

## **IMPORTANT INFORMATION ABOUT YOUR DRINKING WATER**

### **Dickerson Elementary School Water Test Samples Have Detected Elevated Levels of PFOA and PFOS**

Our water system recently exceeded a recommended limit for PFOA and PFOS (Polyfluoroalkyl Substances). Although this is not an emergency, you have a right to know what happened, what you should do, and what we are doing to correct this situation.

We (the entire state of NJ) are monitoring for the presence of these drinking water contaminants for the first time in 2019. We recently received notice that the sample collected during the First Quarter of 2019 showed that our system exceeded the recommended limit for PFOA and PFOS. The United States Environmental Protection Agency (EPA) has established the recommended contaminant level of 14 parts per trillion (ppt) for PFOA and 13 ppt for PFOS. There is no regulatory limit at this time, however, The State of New Jersey, has proposed regulating these contaminants by April 2020.

#### **What should I do?**

- There is nothing you need to do. You do not need to boil your water; however, individuals may choose to use bottled water for drinking and cooking to reduce exposure to PFOA and/or PFOS in their water. If you have specific health concerns, consult your doctor.

- For more information please go the following websites:

[https://www.nj.gov/health/ceohs/documents/pfas\\_drinking%20water.pdf](https://www.nj.gov/health/ceohs/documents/pfas_drinking%20water.pdf)

[https://www.state.nj.us/dep/wms/bears/docs/2019-4-15-FAQs\\_PFOA-PFOA-websites-OLA%204-24-19SDM-\(003\).pdf](https://www.state.nj.us/dep/wms/bears/docs/2019-4-15-FAQs_PFOA-PFOA-websites-OLA%204-24-19SDM-(003).pdf)

#### **What does this mean?**

- This is **not** an emergency. If it had been, you would have been notified within 24 hours. A regulatory standard has been proposed, but not adopted into the regulations. We are being pro-active by voluntarily notifying our community of this information.

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

- We are continuing to conduct quarterly monitoring of the finished water while we explore treatment technologies to remedy the problem.
- For more information, please contact Drew Vanderzee; Director of Buildings and Grounds at (908)879-7373 ext. 7322 or [drew.vanderzee@chester-nj.org](mailto:drew.vanderzee@chester-nj.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.\**