



## IMPORTANT INFORMATION ABOUT YOUR DRINKING WATER

### Allendale Water System Has Levels of Perfluorooctanoic Acid (PFOA) Above A Drinking Water Standard

The Allendale Water System violated a New Jersey drinking water standard, and as our customers, you have a right to know what happened, what you should do, and what we are doing to correct this situation.

Veolia Water New Jersey routinely monitors for the presence of federal and state regulated drinking water contaminants. New Jersey adopted a standard, or maximum contaminant level (MCL), for PFOA in 2020 and monitoring began in 2021. The MCL for PFOA is 0.014 parts per billion (ppb) and is based on a running annual average (RAA), in which the four most recent quarters of monitoring data are averaged. On Nov. 14, 2022, we received notice that the sample collected on Oct. 13, 2022 showed that the Allendale Water System exceeds the PFOA MCL at the West Crescent Well (Plant number TP002003). The RAA for PFOA based on samples collected over the last four active quarters is 0.015 ppb.

Quarter	Quarter Value (ppb)	RAA (ppb)
2nd quarter 2021	0.0169	0.015
3rd quarter 2021	0.0149	
3rd quarter 2022	0.0119	
4th quarter 2022	0.0176	

Due to damage from Hurricane Ida, the West Crescent Well has not been in constant use. It was off from September 2021 through June 2022 and used intermittently in the third quarter of 2022. It was used intermittently to ensure adequate pressure for fire protection. Because of drought conditions and high demand, the well was put into continuous service on Aug. 5, 2022. It was turned off again on Nov. 15, 2022 and remained off until it had to be put back in service on June 7, 2023 to accommodate the increased water use during warmer months and to ensure adequate water pressure for fire protection.

Veolia is in the process of installing a temporary treatment system to reduce PFOA while we build a permanent treatment system.

This notice is required to be mailed quarterly to residents until treatment is in place and the system is back in compliance.

#### What is PFOA?

Perfluorooctanoic acid (PFOA) is a member of the group of chemicals called per- and polyfluoroalkyl substances (PFAS), used as a processing aid in the manufacture of fluoropolymers used in non-stick cookware and other products, as well as other commercial and industrial uses, based on its resistance to harsh chemicals and high temperatures. PFOA has also been used in aqueous film-forming foams for firefighting and training, and it is found in consumer products such as stain-resistant coatings for upholstery and carpets, water-resistant outdoor clothing, and greaseproof food packaging. Major sources of PFOA in drinking water include discharge from industrial facilities where it was made or used and the release of aqueous film-forming foam. Although the use of PFOA has decreased substantially, contamination in the environment is expected to continue indefinitely because it is extremely persistent in the environment and is soluble and mobile in water.

## What does this mean?

*\*People who drink water containing PFOA in excess of the MCL over time could experience problems with their blood serum cholesterol levels, liver, kidney, immune system, or, in males, the reproductive system. Drinking water containing PFOA in excess of the MCL over time may also increase the risk of testicular and kidney cancer. For females, drinking water containing PFOA in excess of the MCL over time may cause developmental delays in a fetus and/or an infant. Some of these developmental effects may persist through childhood.*

*\* For specific health information, see [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?

- Anyone concerned about their health should consult with their personal healthcare provider.
- The New Jersey Department of Health advises that infant formula and other beverages for infants, such as plain water or juice, should be prepared with bottled water when PFOA is elevated in drinking water.
- Pregnant, nursing, and women considering having children may choose to use bottled water or a home filter designed to remove PFOA for drinking and cooking to reduce exposure to PFOA.
- Other people may also choose to use bottled water for drinking and cooking to reduce exposure to PFOA or a home water filter that is certified to reduce levels of PFOA.
- Home water treatment devices are available that can reduce levels of PFOA. If a water treatment device is used, it is important to follow the manufacturer's guidelines for maintenance and operation. For more specific information regarding the effectiveness of home water filters for reducing PFOA, visit the National Sanitation Foundation (NSF) International website, <http://www.nsf.org/>. [NSF does not certify reduction of PFOA to the NJ MCL for PFOA.]
- Boiling your water will not remove PFOA.

For more information, see <https://www.nj.gov/dep/watersupply/pfas/>.

## What is being done?

Veolia completed the purchase of the Allendale Water System on Nov. 30, 2022 and immediately began planning for the installation of PFAS treatment. Installation of a temporary treatment system is projected to be complete in early Fall 2023. The temporary treatment will remain in place until a permanent treatment system can be designed and built. Although temporary treatment systems reduce the levels of PFOA in the drinking water supplied, a system is not considered in compliance with NJDEP regulations until a permanent treatment system is operational. The permanent treatment system is estimated to be completed by Fall 2027, at which time we anticipate a return to compliance.

Veolia is also installing temporary treatment at the New Street in Allendale. While this well has remained in compliance, Veolia decided to proactively treat the water to ensure superior water quality to residents.

For more information, please contact our Customer Service Department at 855-367-6708 or by email at [csallendale@veolia.com](mailto:csallendale@veolia.com).

*\*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 Veolia Water New Jersey, Inc. on behalf of the Allendale Water Department. State Water System ID#: NJ0201001.

Date distributed: June 21, 2023





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