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November 13, 2024

**EMMAUS CONSECUTIVE DIVISION CUSTOMERS
IMPORTANT INFORMATION ABOUT YOUR DRINKING WATER**

**PERFLUOROOCTANE SULFONATE (PFOS) / 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.**

**Water Purchased from the Borough of Emmaus Has Levels of Perfluorooctane sulfonate (PFOS)/
Perfluorooctanoic acid (PFOA) Above Drinking Water Standards**

Lehigh County Authority (LCA) purchases all water for Emmaus Consecutive Division customers from the Borough of Emmaus, and it is important for you to be aware of this water quality issue. LCA recently violated a drinking water standard. Although this incident was not an emergency, as our customers you have a right to know what happened and what we did to correct this situation.

LCA routinely tests drinking water for numerous contaminants. Results received on 10/10/2024 show PFOS and PFOA levels above the maximum contaminant level (MCL). Compliance with the drinking water MCL is based on the running annual average (RAA) of the four most recent quarters of test results. Sample results are in parts per trillion or **ppt**, equivalent to **one drop in 20** Olympic-sized swimming pools. The current PFOS average is 62.12 ppt, which is above the MCL. The current PFOA average is 12.44 ppt, which is below the MCL. The MCL for PFOS is 18 ppt and the MCL for PFOA is 14 ppt.

Although the system average for PFOA is below the MCL, individual results may be higher or lower at any given time due to the mix of water supplies being used. The results displayed in the table below provide the individual sample results and distribution system locations.

Results Date	Site #	PFOA ppt	PFOS ppt	Location/Address
10/30/2024	701	7.41	4.75	182 Woodhaven Dr
10/11/2024	702	19.3	111	75 Chestnut Hill Road
10/30/2024	703	18.1	94.6	Camp St. between 3353 W Emaus Ave & 3368 Capitol St.
11/6/2024	704	5.37	5.97	Miriam by Chris Dr
10/11/2024	705	10.7	35.3	3501 Orchid Cir
10/30/2024	706	20.3	137	50 White Oak Ln
10/30/2024	707	12.1	65.4	Pike Rd by 3128 S 6th St
11/6/2024	708	5.01	7.69	4302 David Drive - Salem Ridge
10/30/2024	709	13.8	5.75	3461 S Cedar Crest Blvd, Lutheran Church

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 man-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, food wrappers, and other 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 at some point.

Learn more about these chemicals on LCA's dedicated webpage:

<https://www.lehighcountyauthority.org/information-about-pfas/>.

What happened? What was done?

The Borough of Emmaus has determined the source of the PFOS and PFOA at the fire training facility and has taken action to address the problem, including shutting down a contaminated well. The Borough is working closely with PA DEP and is currently in the design phase of developing a treatment system.

To learn more about the corrective action plan visit the Borough of Emmaus website at

<https://www.emmauspa.gov/>.

What does this mean?

This is not an immediate risk. If it had been, you would have been notified immediately. However, exposure to PFOS and/or PFOA in excess of the MCL over many years may result in adverse health effects. Drinking water containing PFOS in excess of the MCL of 18 ppt may cause adverse health effects, including decreased immune response. Drinking water containing PFOA in excess of the MCL of 14 ppt may cause adverse health effects, including developmental effects (neurobehavioral and skeletal effects).

What should I do?

Talk to your doctor if you have health concerns related to this information. You do not need to use an alternative (e.g., bottled) water supply, per PA DEP.

What is LCA doing?

LCA is working with the Borough of Emmaus and PA DEP to be sure you receive information about water quality as this situation is being addressed. Quarterly sampling is being conducted throughout the distribution system by LCA and results will be shared with customers.

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.

For more information, please contact the LCA Customer Care Team at 610-398-1444 or email us at service@lehighcountyauthority.org.