



# BOROUGH OF PARK RIDGE BOARD OF PUBLIC WORKS ANNUAL WATER QUALITY REPORT JUNE 2018 (2017 SAMPLING DATA)

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The Park Ridge Water Department is pleased to present this year's Annual Water Quality Report. This report details the results of our water quality testing performed in 2017. It is designed to inform you about the quality water and services we provide to you every day. Our goal is to provide you with a safe and dependable supply of potable drinking water.



Ridge and Woodcliff Lake. This has been the consistent goal since the water utility began its operation in the 1920's.

This publication is very important because informed customers are the best allies in maintaining safe drinking water. Regular meetings of the Park Ridge Board of Public Works occur on the first and third Wednesday of each month, at 8:00 PM at the

In 2017, we analyzed over 2,500 samples to ensure that the 700 million gallons of water we pump, treat, and deliver meets water quality standards. We are pleased to report that our water meets or surpasses federal and state drinking water standards.

Park Ridge Utility Department, 15 Sulak Lane, Park Ridge. The public is welcome.

If you have any questions about your water please call us at (201) 391-2113. Additional information is also available on the Borough's website at [www.parkridgeboro.com](http://www.parkridgeboro.com). You may also call the Environmental Protection Agency safe drinking water hotline at (800) 426-4791 or find it on EPA's web site at [www.epa.gov](http://www.epa.gov).

The Board of Public Works is committed to delivering a safe and reliable supply of drinking water to the 5,000 customers in Park

## Where does our water come from?

Our water is supplied by groundwater from 18 wells located throughout Park Ridge and Woodcliff Lake. This water is drawn from the Brunswick Aquifer. In addition, we have three water storage tanks and five booster stations which can transfer water between different parts of the distribution system.

### IMPORTANT PHONE NUMBERS

Park Ridge Water Department Chris O'Leary - Licensed Operator	<b>201-391-2113</b>	NJDEP Bureau of Safe Drinking Water	<b>1-609-292-5550</b>
To report water emergencies during non-business hours	<b>201-391-5400</b>	New Jersey Board of Public Utilities	<b>1-800-624-0241</b>
New Jersey State Department of Environmental Protection (NJDEP)	<b>1-609-292-3950</b>	Environmental Protection Agency's Safe Drinking Water Hotline	<b>1-800-426-4791</b>

## Drinking Water Quality Table

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 contaminants are available from the Safe Drinking Water Hotline (800-426-4791).

Substance	Units	EPA Goal	EPA Stand-	NJDEP	*Park Ridge	Park Ridge	Major Sources
		MCLG	ard MCL	Standard MCL	Detected Level	Range	
<b>Inorganic Chemicals</b>							
Nitrate	ppm	10	10	10	3.0	1.5 - 3.0	Runoff from fertilizer use; Leaching from septic tanks, sewage; Erosion of natural deposits
Arsenic	ppb	NA	10	5	4.16	ND - 4.16	Erosion of natural deposits; Runoff from orchards; Runoff from glass and electronics production wastes
Barium	ppb	2,000	2,000	2,000	622	78 - 622	Discharge of drilling waste; discharge from metal refineries; erosion of natural deposits
Chromium	ppb	100	100	100	2.27	ND - 2.27	Discharge from steel and pulp mills; Erosion of natural deposits
Nickel	ppb	NA	NA	NA	2.99	1.21 - 2.99	Erosion of natural deposits

(This category contains 11 additional constituents which were not detected)

### Microbiological (Revised Total Coliform Rule)

Total Coliform		0	TT	TT	0	0	Naturally present in the environment
E. Coli**		0	0	0	0	0	Human and animal fecal waste
Disinfectant Residual (Chlorine)	ppm	MRDLG=4	MRDL=4	MRDL=4	0.25	0 - 0.59	Water additive used to control microbes

Over 180 samples were collected throughout the year from our distribution system.

### Radionuclides (Well #17 and Well #20 tested in 2014. All other wells tested in 2017)

Alpha Emitters	pCi/L	0	15	15	7.3	1.5 - 7.3	Erosion of natural deposits
Combined Radium 226/228	pCi/L	0	5	5	1.46	0.43 - 1.46	Erosion of natural deposits
Radon (tested 6/28/99)	pCi/L	n/a	n/a	n/a	790	n/a	Erosion of natural deposits

### Organic Chemicals

cis 1,2 Dichloroethylene	ppb	70	70	70	0.82	ND - 1.72	Discharge from industrial chemical factories
Methyl Tertiary-Butyl Ether	ppb	70***	n/a	70	0.90	ND - 1.52	Leaking underground gasoline and fuel oil tanks, gasoline and fuel oil spills
Trichloroethylene	ppb	0	5	1	ND	ND - 0.269	Discharge from metal degreasing sites and other factories

### Disinfectant By-Products (DBPs)

Total Trihalomethanes (TTHM)	ppb	n/a	80	80	10.8	1.7 - 16.1	By-product of drinking water disinfection
Five Haloacetic Acids (HAA5)	ppb	n/a	60	60	ND	ND	By-product of drinking water disinfection

\* Park Ridge detected level shows the highest test results used to determine compliance for the year in 2017. For some contaminants, this level is the running annual average of data from the highest entry point. Park Ridge did not exceed any MCL during 2017.

