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The Authoritative Resource on Safe Water®

Public Affairs Advisory

**TO: AWWA Leadership
All Utilities**

FROM: AWWA Public Affairs

DATE: October 15, 2008

Who:	Associated Press
What:	Story on EWG study on bottled water
When:	Transmitted today

Associated Press has transmitted a story about an Environmental Working Group (EWG) two-year study that on bottled water quality. The story reports that tests on various bottled waters turned up a variety of contaminants including coliform bacteria, caffeine, acetaminophen, fertilizer, solvents, plastic-making chemicals and the radioactive element strontium.

The story emphasizes that many of these same contaminants are also found in tap water, and that all of the bottled waters tested meet federal health standards for drinking water. It also discusses that the presence of these contaminants belies the idea that bottled water is safer than tap water.

You can access the story here: <http://www.msnbc.msn.com/id/27185076/>

The story was made available on the national wire this morning and has already been picked up by local newspapers and television and radio media. Utilities should be prepared to talk about the issue of contaminants in both tap and bottled water and to bring an informed voice to this continued conversation.

A link to consumer-friendly information on bottled water can be found on AWWA's DrinkTap site at <http://www.drinktap.org/consumerdnn/Home/WaterInformation/BottledWater/tabid/228/Default.aspx>

AWWA also provides consumer information on pharmaceutical compounds in water at <http://www.drinktap.org/consumerdnn/Home/WaterInformation/WaterQuality/PharmaceuticalsPPCPs/tabid/73/Default.aspx>

EWG's report is available online here: <http://www.ewg.org/reports/bottledwater>

AWWA's Public Affairs Office is also available to assist with questions or to serve as third-party sources. Please contact us at 303-347-6140 or 303-734-3410.

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