

IMPORTANT INFORMATION ABOUT YOUR DRINKING WATER

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

Brooklawn Water Department Failed to Take Permanent Action to Bring Our Water into Compliance with the Perfluorononanoic Acid (PFNA), Maximum Contaminant Level (MCL) Within One Year

Our water system recently violated a New Jersey drinking water MCL and requirement, as our customers, you have a right to know what happened, what you should do, and what we are doing to correct this situation. For more information, please contact Ryan Giles at 845-456-0750 ext 105 or 301 Christiana Street Brooklawn NJ 08030.

You were previously notified of the PFNA MCL violation at Brooklawn Water Department in public notice(s) issued on January 24th 2023, May 11th 2023, and July 11th 2023, and September 12, 2023 for the PFNA levels Brooklawn Water Department. The most recent public notice and update regarding this matter are available at Brooklawn-nj.com.

We routinely monitor for the presence of federal and state regulated drinking water contaminants. During the first monitoring period October 1, 2022 to December 31, 2022, we initially exceeded the 0.013 parts per billion MCL for PFNA at the Brooklawn Water Department. Per the New Jersey Safe Drinking Water Act, our water system is required to take any action necessary to bring the water into compliance with the applicable MCL within one-year from the initial violation. Our water system failed to remediate the PFNA MCL violation at Brooklawn Water Department by the one-year deadline of January 12, 2024.

New Jersey adopted a standard, or maximum contaminant level (MCL), for PFNA in 2018 and monitoring began for Brooklawn Water Department in 2019. 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 January 12, 2023, we received notice that the samples collected on December 31st 2022 showed that our system exceeds the PFNA MCL. The RAA for PFNA based on samples collected over the last year is 0.019 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 and
<https://www.nj.gov/dep/pfas/index.html>.

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.
- 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 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. Home water treatment devices are available that can reduce levels of PFNA. For more specific information regarding the effectiveness of home water filters for reducing PFNA, visit the National Sanitation Foundation (NSF) International website. <http://www.nsf.org/>.
- 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. The average level of PNFA detected over the last quarter of 2022 was determined to be .01345 ppb which has triggered this notice to the residents. Because PNFA contaminants have been appearing in the drinking water systems in surrounding communities, the Borough began to take a proactive approach over two years 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 for PNFA contaminants.

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 completed their review of the plans and specifications for the proposed treatment plant modifications in November 2023, and the necessary NJDEP construction permit was issued to the Borough for the project. The revised plans and specifications have been resubmitted to the USDA for final review and Authorization to advertise the project for bidding. It is anticipated that bids will be received for the project in March, 2024 and a project could be awarded in April, 2024.

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

NJDEP, Failure to Remediate PFAS MCL PN (CWS&NTNC), 04/14/22

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

Date Distributed: _____1/23/2024_____