

DRINKING WATER WATCH – FREQUENTLY ASKED QUESTIONS

What is the Drinking Water Watch and what can I use it for?

The Drinking Water Watch (DWW) is a search tool that provides water quality and safety compliance data for Public Water Systems (PWSs). Using the tool, you can access information on any PWS registered in Delaware.

What type of information can I find?

Information can vary — from contact details, water sampling results and violations to enforcement actions and annual water quality reports.

Where does the DWW get its information?

The DWW provides data gleaned from the Safe Drinking Water Information System (SDWIS), a federal database that tracks the safety and compliance of water systems across the U.S.

Can the DWW tell me about the quality of my tap water?

Yes. The tool allows you to check whether your water meets federal and state standards for water quality. You can also check if there have been any quality issues with your water in the past.

What type of contaminants are monitored in drinking water?

Contaminants reported in the DWW include bacteria, lead and copper, nitrates, organic and inorganic compounds, radioactive contaminants and disinfection byproducts.

Are PFAS reported in DWW?

Yes. For systems that monitor for PFAS, sample results will appear in the Drinking Water Watch.

Can I use the DWW to do a search on a private well?

No. The tool only provides information on public water systems.

Where can I find the DWW?

On the Office of Drinking Water website, click the link: [Drinking Water Watch](#). Alternatively, you can Google “Drinking Water Watch, Delaware.”



How can I do a general search on a water system – including mine?

1. In the ‘Public Water Supply Systems Search Parameters’ section on the home page, enter the water system name *or* PWS ID number in the box indicated.
2. At the bottom of the page, click “Search for Water Systems.”
3. A page will appear with the following header:

Drinking Water Branch
Water Systems
4. Below, in the table labeled “Water System No.,” click the link for the PWS ID number.
5. A page will appear with the following header:

Drinking Water Branch
Water System Details
6. On this page, you’ll find a detailed breakdown of a water system’s operations, status and compliance. This will include information such as contact person(s), address, number of service connections, population served etc.)
7. On the left side of the page, you’ll find links to the system’s monitoring schedules, sample results of specific analytes (bacteria, lead and copper, nitrates etc.)

How can I find a system’s sample results for a specific contaminant (like total coliform bacteria, lead and copper, nitrates etc.)?

1. In the ‘Public Water Supply Search Parameters’ section on the home page, enter the water system name or the Public Water System ID number in the box indicated.
2. In the ‘Sample Search Parameters’ section, go to the box to the right of where it says ‘Sample Class’. Click on the downward arrow; a menu of options will appear.
3. Choose the type of water sampling results that you want to view.
4. Immediately below, choose the “Sample Collection Range” for your search by clicking on the calendar icons next to the two boxes. (Unless you select a specific time frame, the search will automatically give you results for the past two years.)
5. Below, click on the box that says “Search for Samples.”
6. If the system has performed any sampling, a table of results will appear.

I’m a drinking water system operator in Delaware and need to complete an annual Water Quality Report. Where can I find my system’s data in DWW?

1. Go to the DWW home page.



2. At the bottom of the page, click “Review Consumer Confidence Data.”
3. A page will appear with the following header:

Drinking Water Branch
Review Consumer Confidence Data.
4. Enter your water system ID number, or select the name of your water system.
5. Select the year for which you want CCR data.
6. Select your report format (PDF or RTF).
7. Click “Generate Report.”

Who should I contact if I have more questions about the Drinking Water Watch?

Contact Kevin Cottman, Manager – PWSS Program, at 302-741-8582 or by email at Kevin.Cottman@delaware.gov.