



## BOROUGH OF WALDWICK WATER DEPARTMENT

ADMINISTRATION BUILDING  
63 FRANKLIN TURNPIKE  
WALDWICK, NEW JERSEY 07463  
201-652-5300

May 13, 2021

### UPDATE ABOUT YOUR DRINKING WATER

The Borough of Waldwick continues to test for and plan treatment for PFAS in our drinking water. On May 11<sup>th</sup>, the Mayor and Council awarded a contract for the installation of a granular activated carbon filtration system to be installed at Well 6, Veterans Park. High PFOS levels at Well 6 triggered the public notice issued in March, and Well 6 was removed from operation while we plan and install a filtration system. Construction at Well 6 will begin in the next two weeks and is expected to be complete by the first week in June. Once complete, Well 6 will be brought back into operation.

Our wells are tested quarterly for the three regulated PFAS compounds; PFOA, PFOS, and PFNA. Our most recent results, from the 2<sup>nd</sup> quarter of this year, are included in the Water Sampling Results Summary below.

#### Water Sampling Results Summary - 2019 through April 20, 2021

Contaminant	NJDEP MCL	Levels Detected in Waldwick Water – Tests Conducted Between 2019 and April 20, 2021
PFOA	14 parts per trillion (ppt) Established June 2020	Wells Operational on April 20, 2021: Results range from 14 to 27 ppt April RAAs range from 8.5 to 12.3 ppt  Wells Offline or Removed from Operation: Results range from 12 to 34 ppt
PFOS	13 parts per trillion (ppt) Established June 2020	Wells Operational on April 20, 2021: Results range from 5.3 to 10 ppt April RAAs range from 4.1 to 4.9 ppt  Wells Offline or Removed from Operation: Results range from 6.2 to 96 ppt
PFNA	13 parts per trillion (ppt) Established September 2018	<2 to 5.2 ppt April RAAs range from 2.3 to 4.7 ppt

\*RAA – denotes Running Annual Average which is used by the NJDEP to determine compliance with the respective Maximum Contaminant Levels (MCLs).

More detailed water test results can be found on the Borough's homepage under Water Department and PFAS Substances in Drinking Water. Those pages are linked below.

- Water Department - <https://www.waldwicknj.org/waterdepartment>
- PFAS - <https://www.waldwicknj.org/index.asp?SEC=3D7C5915-58CD-43DA-8FF9-0A29A75E2CD0&DE=A49B0169-88DE-4842-A7F2-E7F8AF096B1D>

## **What is being done?**

The Borough of Waldwick Water System relies on 6 water supply wells to provide water to our system. These supply wells are located in the Borough and are operated and maintained by the Borough of Waldwick. We are in the engineering stages of treatment at each of our 6 supply wells and anticipate having PFAS water treatment facilities installed at every well facility in 2022.

Currently, Well 6 and Well 2 have been removed from operation due to high concentrations of PFOS. Both of these water supply wells are expected to remain off until a treatment solution is in place. As discussed above, a treatment solution for Well 6 is expected to be operational in June, 2021 and a treatment solution for Well 2 is expected to be operational in 2022.

**You will likely receive additional PFAS notification letters until all water treatment facilities are on line.**

## **What is PFAS?**

Per- and polyfluoroalkyl substances (PFAS) are a group of manmade chemicals that repel oil and water and are resistant to heat and chemical reactions. PFAS are used in the production of some non-stick cookware, in waterproof and stain proof coatings, in "leak-proof" coatings on food package materials, in fire-fighting foams, and in other uses. PFAS can enter drinking water through industrial release to water, air, or soil; discharges from sewage treatment plants; land application of contaminated sludge; and use of fire-fighting foam.

The New Jersey Department of Environmental Protection (NJDEP) has Maximum Contaminant Levels (MCL) for three compounds within the PFAS class of chemicals: PFOS, PFOA, and PFNA. We routinely monitor our water system for the presence of drinking water contaminants. Compliance with the standard is based on a running annual average (RAA), the average of quarterly testing over the period of one year. Once an MCL violation is exceeded we must take corrective action within one year of the violation.

## **What does this mean?**

Some people who drink water containing PFAS compounds in excess of the MCL over many years could experience problems with their immune system, kidney, liver, or endocrine system. For females, drinking water containing PFAS compounds in excess of the MCL over many years 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 can persist through childhood.

More information on PFAS in drinking water can be found in the New Jersey Department of Health's drinking water facts on the subject. The web address for that document is:

[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?**

- There is nothing you need to do. You do not need to boil your water or take other corrective actions. However, if you have specific health concerns, consult your doctor.
- If you have a severely compromised immune system, have an infant, are pregnant, or are elderly, you may be at increased risk and should seek advice from your health care providers about drinking this water.

For more information, please contact the Borough of Waldwick Water Department at 201-652-5300 x240 or 63 Franklin Turnpike, Waldwick, NJ 07463.