

IMPORTANT INFORMATION ABOUT YOUR DRINKING WATER

PFOA and PFOS MCL Exceedance at Hopewell Hamlet NY, 1330288, Hopewell North NY, 1330769, and, Hopewell Glen NY, 1330699 Public Water Supplies

Why are you receiving this notice/information?

You are receiving this notice because testing of our public water systems found the chemicals perfluorooctanoic acid (PFOA) and perfluorooctanesulfonic acid (PFOS) at levels above New York State's maximum contaminant level (MCL) of 10 parts per trillion (ppt) for each of these chemicals in public drinking water systems. The levels detected in some of the wells are provided below. Four wells exceeded the standards for PFOA and PFOS. **All of the affected wells have been taken off line as of March 12, 2021. Your water is acceptable for all uses.** The water systems are working on a strict timetable on permanent plans to reduce levels below the MCL in all affected systems.

This notification is being provided to the customers of all three public water systems due to the interconnections of the systems. The table below summarizes the levels of PFOA and PFOS detected in each water well serving these water systems:

| Well Name | Well Status as of 3/12/21 | PFOA level in ppt (sample date) | Avg PFOA level (ppt) | PFOS level in ppt (sample date) | Avg PFOS level (ppt) |
|--------------------|---------------------------|--|----------------------|--|----------------------|
| Hamlet Well 1 | Offline | 6.15 (2/18/21) 3.23 (3/11/21) 6.49 (3/11/21) | 5.29 | 33.2 (2/18/21) 28.6 (3/11/21) 42.4 (3/11/21) | 34.7 |
| Hamlet Well 2 | Offline | 10.1 (2/18/21) 6.97 (3/11/21) 9.47 (3/11/21) | 8.8 | 152 (2/18/21) 67.8 (3/11/21) 141 (3/11/21) | 120 |
| Hamlet Well 3 | Offline | 7.13 (2/18/21) 3 (3/11/21) 4.92 (3/11/21) | 5.0 | 44.8 (2/18/21) 28.8 (3/11/21) 26.1 (3/11/21) | 33.2 |
| Hamlet Well 5 | Offline | 10.2 (2/18/21) 7.94 (3/11/21) 9.93 (3/11/21) | 9.4 | 71.2 (2/18/21) 41.9 (3/11/21) 42.6 (3/11/21) | 51.9 |
| Cannon Well 1 | In use | 0.770 (2/25/21) | 0.770 | No detectable levels | N/A |
| Cannon Well 2 | In use | 0.772 (2/25/21) | 0.772 | No detectable levels | N/A |
| Entry Point | N/A | 2.01 (3/11/21) 2.8 (3/11/21) | 2.4 | 14.8 (3/11/21) 18.3 (3/11/21) | 16.6 |

What are the health effects of PFOA and PFOS?

The available information on the health effects associated with PFOA and PFOS, like many chemicals, comes mostly from studies of high-level exposure in animals. Less is known about the chances of health effects occurring from lower levels of exposure, such as those that might occur in drinking water. As a result, finding lower levels of chemicals in drinking water prompts water suppliers and regulators to take precautions that include notifying consumers and steps to reduce exposure.

PFOA and PFOS have caused a wide range of health effects when studied in animals that were exposed to high levels. The most consistent findings in animals were effects on the liver and immune system and impaired fetal growth and development. The United States Environmental Protection Agency considers PFOA and PFOS as having suggestive evidence for causing cancer based on studies of animals exposed to high levels of this chemical over their entire lifetimes. Additional studies of high-level exposures of PFOA and PFOS in people provide evidence that some of the health effects seen in animals may also occur in humans.

At the level of PFOA and PFOS detected in your water, exposure from drinking water and food preparation is below PFOA and PFOS exposures associated with health effects.

What is New York State doing about PFOA and PFOS in public drinking water?

The New York State Department of Health (NYS DOH) has adopted a drinking water regulation that requires all public water systems to test for PFOA and PFOS. If found above the MCL of 10 ppt, the water supplier must take steps to lower the level to meet the standard. Exceedances of the MCL signal that steps should be taken by the water system to reduce contaminant levels.

What is being done to meet the MCL?

The Town has worked with the Dutchess County Department of Behavioral & Community Health and the NYS Department of Health to reduce the levels of PFOA and PFOS in the system by taking the wells that are impacted offline. This includes leaving Hopewell Hamlet Wells 1, 2, 3, and 5 offline until a treatment system can be installed. Because the Town has been working on a number of water source options for its systems this quick change was available to them to immediately reduce the PFOS and PFOA in the systems. Additional information will be shared as further progress occurs. Dutchess County has requested that the Town submit a compliance schedule for the impacted wells or alternative source options. There are some that currently exist; it is up to the Town to decide how to proceed. This process is similar for any chemical detected in public drinking water that requires mitigation due to exceedance of an MCL. The compliance timetable will ensure that your drinking water has a backup source. With the changes made to the system on March 12, 2021 the water system is not using the wells impacted by PFOS and PFOA, therefore, these compounds are currently not being introduced to the system.

Additional information will be shared as further testing and progress occurs. This process is similar for any chemical detected in public drinking water that requires mitigation due to exceedance of an MCL. The compliance timetable will ensure that your drinking water will meet the MCL as rapidly as possible.

Where can I get more information?

For more information, please contact the Town of East Fishkill. at (845) 223-5114. You can also contact the Dutchess County Department of Behavioral & Community Health at (845) 486-3404 then press # for the receptionist, or via email at healthinfo@dutchessny.gov.

If you have additional questions about these contaminants and your health, talk to your healthcare provider who is most familiar with your health history and can provide advice and assistance about understanding how drinking water may affect your personal health. You may also call the NYS DOH Bureau of Toxic Substance Assessment at 518-402-7800.

Public Water System ID# NY1330288, NY1330769, NY1330699

March 31, 2021