

On July 21, 2017, the Water Quality Accountability Act (WQAA) was signed into law – setting new operational standards for all water utilities across the state of New Jersey. The overall goal is to “improve the safety, reliability and administrative oversight of water infrastructure.”

The WQAA sets a new standard of requirements for areas such as:

- Asset Management
- Water Quality Reporting
- Hydrant and Valve Maintenance
- Cybersecurity
- Notice of Violation and Remediation



WATER QUALITY ACCOUNTABILITY ACT

New Jersey American Water's Certification Status

WHAT ARE THE NEW REQUIREMENTS UNDER THE WQAA?

- 1. Asset Management:** The WQAA requires purveyors of public water, like New Jersey American Water, to create and implement an asset management plan designed to inspect, maintain, repair and renew its infrastructure.
- 2. Hydrant & Valve Maintenance:** Purveyors are also required to routinely inspect, maintain and repair valves and fire hydrants throughout the system. Additionally purveyors are required to obtain GPS coordinates for these assets.
- 3. Cybersecurity Program:** Purveyors that utilize internet connected control systems are required to create a formal cybersecurity program, in accordance with requirements established by the New Jersey Board of Public Utilities (BPU).
- 4. Mitigation Plan for Safe Drinking Water Act Violations:** As a supplement to the Safe Drinking Water Act, purveyors who exceed a certain number of violations within any 12-month period are required to submit a formal mitigation plan to show how the specific violation will be addressed and a timeline for implementation of the plan.

NEW JERSEY AMERICAN WATER'S CERTIFICATION

In accordance with WQAA guidelines, New Jersey American Water has submitted certifications for all 17 of its systems that serve more than 500 service connections to the State of New Jersey. Those systems include:

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| • Atlantic County (Atlantic County) | • Monmouth (Monmouth County) |
| • Belvidere (Warren County) | • Mount Holly (Burlington County) |
| • Cape May Courthouse (Cape May County) | • Ocean City (Cape May County) |
| • Delaware River (Burlington County) | • Short Hills (Essex County) |
| • Harrison (Gloucester County) | • Penns Grove (Salem County) |
| • Homestead (Burlington County) | • Raritan (Union County) |
| • Little Falls (Passaic County) | • Shorelands (Monmouth County) |
| • Logan (Gloucester County) | • Union Beach (Monmouth County) |
| | • Washington/Oxford (Warren County) |



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Overseen by our Vice President of Operations, New Jersey American Water professionals responsible for the processes relevant to the requirements of the certification examined each requirement at their designated system and certified compliance with those requirements. Completed certifications were submitted to the state in October 2018.

As reflected in the certification submissions, New Jersey American Water is compliant in the following areas, as required by the Department of Environmental Protection – Division of Water Supply & Geoscience:



COMPLIANCE REQUIREMENT	YES	NO
FEDERAL SAFE DRINKING WATER REGULATIONS	✓	
NEW JERSEY SAFE DRINKING WATER REGULATIONS	✓	
LICENSING OF WATER SUPPLY & WASTEWATER OPERATORS	✓	
WATER SUPPLY ALLOCATION PERMITS	✓	
WATER QUALITY ACCOUNTABILITY ACT* Hydrant & Valve Maintenance: New Jersey American Water has routinely inspected and maintained valves and fire hydrants throughout our system. Violations & Mitigation: New Jersey American Water has no systems with an NOV that requires a mitigation plan. Infrastructure Improvement Investment: New Jersey American Water completes regular long-term comprehensive planning studies that drive our capital investments. We have a long track record of planning and managing needed system improvements. Each one of the individual systems as identified is on track with completion of an updated Asset Management Plan as required by the WQAA by April of 2019.	✓	

**Several elements of the WQAA have phased in compliance timelines over the next four years. The above requirements were due on October 1, 2018.*

All certifications were further supported by the inspection results of the annual New Jersey Department of Environment Protection Water Supply Sanitary Survey and New Jersey American Water's own internal auditing process.

New Jersey American Water not only meets the certification criteria, but has also implemented various internal corporate safety and efficiency standards that go beyond what the WQAA requires. This reinforces our commitment to the safe and reliable delivery of quality water service to all of our customers around the state.

LEARN MORE

- **New Jersey American Water:** newjerseyamwater.com. Under Water Quality, select Water Quality Accountability Act
- **New Jersey Department of Environmental Protection:** www.state.nj.us/dep/watersupply/g_reg-wqaa.html



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