

## Delaware Township Well Water Testing 2025

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, Delaware 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 2025 Community Well Testing event sales were held on September 17<sup>th</sup> and September 20<sup>th</sup> at the Delaware Township Municipal Building. In total, 61 residents purchased well testing kits and 57 returned their samples on September 22<sup>nd</sup>.

The following chart is a summary of data collected from these 57 wells on Primary Contaminants of Concern:

Contaminant	# wells tested in 2025	Limit or MCL*	Range of results (ND=NonDetect)	# wells exceeding MCL
Coliform bacteria	51	Absent	Absent-Present	12
E.coli	51	Absent	Absent-Present	1
Nitrate	52	10 mg/L	ND - 4.97 mg/L	0
Lead	15	15 ppb	ND – 89.2 ppb	1
Radon	19	800 - 4,000 pCi/L**	ND – 4,442.9 pCi/L	Under 800 pCi/L = 4 wells 800-4,000 pCi/L = 14 wells Over 4,000 pCi/L = 1 well
Gross Alpha	11	15 pCi/L	ND - 15.4 pCi/L	1
Volatile Organic Compounds (32 chemicals)	8	Varies	ND	0
Synthetic organic compounds (3 chemicals)	6	Varies	ND	0
Arsenic	35	5 ppb	ND - 16.9 ppb	4
See 5 PFAS compounds below:				
PFOS	7	4 ppt (EPA)	ND – 1.22 ppt	0
PFNA	7	10 ppt (EPA)	ND	0
PFOA	7	4 ppt (EPA)	ND - 1.81 ppt	0
PFHxS	7	10 ppt (EPA)	ND	0
GenX (HFPO-DA)	7	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.

\*\* Although an action level does not currently exist for private wells in New Jersey, past considerations included MCL's ranging from 800-4,000 pCi/L. The EPA standard for radon in water is 4,000 pCi/L.

There are approximately 1,885 private wells in Delaware 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 Delaware Township, 700 wells have been tested as mandated under the PWTA between 2002 and 2024. The following table summarizes available data for Delaware Township on the percent of exceedances for individual contaminants including the number of wells tested under PWTA.

Nitrate	0.4%, 700 wells sampled
Iron	15.9%, 700 wells sampled
Manganese	19.7%, 700 wells sampled
VOC	0.3%, 700 wells sampled
Fecal Coliform	3.9%, 700 wells sampled
pH	24%, 699 wells sampled
Arsenic	21.7%, 700 wells sampled
Gross Alpha	11.7%, 640 wells sampled
SOC	0.6%, 166 wells sampled
PFOA	3.2%, 95 wells sampled
PFOS	1.1%, 95 wells sampled
PFNA	1.1%, 95 wells sampled
At least one PFAS exceeded	3.2%, 95 wells sampled
Uranium	0.6%, 166 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.

