Florence Township Water and Sewer Department
Municipal Complex
711 Broad Street
Florence , N.J. 08518

2012 CONSUMER CONFIDENCE REPORT

FLORENCE TOWNSHIP WATER AND SEWER DEPARTMENT

PWSID#0315001
ALLOCATION PERMIT #5256

(609) 499-2518

PLEASE READ THE IMPORTANT INFORMATION SECTION OF THIS REPORT

IMPORTANT INFORMATION

WATER

Check your water meter and main water shutoff valve. Does the shutoff valve work? You may need it in an emergency. Is the water meter older than 5 years? If so, please call 499-2518 to schedule a water meter upgrade. There will be no charge for the meter upgrade.
It is recommended that you flush your water heater twice per year in May & October. To flush, hook a hose to the heater's bottom hose bib and turn the water on. Run the water until it runs clear. Then, turn on all of the inside faucets first to hot water and run until clear, then turn all of the faucets to cold water and run until clear. This procedure will help flush the inside plumbing system clear of rust and sediments.
If you have in-line filters in your plumbing, please change your filters regularly according to the manufacturer's recommendations.
If you have a sprinkler system, it is recommended that you have a separate sprinkler meter installed. This will ensure that the sprinkler water is metered separately from the main domestic meter. A separate sprinkler meter will save you money because the sprinkler water will not get billed for sewer usage.

SEWER

The toilet is not a "trash can". Please pay attention to what is put into the toilet because it could cause a sewer back up. Things such as diapers, paper towels, baby wipes and feminine products may get hung up in the piping system and cause a blockage in your private sewer lateral or in the sewer main. Also, grease and oils should not be put down the sink drains because, over time, the grease and oil will solidify and harden inside the pipes and this will cause clogging. Oils, solvents, PCB's, fuels and other chemicals will pass through the treatment plant and end up in the river.
Please check your plumbing in the basement. Sewage should never back up into the basement if it is plumbed correctly. Any pipes with open ends should be capped. Utility sinks, toilets and showers, and washing machine connections must be protected with a check valve or ball valve. A check valve, when correctly installed and maintained, will only allow flow in one direction out of the home and should not allow sewage to flow back into the home. If the public sewer main backs up, proper plumbing will keep sewage from the neighborhood from coming back into your home. Personal items stored in the basement should be kept off the floor and in plastic or water proof containers.
***Please call The Water & Sewer Department for any further details (609) 499-2518.**

FREQUENTLY ASKED QUESTIONS

Where does the drinking water come from? All of the drinking water for Florence Township is pumped from 6 wells located near the municipal building. The wells pump from the Potomac-Raritan-Magothy (PRM) aquifer system at depths of 100-140 feet. The water is pumped to the treatment plant on 6th & Summer Streets and then into the system for use.

Is Fluoride added to the water? Fluoride is not added to the water and tests show it is not present naturally.

How do I obtain a pool credit? You must contact the billing office at 499-2525 before filling the pool. The credit is only good for pool filling and can only be received once per year.

BILLING INQUIRIES, PLEASE CALL (609) 499-2525.

WATER OR SEWER QUESTIONS OR COMPLAINTS, please call (609) 499-2518.

EMERGENCIES AFTER 3:30 PM & BEFORE 7:00AM, please call (609) 499-3131.

Contaminants that may be present in source water include:

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

Inorganic contaminants, such as salts and metals, which can be naturally-occurring or result from urban storm water runoff, industrial or domestic wastewater discharges, oil and gas projection, mining or farming.

Pesticides and herbicides, which may come from a variety of sources such as agriculture, urban storm water runoff, and residential uses.

Organic chemical contaminants, including synthetic and volatile organic chemicals, which are byproducts of industrial processes and petroleum production, and can come from gas stations, urban storm water runoff, and septic systems.

Radioactive contaminants, which occur naturally or the result of oil, gas production and mining activities.

→ 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 reproductive 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 in drinking water at levels above 10 parts per million is a health risk for infants 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, ask advice from your health care provider.

→ 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 increased risk of getting cancer.

→ Infants and young children are typically more vulnerable to lead in drinking water than the general population. It is possible that lead levels at your home may be higher than at other homes in the community as a result of materials used in your home's plumbing. If you are concerned about lead levels in your home's water, you may wish to have your water tested and flush your tap for 30 seconds to 2 minutes before using tap water. Additional information is available from the Safe Drinking Water Hotline (1-800-426-4791).

