

## IMPORTANT INFORMATION ABOUT YOUR DRINKING WATER

### Hawthorne Water Department Has Levels of Perfluorooctanoic Acid (PFOA) and Perfluorooctanesulfonic Acid (PFOS) Above Drinking Water Standards

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

We routinely monitor for the presence of drinking water contaminants. The New Jersey standard for PFOA is 14 ng/L and PFOS is 13 ng/L and is based on a running annual average (RAA). On August 31<sup>st</sup>, 2021 we received notice stating that the RAA for PFOA and PFOS has exceeded the maximum contaminant level (MCL).

The RAA of PFOA at four (4) of our treatment plants:

<b>Perfluorooctanoic acid (PFOA)</b>			
<b>Sample Point ID</b>	<b>Reporting Period</b>	<b>Quarterly Value (ng/l)</b>	<b>Running Annual Average (ng/l)</b>
TP006007	1st quarter 2021	23	17.0
	2nd quarter 2021	24	
	3rd quarter 2021	20.9	
TP007016	1st quarter 2021	25	19.1
	2nd quarter 2021	27	
	3rd quarter 2021	24.5	
TP008024	1st quarter 2021	22	15.0
	2nd quarter 2021	18	
	3rd quarter 2021	19.8	
TP010029	1st quarter 2021	18	14.6
	2nd quarter 2021	20	
	3rd quarter 2021	20.4	

The RAA of PFOS at one (1) of our treatment plants:

<b>Perfluorooctanesulfonic acid (PFOS)</b>			
<b>Sample Point ID</b>	<b>Reporting Period</b>	<b>Quarterly Value (ng/l)</b>	<b>Running Annual Average (ng/l)</b>
TP006007	1st quarter 2021	16	14.4
	2nd quarter 2021	24	
	3rd quarter 2021	17.4	

### What does this mean?

*Some people who drink water containing PFOA and in excess of the MCL over many years could experience problems with their blood serum cholesterol levels, liver, kidney, immune system, or, in males, reproductive system. Drinking water containing PFOA in excess of the MCL over many years may also increase the risk of testicular and kidney cancer. For females,*

*drinking water containing PFOA in excess of the MCL over many years may cause developmental delays in a fetus and/or an infant.*

*Some people who drink water containing PFOS 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 PFOS and 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/PFOA 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?**

- 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.
- If you have specific health concerns, consult your doctor.
- Boiling your water will not remove PFOA or PFOS.

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

The Hawthorne Water Department relies on water supply wells to provide water to our system. These supply wells are located in the Borough and are owned, operated and maintained by the Borough water department. **We are in the engineering stages of treatment for our system.**

Hawthorne Water Department will continue to keep the customers notified quarterly until the treatment is installed, activated and tested and is no longer above these new regulations.

For more information, please contact Hawthorne Water Department at 973-427-2501 or email us at [HawthorneWaterPFAS@hawthornenj.org](mailto:HawthorneWaterPFAS@hawthornenj.org).

*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 **Hawthorne Water Department**  
State Water System ID#: **NJ1604001**

Date distributed: 9/24/2021.