\*\*\* NJDEP regulated chemical. MCLG is health-based number developed by the NJDEP.

(This category contains 23 additional constituents which were not detected)

### Definitions:

**MCLG (Maximum Contaminant Level Goal)** - 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

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

**MRDLG** - Maximum Residual Disinfectant Level Goal                      **MRDL** - Maximum Residual Disinfectant Level

**NJRUL** - New Jersey Recommended Upper Limit                              **ND (non-detects)** - laboratory analysis indicates that the constituent is not present.

**ppm (parts per million)** - one drop in 10 gallons, one minute in two years, or a single penny in \$10,000.

**ppb (parts per billion)** - one drop in 10,000 gallons, one minute in 2,000 years

**pCi/L (picocuries per liter)** - measure of the radioactivity in water

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

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

## Drinking Water Quality Table (continued)

### Lead and Copper (tested in 2016)

Substance	Units	Action Level	Number of Samples	90th Percentile	# Samples above the action level	Major Sources
Lead	ppb	15	30	0	0	Corrosion of household plumbing systems; erosion of natural deposits
Copper	ppb	1,300	30	337	0	Corrosion of household plumbing systems; erosion of natural deposits

### Secondary Standards - related to aesthetic quality of drinking water

Substance	Units	NJ RUL	Highest Park Ridge Result	Average Park Ridge Result	Park Ridge Range	Major Sources
Chloride	ppm	250	208	122	57 - 208	Natural Mineral - Road Salt
Hardness	ppm	250	452	324	210 - 452	Natural Mineral
Manganese	ppm	0.05	0.015	0.001	ND - 0.015	Natural Mineral
pH		6.5 - 8.5	8.1	7.3	6.7 - 8.1	Natural Characteristic
Sodium	ppm	50	105	32.5	13.4 - 105	Natural Mineral - Road Salt
Sulfate	ppm	250	101	27	13.7 - 101	Natural Mineral
Total Dissolved Solids	ppm	500	960	586	318 - 960	Erosion of Natural Mineral Deposits
Zinc	ppm	5	0.021	0.004	ND - 0.021	Natural Mineral

**Note:** 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.

### Unregulated Compounds (2016)

Substance	Units	Standard	Average Park Ridge Result	Park Ridge Range	Major Sources
1,4 Dioxane	ppb	None	0.185	ND - 0.82	Cyclic aliphatic ether; used as a solvent or solvent stabilizer in manufacture and processing of paper, cotton, textile products, automotive coolant, cosmetics and shampoos.
Perchlorate	ppb	None	0.81	0.03 - 1.4	Oxygen additive in solid fuel propellant for rockets, missiles, and fireworks; fertilizers; erosion of natural deposits.

### Unregulated Contaminants Monitoring Rule (UCMR3 - tested in 2015)

During 2015, Park Ridge Water participated in the third phase of the Unregulated Contaminant Monitoring as required by the USEPA. Unregulated contaminants are those for which the USEPA has not established drinking water standards. Monitoring assists the USEPA in determining the occurrence of these compounds and whether or not future regulation is warranted. Detections from this monitoring are summarized in the following table, along with typical sources of these compounds. More information is available at <http://water.epa.gov/lawsregs/rulesregs/sdwa/ucmr/ucmr3>.

Substance	Units	Standard	Average Park Ridge Result	Park Ridge Range	Major Sources
Chlorate	ppb	None	44.4	ND - 158	Agricultural defoliant or desiccant; disinfection byproduct and used in the production of chlorine dioxide.
Chromium	ppb	None	0.34	0.23 - 0.4	Naturally occurring element; used in making steel and other alloys; chromium -3 or -6 forms are used for chrome plating, dyes and pigments, leather tanning and wood
Hexavalent Chromium	ppb	None	0.13	ND - 0.19	Naturally occurring element; used in making steel and other alloys; chromium -3 or -6 forms are used for chrome plating, dyes and pigments, leather tanning and wood
Strontium	ppb	None	287	2.6 - 501	Naturally occurring element; historically, commercial use of strontium has been in the faceplate glass of cathode-ray tube televisions to block x-ray emissions.
Vanadium	ppb	None	0.46	ND - 1.1	Naturally occurring elemental metal; used as vanadium pentoxide which is a chemical intermediate and a catalyst.

