

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 856-456-0750 ext 106 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 23rd 2023, May 11th 2023, July 31th 2023, October 23rd 2023, January 10th 2024, May 22nd 2024, and August 25th 2024 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 October 1st, 2022 to December 31st, 2022, we initially exceeded the MCL for PFNA at 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 12th, 2024.

Please note that the sample taken August 8th, 2024 has documented our RAA at 0.0123 ppb which is under the NJDEP MCL. These latest results do not place the treatment plant in compliance until new treatment plant modifications are installed. However, it is important to note that the latest results are under the Maximum Contaminant Level in accordance with NJDEP regulations. Please be aware that new samples have been taken but are not available do to back log and testing time. When the new sample results are out, we will notify residents via our website and all social media outlets.

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 12th, 2023, we received notice that the samples collected on December 31st, 2022, showed that our system exceeds the PFNA MCL.

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.*

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

* 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.
- Boiling your water will not remove PFNA.

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

What is being done?

In April of 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 remove the contaminant from the drinking water. The NJDEP has reviewed and approved the application for the proposed modifications to the treatment plant. Approval was granted by the NJDEP in November of 2023. On April 4th, 2024, the Borough received bids for the proposed project and on April 16th, 2024, the Mayor and Council of the Borough of Brooklawn awarded a contract in the amount of \$1.581 million for the work. Construction started on July 8th, 2024. The Activated Granulated Carbon Pretreatment System Equipment has been approved and has been ordered. Delivery is expected in January 2025. Equipment slabs have been poured and the construction of subsurface piping began August 5, 2024.

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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 Dept State Water System ID#: 0407001 Date distributed: 11/25/2024