Florence Township is committed to ensuring the quality of your drinking water. We are pleased to report that our drinking water meets all federal and state safety requirements. If you have any questions about this report or your water utility, please contact the Water & Sewer Director, David Lebak, at (609)499-2518. We want our valued customers to be informed about their water utility. If you want to learn more, you may also attend our regularly scheduled council meetings at the Florence Township Municipal Building on 711 Broad Street.. Meetings are held on the 1st and 3rd Wednesday of each month at 8pm.

The Florence Township Water & Sewer Department is presently upgrading the water meters in the system to ensure accurate and timely billing. We are transitioning to a radio read water meter program. This new technology allows for accurate water meter readings without anyone actually entering the home. All Water & sewer employees carry identification. Please make sure the employees produce a valid I.D. before allowing them to enter your home. Also, employees travel in a Florence Township vehicle easily recognized by the Florence Township stickers. If there is a question about the person's credentials, please call the Florence Township police @ 499-3131 or simply dial 911.

Sources for 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, in some cases radioactive material, and can pick up substances resulting from the presence of animals or from human activity. 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. 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 the 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. 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 microbiological contaminants are available from the Safe Drinking Water Hotline (800-426-4791).

The NJDEP has completed & issued The Source Water Assessment Report & Summary for this public water system, which is available at www.state.nj.us/dep/swap/ or by contacting the NJDEP, Bureau of Safe Drinking Water at (609) 292-5550. The source water assessment performed on our 5 groundwater sources determined the potential for contamination of source water, not the existence of contamination. Public water systems are required to monitor for regulated contaminants and to install treatment if any contaminants are detected at frequencies and concentrations above allowable levels. If a system is rated highly susceptible for a contaminant category, it does not mean a customer is or will be consuming contaminated drinking water. The ratings only reflect the potential for contamination. As a result of the assessments, DEP may customize (change existing) monitoring schedules based on the susceptibility ratings. Our 5 wells were rated against eight categories. 1. Pathogens-low 2.Nutrients-high 3. Pesticides-medium 4. Volatile Organic Compounds-high 5. Inorganics-high

6. Radionuclides-high 7. Radon-medium 8. Disinfection Byproducts Precursor-medium.

Please keep in mind, this is a summary of the report and the full report & related details are available on the website. Please call David Lebak, Director of Water & Sewer with any questions pertaining to this report @ (609) 499-2518.

Contaminant	MCL/ MCLG	Detected Level	Violation	Sources in Drinking Water	Health Effects
Lead(ppb) August 2009	**Action Level (AL) = 15/ None**	**90th percentile value <0.002 0 sites exceeded the AL**	**NO**	Corrosion of household plumbing systems, erosion of natural deposits.	Infants and children who drink water containing lead in excess of the action level could experience delays in their physical or mental development. Children could show slight deficits in attention span and learning abilities. Adults who drink this water over many years could develop kidney problems or high blood pressure.
Copper (ppm) August 2009	Action Level (AL) = 1.3/ 1.3	90th percentile value 0.193 0 sites exceeded the AL	NO	Corrosion of household plumbing systems; erosion of natural deposits; leaching from wood preservatives.	Copper is an essential nutrient, but some people who drink water containing copper in excess of the action level over a relatively short amount of time could experience gastrointestinal distress. Some people who drink water containing copper in excess of the action level over many years could suffer liver or kidney damage.

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. Florence Township 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 drinking 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 @ http://www.epa.gov/safewater/lead.

Gross Alpha Emitters (pCi/l) August 2009	15/ None	10.47	**NO** New testing protocol was followed	Erosion of natural deposits	Certain minerals are radioactive and may emit a form of radiation known as alpha radiation. Some people who drink water containing alpha emitters in excess of the MCL over many years may have an increased risk of getting cancer.

The Florence Township Water & Sewer Department routinely monitors for many contaminants in your drinking water according to federal and state laws. This table shows the results for only the detected contaminants, those not detected are not listed here. Some contaminants are monitored less than once a year and the sample year is indicated in the chart.

Maximum Contaminant Level (MCL) - The highest level of a contaminant that is allowed in drinking water. MCL's are set as close to the MCLG's as feasible using the best available treatment technology.

Maximum Contaminant Level Goal (MCLG) - The "Goal" is the level of a contaminant in drinking water below which there is known or expected risks to health. MCLG's allow for a margin of safety.

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

Parts Per Million (ppm) - One part per million corresponds to one minute in two years or a single penny in $10,000.

Parts Per Billion (ppb) - One part per billion corresponds to one minute in two thousand years or one penny in $10,000,000.

90th Percentile Value - 90% of the samples tested were at this value or lower.