#### What Does This Table Mean?

Our water is tested to ensure that it is safe. Major Sources shows where this substance usually originates. Range shows the highest and lowest results for the year. Definitions explain the abbreviations used in the table. We ran many analytical tests on our water. Only the listed substances in the table were detected.

The Safe Drinking Water Act regulations allow monitoring waivers to reduce or eliminate the monitoring requirements for certain contaminants. We received waivers for asbestos and synthetic organic chemicals because vulnerability assessments were performed and unambiguously showed that our system is not at risk of contamination from these contaminants.

The New Jersey Department of Environmental Protection (NJDEP) is the primary agency authorized by the United States Environmental Protection Agency (EPA) to regulate the quality of drinking water, and ensure that community water systems comply with State and Federal Regulations. The NJDEP determines the highest level of a contaminant that is allowed in the drinking water or the Maximum Contaminant Level (MCL).

## Source Water Assessment Program

The New Jersey Department of Environmental Protection (NJDEP) has completed and issued the Source Water Assessment Report and Summary for our public water system, which is available at [www.state.nj.us/dep/swap](http://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 19 wells determined the following susceptibility ratings for each of the groundwater supply wells. This table illustrates the susceptibility rating for each individual well and contamination category.

<b>Susceptibility Rating for Drinking Water Sources</b>												
<b>EPTDS ID</b>	<b>Source ID</b>	<b>Source Name</b>	<b>Location</b>	<b>Contaminant Category</b>								
				<b>Pathogens Rating</b>	<b>Nutrients Rating</b>	<b>Pesticides Rating</b>	<b>VOCs Rating</b>	<b>Inorganics Rating</b>	<b>Radionu- clides Rating</b>	<b>Radon Rating</b>	<b>DBPs Rating</b>	
006	007	Well 1	Park Avenue	M	M	L	H	H	H	H	H	M
006	009	Well 2	Mill Road	M	M	L	H	H	M	H	H	M
007	013	Well 3	Spring Valley Road	M	H	L	H	M	M	H	H	M
008	015	Well 4	Oak Avenue	M	M	L	H	H	H	H	H	M
009	019	Well 5	Sulak Lane	M	M	L	H	M	H	H	H	M
009	020	Well 6	Sulak Lane	M	H	M	H	H	M	H	H	M
009	021	Well 7	Sulak Lane	M	H	M	H	H	M	H	H	M
009	022	Well 8	Sulak Lane	M	H	L	H	H	M	H	H	M
016	025	Well 9	Werimus Road	M	H	L	H	M	M	H	H	M
011	027	Well 10	Glen Road	M	H	M	H	M	H	H	H	M
012	029	Well 11	Russett Place	M	M	L	H	M	M	H	H	M
013	031	Well 12	Glendale Road	M	H	L	H	M	M	H	H	M
014	033	Well 13	Wield Court	M	M	L	H	H	M	H	H	M
015	035	Well 14	Turrett Street	M	H	M	H	H	M	H	H	H
016	037	Well 15	Old Mill Road	M	H	L	H	M	M	H	H	M
017	039	Well 16	Prospect Avenue	M	M	L	H	M	H	H	H	M
018	041	Well 17	Glenbrook Drive	M	H	L	H	M	M	H	H	H
020	045	Well 18	New Street	M	M	L	H	H	H	H	H	H
021	048	Well 19	Ridge Avenue	M	M	L	H	M	M	H	H	M

\* The NJDEP has not yet performed the source water assessment for Well #20. The susceptibility ratings will be similar to Well #15

**EPTDS:** Entry Point to the Distribution System

**L,M,H:** Low, Medium and High susceptibility

**Pathogens:** Disease-causing organisms such as bacteria, protozoa, and viruses. Common sources are animal and human fecal wastes.

**Nutrients:** Common types of nutrients include nitrogen and phosphorous. Common sources include discharge from septic fields, areas where animal waste is stored, and runoff from agricultural and residential land where fertilizers were used.

**Pesticides:** Pesticides are manmade chemicals used to control bacteria, fungi, weeds, rodents, and insects. Common sources of pesticides include land applications (nonpoint source) and manufacturing/distribution centers of pesticides (point source).

**Volatile Organic Compounds (VOCs):** Man-made chemicals that are used as solvents, degreasers, and gasoline components. VOCs are the most common organic contaminants in groundwater in New Jersey.

