

# IMPORTANT INFORMATION ABOUT YOUR DRINKING WATER

## Brooklawn Water Department Has Levels of Perfluorononanoic Acid (PFNA) Above A Drinking Water Standard

Our water system exceeded a New Jersey drinking water standard, and as our customers, you have a right to know what happened, what you should do, and what we are doing to correct this situation.

You were previously notified of the PFNA maximum contaminant level (MCL) violation in a public notice(s) issued on January 24, 2023 May 11 2023 & July 31, 2023. Per the Federal Safe Drinking Water Act, we will continue to provide you with an updated public notice every 3 months until we complete all approved remedial measures and return to compliance with the MCL.

Brooklawn Water Department routinely monitors for the presence of federal and state regulated drinking water contaminants. New Jersey adopted a standard, or MCL, for PFNA in 2018 and monitoring began for our system Brooklawn Water Department in 2021. The MCL for PFNA is 0.013 parts per billion (ppb) and is based on a running annual average (RAA), in which the four most recent quarters of monitoring data are averaged. On October 3, 2023, we received notice that the sample collected on September 28, 2023 showed that our system exceeds the PFNA MCL at TP001002 . The RAA for PFNA based on samples collected over the last year is .019 ppb.

### What is PFNA?

Perfluorononanoic acid (PFNA) 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. PFNA has been historically used as a processing aid in the manufacturing of high-performance plastics that are resistant to harsh chemicals and high temperatures. Major sources of PFNA in drinking water include discharge from industrial facilities where it was made or used. Although the use of PFNA 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 PFNA in excess of the MCL over time could experience problems with their liver; kidney; immune system; or, in males, reproductive system. For females, drinking water containing PFNA in excess of the MCL over time may cause developmental delays in a fetus and/or an infant.

\* For specific health information see

[https://www.nj.gov/health/ceohs/documents/pfas\\_drinking%20water.pdf](https://www.nj.gov/health/ceohs/documents/pfas_drinking%20water.pdf).

### What should I do?

- Anyone concerned about their health should consult with their personal healthcare provider.
- The New Jersey Department of Health advises that infant formula and other beverages for infants, such as plain water or juice, should be prepared with bottled water when PFNA 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 PFNA.
- Other people may also choose to use bottled water for drinking and cooking to reduce exposure to PFNA.
- Although there are no home filters that are National Sanitation Foundation (NSF) International certified to remove PFNA, available home water filters have been tested to remove the closely related chemical Perfluorooctanoic Acid (PFOA) and may also reduce exposure to PFNA. If a water treatment device is used, it is important to follow the manufacturer's guidelines for maintenance and operation. (NSF does not certify reduction of PFOA to the NJ MCL for PFOA.)
- Boiling your water will not remove PFNA.

For more information, see <https://www.nj.gov/dep/watersupply/pfas/>.

### **What is being done?**

The Borough of Brooklawn is serviced by a drinking water plant that is located at the intersection of New Broadway and Town Center that supplies drinking water to the residents of the Borough. Because PFNA contaminates have been appearing in the drinking water systems in surrounding communities, the Borough began to take a proactive approach over a year ago to make plans for the necessary modifications to the Brooklawn water treatment plant to address this possible issue. We wish to inform the residents that the Borough was able to secure funding in the amount of \$1 Million in 2022 from the United State Department of Agriculture to make the necessary modifications to the treatment plant to treat PFNA contaminates.

In April, 2023 the municipality submitted an application package to the NJDEP Division of Safe Drinking Water for the necessary modifications to the water treatment plant. The modifications include the addition of a granulated activated carbon pretreatment system that will completely remove the contaminant from the drinking water. The NJDEP will review the application for completeness first, and then for compliance with the State regulations. After the application is approved, the Borough will be able to receive bids for the project.

Your water service will not be interrupted as a result of this situation, and you will notice no difference in the water service provided. We anticipate resolving this matter by January 12, 2024 and will keep you apprised of any updated information and anticipated time for resolution as it becomes available.

For more information, please contact Borough Clerk, Mr. Ryan Gilles at 856-456-0750 ext 106 or writing to 301 Christiana St Brooklawn NJ 08030

*\*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 sent to you by Brooklawn Water Department. State Water System ID#: NJ0407001

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