

IMPORTANT INFORMATION ABOUT YOUR DRINKING WATER

PERFLUOROOCTANOIC ACID (PFOA) MAXIMUM CONTAMINANT LEVEL (MCL) EXCEEDANCE

ESTE INFORME CONTIENE INFORMACIÓN IMPORTANTE ACERCA DE SU AGUA POTABLE. HAGA QUE ALGUIEN LO TRADUZCA PARA USTED, O HABLE CON ALGUIEN QUE LO ENTIENDA.

BCWSA Solebury System Has Levels of PFOA Above Drinking Water Standards

BCWSA's Solebury Water System recently violated a drinking water standard. Although this incident is not an emergency, as our customers, you have a right to know what happened and what we are doing to correct this situation.

What happened?

BCWSA conducts sampling on a quarterly basis for perfluorooctane sulfonate (PFOS) and perfluorooctanoic acid (PFOA). The Pennsylvania Department of Environmental Protection (PA DEP) set the maximum contaminant level (MCL) at 18 parts per trillion (18ng/L) for PFOS and 14 parts per trillion (14ng/L) for PFOA based off a running annual average (RAA). Sample results were received for the first quarter of 2025. While the results for the quarter were not over the MCL, when the RAA was calculated one of the entry points in the Solebury System had a RAA that exceeded the MCL for PFOA of 14ng/L. The calculated RAA found in your water was 14.9ng/L.

What should I do?

There is nothing you need to do. **You do not need to use an alternative (e.g., bottled) water supply or boil your water.** However, should you have specific health concerns, please consult your doctor.

What does this mean?

This is not an immediate risk. If it had been, you would have been notified immediately. However, exposure to PFOA in excess of the MCL over many years may result in adverse health effects. Drinking water containing PFOA in excess of the MCL of 14ng/L may cause adverse health effects, including developmental effects (neurobehavioral and skeletal effects).

What are PFOS and PFOA?

PFOS and PFOA are chemicals that are part of a larger group referred to as perfluoroalkyl substances (PFAS). These are human-made chemicals and do not occur naturally in the environment. They have been used to make items that are resistant to water, grease, or stains such as cookware, carpets, and packaging. They are also used in industrial processes and in firefighting foams. Since these substances are resistant to heat, water, and oil they persist in the environment and in the human body. Due to the prevalence of PFAS in consumer products, it is likely that most people have been exposed to these substances through other sources besides drinking water.

What is being done?

In anticipation of the new regulations, BCWSA has been conducting PFAS testing and investigating treatment options for their removal. BCWSA is currently applying for a permit for installation of temporary treatment systems for PFAS until a permanent solution is implemented.

For more information, please visit our website at www.bcwsa.net.

Please share this information with others who drink this water, especially those who may not have received this notice directly (i.e. 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.