**Inorganics:** Mineral-based compounds that are both naturally occurring and manmade. Common sources include discharges from manufacturing plants, releases from contaminated sites, past land uses, and naturally occurring sources. Inorganics include arsenic, cadmium, copper, lead, mercury, and asbestos.

**Radionuclides:** Radioactive substances that are both naturally occurring and manmade, such as radium and radon. Common sources include the decay of naturally occurring minerals, leaching of subsurface material (for example rocks and sedimentary materials) into ground water, and improper disposal of radioactive waste.

**Disinfection Byproduct (DBP) Precursors:** Disinfection byproducts are formed when the disinfectants used to kill pathogens during treatment react with dissolved organic material present in the water.

If a source was rated highly susceptible for a contamination category, it does not mean a customer is or will be consuming contaminated drinking water. The rating reflects 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 you have any questions regarding the source water assessment report or summary, please contact the Bureau of Safe Drinking Water at

## NJDEP & EPA HEALTH NOTES

The sources of drinking water (both tap water 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. 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 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 can also come from gas stations, urban stormwater runoff, and septic systems.
- Radioactive contaminants, which can be naturally occurring or be the result of oil and gas production and mining activities.
- 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. The Park Ridge Water Department 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 <http://www.epa.gov/safewater/lead>.
- Arsenic: While your drinking water meets EPA's standard for arsenic, it does contain low levels of

arsenic. EPA's standard balances the current understanding of arsenic's possible health effects against the costs of removing arsenic from drinking water. EPA continues to research the health effects of low levels of arsenic, which is a mineral known to cause cancer in humans at high concentrations and is linked to other health effects such as skin damage and circulatory problems.

- Radon: Radon is a radioactive gas that you can't see, taste or smell. At high levels of exposure, it is a known carcinogen. Radon is found throughout the U.S. in soil and can move up through the ground and into a home through cracks and holes in the foundation. It can also get into indoor air when released from tap water used for showering and other household activities. Radon entering the home through tap water will in most cases be a small source of radon in indoor air. If you are concerned about radon in your home, have the air tested. It is inexpensive and easy. There are simple ways to fix a radon problem that are not too costly. Call the EPA Radon Hotline for more information at 1-800-SOS-RADON.
- Manganese: The recommended upper limit for manganese is based on staining of laundry. Manganese is an essential nutrient, and toxicity is not expected from levels which would be encountered in drinking water.
- Sodium: For healthy individuals, the sodium intake from water is not important, because a much greater intake of sodium takes place from salt in the diet. However, sodium levels above the recommended upper limit may be a concern to individuals on a sodium restricted diet.

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 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 Environmental Protection Agency's Safe Drinking Water Hotline at 1-800-426-4791.

