

# Annual Drinking Water Quality Report

## Upper Township Middle School For the Year 2025, Results from the Year 2024

This report is designed to inform you about the water quality in this building. This report shows our water quality and what it means. Our water source is wells.

**Some people may be more vulnerable to contaminants in drinking water than the general population. Immuno-compromised people such as people with cancer undergoing chemotherapy, people 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).**

If you have any questions about this report or concerning your drinking water, please contact Laurie Ryan or Diane Niemi at 609-628-3500. The Upper Township Middle School routinely monitors for contaminants in your drinking water according to Federal and State laws. This table shows the results of our monitoring for the period of January 1<sup>st</sup> to December 31<sup>st</sup>, 2024. 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, is more than one year old.

The New Jersey Department of Environmental Protection (NJDEP) has prepared Source Water Assessment Reports and Summaries for all public water systems. Further information on the Source Water Assessment Program can be obtained by logging onto NJDEP's source water assessment web site at <https://www.nj.gov/dep/watersupply/swap/index.html> or by contacting NJDEP's Bureau of Safe Drinking Water at (609) 292-5550.

Test Results						
Contaminant	Violation Y/N	Level Detected	Units of Measurement	MC LG	MCL	Likely Source of Contamination
<b>Microbiological Contaminants:</b>						
Total coliform Bacteria	N	No positive samples in 2024		N/A	N/A	Naturally present in the environment
<b>Inorganic Contaminants:</b>						
Barium Test results Yr. 2022	N	Range = ND – 0.02 Highest detect = 0.02	ppm	2	2	Discharge of drilling wastes; discharge from metal refineries; erosion of natural deposits
Copper Test results 1 <sup>st</sup> ½ Yr.2024 Result at 90 <sup>th</sup> Percentile	N	0.17 No samples exceeded the action level. 10 samples taken. Range of detections: (0.02 – 0.31)	ppm	1.3	AL=1.3	Corrosion of household plumbing systems; erosion of natural deposits.
Copper Test results 2 <sup>nd</sup> ½ Yr.2024 Result at 90 <sup>th</sup> Percentile	N	ND No samples exceeded the action level. 10 samples taken. Range of detections: (ND – 0.143)	ppm	1.3	AL=1.3	Corrosion of household plumbing systems; erosion of natural deposits.
Lead Test results 1 <sup>st</sup> ½ Yr. 2024 Result at 90 <sup>th</sup> Percentile	N	1.3 No samples exceeded the action level. 10 samples taken. Range of detections: (ND -2.2)	ppb	0	AL=15	Corrosion of household plumbing systems, erosion of natural deposits
Lead Test results 2 <sup>nd</sup> 1/2 Yr. 2024 Result at 90 <sup>th</sup> Percentile	N	ND No samples exceeded the action level. 10 samples taken. Range of detections: (All ND)	ppb	0	AL=15	Corrosion of household plumbing systems, erosion of natural deposits
Selenium Test results Yr. 2022	N	Range = ND – 2.7 Highest detect = 2.7	ppb	50	50	Discharge from petroleum and metal refineries; erosion of natural deposits; discharge from mines
Nitrate (as Nitrogen) Test results Yr. 2024	N	Range = ND – 0.72 Highest detect = 0.72	ppm	10	10	Runoff from fertilizer use; leaching from septic tanks, sewage; erosion of natural deposits
<b>Radioactive Contaminants:</b>						
Combined Radium 228 & 226 Test results Yr. 2024	N	Range = ND – 2.5 Highest detect = 2.5	pCi/l	0	5	Erosion of natural deposits

## **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 plumbing. The Upper Township Middle School is responsible for providing high quality drinking water but cannot control the variety of materials used in plumbing components. When the water has been sitting for several hours, you can minimize the potential for lead exposure by flushing the tap for 30 second to 2 minutes before using water for drinking and cooking. 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>.

## **Health Effects of Lead**

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. Upper Township Middle School is responsible for providing high quality drinking water and removing lead pipes but cannot control the variety of materials used in plumbing components in your home. You share the responsibility for protecting yourself and your family from the lead in your home plumbing. You can take responsibility by identifying and removing lead materials within your home plumbing and taking steps to reduce your family's risk. Before drinking tap water, flush your pipes for several minutes by running your tap, taking a shower, doing laundry or a load of dishes. You can also use a filter certified by an American National Standards Institute accredited certifier to reduce lead in drinking water. If you are concerned about lead in your water and wish to have your water tested, please call Laurie Ryan or Diane Niemi at 609-628-3500 for Information on lead in drinking water, testing methods, and steps you can take to minimize exposure is available at <http://www.epa.gov/safewater/lead>.

Exposure to lead in drinking water can cause serious health effects in all age groups. Infants and children can have decreases in IQ and attention span. Lead exposure can lead to new learning and behavior problems or exacerbate existing learning and behavior problems. The children of women who are exposed to lead before or during pregnancy can have increased risk of these adverse health effects. Adults can have increased risks of heart disease, high blood pressure, kidney or nervous system problems.

## **DEFINITIONS**

In the table, you may find 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.

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.

**The Lead and Copper Action Level (AL) exceedances we were experiencing in the past have been corrected, as you can see by the results listed in the "Test Results" table.**

## **Special Notice:**

We inadvertently missed monitoring for Gross Alpha and Combined Radium (226 & 228) during the 1<sup>st</sup> & 3<sup>rd</sup> quarter of 2024. We are required to monitor quarterly. The results from the 2<sup>nd</sup> & 4<sup>th</sup> quarter of 2024 are reflected in the "Test Results" table. All results were in compliance.

**Gross Alpha & Combined Radium (226/228):** Some people who drink water containing Gross Alpha or Combined Radium 226 & 228 in excess of the MCL, over many years, may have an increased risk of getting cancer.

**We ask that everyone help us protect our water sources.**