opportunity to test their drinking water conveniently and affordably for a variety of contaminants. The 2024 Community Well Testing event was held at both the Readington Township Municipal Building and the Three Bridges Fire Station on various days throughout October including: October 12th, 15th, 16th, 22nd and 23rd. In total, 161 residents returned their samples on various return mornings throughout the month!

The following chart is a summary of data collected from these 161 wells on Primary Contaminants of Concern:

Readington Township
Well Water Testing
 + LEAD
TestMyWell.org
October 12-23
 Raritan Headwaters
 COMMUNITY WELL TESTING PROGRAM

Contaminant	# wells tested in 2024	Limit or MCL*	Range of results (ND=NonDetect)	# wells exceeding MCL
Coliform bacteria	160	Absent	Absent-Present	24
E.coli	160	Absent	Absent-Present	2
Nitrate	161	10 mg/L	ND-12.9 mg/L	1
Lead	45	15 ppb	ND-68.4 ppb	1
Radon	37	2000 pCi/L**	ND-2840 pCi/L	6
Gross Alpha	20	15 pCi/L	ND-28.1 pCi/L	1
Volatile Organic Compounds (32 chemicals)	27	Varies	ND-31.8 ug/L	1
Synthetic organic compounds (3 chemicals)	8	Varies	ND	0
Arsenic	95	5 ppb	ND-22.5 ppb	13
See 5 PFAS compounds below:				
PFOS	10	4 ppt (EPA)	ND- 9.77 ppt	3
PFNA	10	10 ppt (EPA)	ND-1.72 ppt	0
PFOA	10	4 ppt (EPA)	ND-19.6 ppt	4
PFHxS	10	10 ppt (EPA)	ND-3.97 ppt	0
GenX (HFPO-DA)	10	10 ppt (EPA)	ND	0

* Maximum Contaminant Level (MCL). The maximum level of a contaminant which is permitted in public water supplies. Maximum contaminant levels are specified in the Primary Drinking Water Standards set by EPA for contaminants that affect the safety of public drinking water.

** There is no standard set in NJ for radon in water. Standards set in other states in our region are used as guidelines. The most protective of these standards is 2000 pCi/L in New Hampshire.

There are approximately 5004 private wells in Readington Township. Under the New Jersey Private Well Testing Act (PWTA) which was signed into law in 2001, wells must be tested for an array of contaminants upon transfer of ownership or if there is a rental on the property. The NJDEP collects and publishes data on the results of the testing which may be explored at <https://www.nj.gov/dep/dsr/pwta/>. In Readington Township, 2014 wells have been tested as mandated under the PWTA between 2002 and 2023. The following table summarizes available data for Readington Township on the percent of exceedances for individual contaminants including the number of wells tested under PWTA.

Municipality	READINGTON TWP
County	HUNTERDON
Nitrate	0.5%, 2014 wells sampled
Iron	6.6%, 2014 wells sampled
Manganese	4%, 2014 wells sampled
VOC	1.9%, 2014 wells sampled
Fecal Coliform	4.9%, 2008 wells sampled
pH	11.1%, 2013 wells sampled
Arsenic	19.3%, 2014 wells sampled
Gross Alpha	1.5%, 1830 wells sampled
Mercury	Testing not required under PWTA
SOC	0.6%, 497 wells sampled
PFOA	0.9%, 233 wells sampled
PFOS	3.4%, 233 wells sampled
PFNA	0%, 233 wells sampled
At least one PFAS exceeded	3.9%, 233 wells sampled
Uranium	0%, 495 wells sampled

*Gross Alpha (radiation screen) testing became a requirement under the PWTA in 2018

**PFAS testing became a requirement under the PWTA in December of 2021.