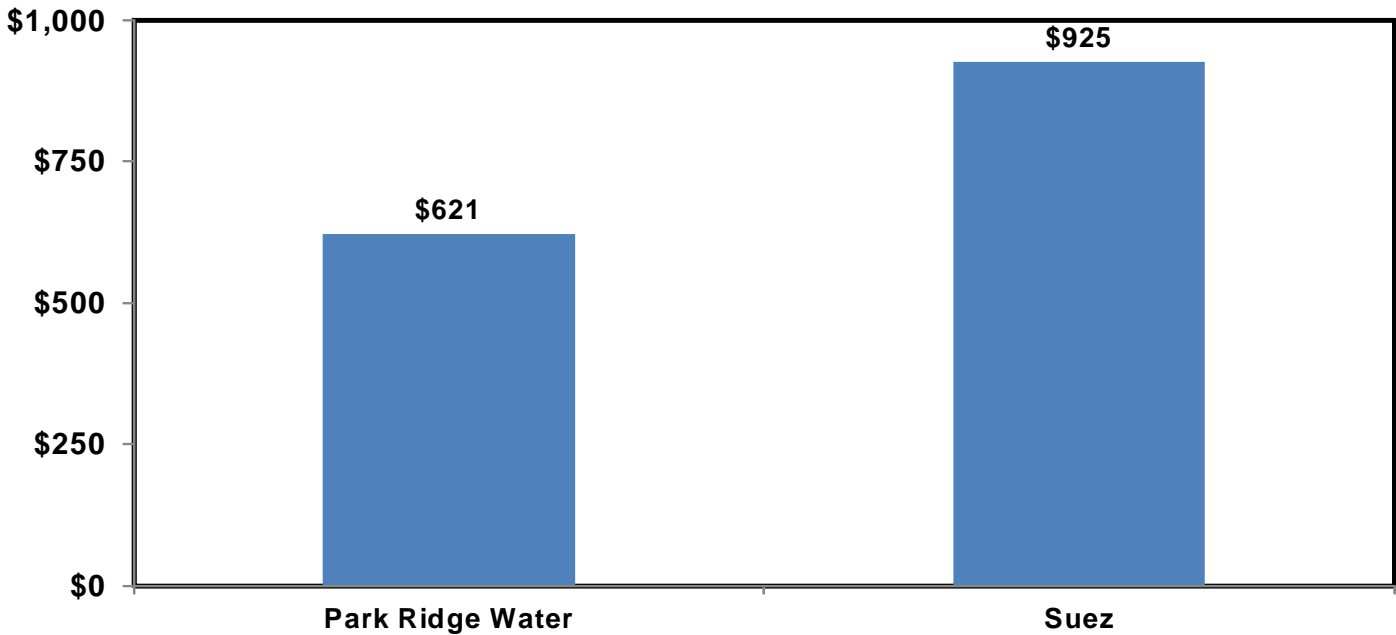
**PROJECTS WE ARE DOING TO IMPROVE  
OUR WATER SYSTEM**

- ◆ Completed the installation of a new advanced oxidation process water treatment system to remove low levels of the unregulated contaminant 1,4-dioxane at Well #17 (see picture on right).
- ◆ Completed the upgrade to the Well #10 Air Stripper Treatment Facility.
- ◆ Completed the rehabilitation of the Well #7 pumping facility
- ◆ Replacement and upgrade to the water main located on Glen Road between Werimus Rd. and Chestnut Ridge Rd. in Woodcliff Lake. Project scheduled for July.
- ◆ Permanent water supply “Well #21” to be drilled on property located in Woodcliff Lake. Design and permitting of new pumping and treatment facility to be constructed and put online in 2019.
- ◆ Replace carbon at the Well #3 and Well #9/15 treatment facilities.



*Park Ridge Water Department Operator Mark Gronbeck operating the controls on the new Purifics photo-catalytic advanced oxidation treatment system at Well 17.*

**Annual Residential Water Cost Comparison  
(based on average residential bill)**



**Park Ridge’s rate is 33% less than Suez’s rate for the typical residential water customer with 5/8” meter**



## Water Conservation Tips

- ◆ Wash full loads in your washing machine, or adjust the water level to reflect the size of the load.
- ◆ Let your pots and pans soak instead of letting the water run while you clean them.
- ◆ Try planting drought-tolerant and regionally adapted plants in areas that are hard to water or that receive little use. This may include narrow strips near sidewalks or driveways and steep hills.
- ◆ Soaker hoses are better than sprays. Install drip-irrigation or soaker hoses for more efficient watering in planting beds and beneath shrubs and trees.
- ◆ Install ultra-low-flush toilets to reduce the amount of water used in each flush.
- ◆ Put dye tablets or food coloring in your toilet tank and wait to see if the color appears in the bowl (without flushing). If it does, you have a leak!
- ◆ Turn the faucet off while you shave, brush your teeth and lather up your hands.
- ◆ Take a short shower instead of a bath. While a five minute shower uses a 12 to 25 gallons, a full tub requires about 70 gallons.

## **How to Use Your Water Meter to Check for Leaks**

Park Ridge has two types of water meters, and both can be used to help determine if you have a leak in your house. The older meters have mechanical totalizing digits which advance every 10 gallons. These meters have a leak indicator that will spin even when the smallest amount of water is passing through your meter. If you have all of your faucets off, and this indicator is moving, this means water is leaking somewhere.

The newer meters have a digital display that is visible when you open the cover of the meter. The totalizing resolution with these meters is much smaller and will advance even if a small amount of water is running through the meter. In addition, when you open and close the lid, the display will toggle between the total gallons measure and the instantaneous flow rate (in gallons per minute). This can be useful if you are interested in knowing how much water is being used by your appliances or sprinkler system while they are running.

**Mechanical Totalizing Meter**



LEAK INDICATOR  
rotates even for very low  
flow of water.

**Digital Totalizing Meter**



Totalizer advances for  
very low flow rates (less  
than 1/4 gallon per mi-  
nute).

Open and close lid to  
display instantaneous  
flow rate (gallons per  
minute).

Another tip is to read your water meter at night and then first thing in the morning. If there is an increase in the reading, water is leaking in your home. If you have any questions about this, please feel free to call the Water Department at 201-319-2113.

*“Here are your waters and your watering place.  
Drink and be whole again beyond confusion.”*

Robert Frost (1874–1963)



Board of Public Works  
Department of Public Utilities  
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