Temperature of Drinking Water

An ideal water supply should have, at all times, an almost constant temperature or one with minimum variation. The small variation in temperature that water may have would indicate a physically protected water supply, like an underground aquifer. Surface water supplies, more common in urban areas, may not be able to avoid temperature variations as their water is directly affected by climate. It is not economically feasible to alter the temperature of the water at the drinking water treatment plant. Therefore, the temperature is largely determined by the selection of the raw water source and the depth of the intake.

What are the known health effects?

There is no correlation between temperature and health in the evaluation of drinking water quality parameters, but consumers agree that cooler water is more palatable.

Is this contaminant regulated?

Temperature is considered a secondary contaminant by NJDEP with no set limit for drinking water.

Additional information regarding the temperature of water, including the information referenced, can be found at:

https://www.safewater.org/fact-sheets-1/2018/8/15/water-temperature-fact-sheet

Handbook of Drinking Water Quality, Second Edition by John DeZuane