Drinking Water Warning
IMPORTANT UPDATE ABOUT YOUR DRINKING WATER

Willingboro MUA Previously Found Levels of Perfluorooctanesulfonic Acid (PFOS) Above A Drinking Water Standard in November of 2021

As required by the New Jersey Department of Environmental Protection (NJDEP), we are providing you with this quarterly update on what you should do, what we have already done, and what we are continuing to do to correct the situation.

We routinely monitor for the presence of Federal and State regulated drinking water contaminants. New Jersey adopted a standard, or maximum contaminant level (MCL), for PFOS in 2020 and monitoring began in 2021. The MCL for PFOS is 0.013 micrograms per liter (µg/L) and is based on a running annual average (RAA), in which the four most recent quarters of monitoring data are averaged. On November 8, 2021, we received notice that the samples collected during the four quarters of 2021 showed that out system exceeds the PFOS MCL at TP007018. RAA for PFOS based on samples collected over the last year is 0.0155 µg/L

It is important to remember, as previously detailed in prior communications, the Willingboro Municipal Utilities Authority (WMUA) is not currently producing water from Well 5A and treatment plant (TP007018), that was testing above the New Jersey state mandated PFOS standard.

In the interim, we are currently supplying water from our three additional treatment plants which service the remaining five Wells in our system (Wells 1, 6, and a combined treatment plant for Wells 9, 10, and 11 respectfully), which are in compliance with all state and federal drinking water standards.

PFOS results for the most recent samples from treatment plants currently in use are as follows:

Treatment Plant	Sample date	PFOS result (µg/L)	Sampling Frequency
TP002006 (Well 1)	7/8/21	0.0048	1 sample per year
TP003010 (Well 6)	1/5/22	<0.002	1 sample per year
TP001002 (Wells 9, 10, 11)	4/6/22	0.0098	1 sample per quarter

What is Being Done?

The WMUA voluntarily removed Well 5A from service until permanent actions can be completed which ensure our ability to deliver water from this source that is below PFOS MCL. To this end, a permanent treatment solution for Well 5A utilizing the latest technology available has been designed and approved by the NJDEP, and financing for the project has been secured through the New Jersey Infrastructure-Bank.

The NJDEP authorized award of a contract for construction on May 16, 2022, and the WMUA Board awarded the contract on May 18, 2022. A Notice of Award was issued on May 20, 2022, and a pre-construction conference with the contractor and the NJDEP was held on June 1,2022. A Notice to Proceed was issued as part of the pre-construction conference.

With the original anticipated approval timeline having been extended and taking into account the typical construction process for similar projects of this type, **we currently anticipate construction of the Well 5A treatment system to be completed in the third quarter of 2023**.

In addition to treating Well 5A, the WMUA is working with the NJDEP, and will retain outside consultants as necessary, to identify the potential sources of PFOS contamination and the responsible parties in order to seek restitution.

For more information, please contact Emmanuel Stuppard, Director of Operations and Maintenance at 609-304-5487, estuppard@wmua.info, or 433 JFK Way, Willingboro, NJ 08046.

What is PFOS?

Perfluorooctanesulfonic acid (PFOS) is a member of the group of chemicals called per- and polyfluoroalkyl substances (PFAS), that are man-made and used in industrial and commercial applications. PFOS is used in metal plating and finishing, as well as in various commercial products. PFOS has also been used in aqueous film-forming foams for firefighting and training, and it is found in consumer products such as stain-resistant coatings for upholstery and carpets, water-resistant outdoor clothing, and greaseproof food packaging. Major sources of PFOS in drinking water include discharge from industrial facilities where it was made or used, and the release of aqueous film-forming foam. Although the use of PFOS has decreased substantially, contamination is expected to continue indefinitely because it is extremely persistent in the environment, and is soluble and mobile in water.

What does this mean?

***People who drink water containing PFOS in excess of the MCL over time could experience problems with their immune system, kidney, liver, or endocrine system. For females, drinking water containing PFOS in excess of the MCL over time may cause developmental effects and problems with the immune system, liver, or endocrine system in a fetus and/or an infant. Some of these developmental effects may persist through childhood.*

**For more specific health information about PFOS in drinking water, you can visit:* https://www.nj.gov/health/ceohs/documents/pfas_drinking%20water.pdf.

What should I do?

- If you have specific health concerns, a severely compromised immune system, have an infant, are pregnant, or are elderly, you may be at higher risk than other individuals and should seek advice from your health care providers about drinking this water.

While Well 5A is currently not in use. we are still required to issue public notice and notify consumers of steps they can take to reduce their exposure. As previously indicated, we will directly notify customers in writing prior to any planned use or within 24 hours of an emergency use of the source through the water system's website, social media, and other methods.

- The New Jersey Department of Health advises that infant formula and other beverages for infants, such as juice, should be prepared with bottled water when PFOS is elevated in drinking water.
- Pregnant, nursing, and women considering having children may choose to use bottled water for drinking and cooking to reduce exposure to PFOS.
- Other people may also choose to use bottled water for drinking and cooking to reduce exposure to PFOS, or a home water filter that is certified to reduce levels of PFOS. Home water treatment devices are available that can reduce levels of PFOS. For more specific information regarding the effectiveness of home water filters for reducing PFOS, visit the National Sanitation Foundation (NSF) International website, http://www.nsf.org/.
- Boiling your water will not remove PFOS.

For more information, see https://www.nj.gov/dep/watersupply/pdf/pfoa-pfos-faq.pdf.

***Please share this information with all the other people who drink this water, especially those who may not have received this notice directly (for example, people in apartments, nursing homes, schools, and businesses). You can do this by posting this notice in a public place or distributing copies by hand or mail.*

This notice is being posted by Willingboro MUA State Water System ID#: NJ0338001 on our official website. Date Posted: June 8, 2022.