



One Provost Square · Caldwell, NJ 07006 · 973-226-6100 · Fax 973-403-1355

July 15, 2022

Caldwell Residents,

The Caldwell Water Department is required, as a purchaser of Essex Fells' water, to provide notice that Essex Fells violated a drinking water standard, specifically Perfluorooctanoic acid (PFOA). The Caldwell Water Department does not have its own sources or treatment and receives all of its drinking water from Essex Fells Water Department. Therefore, the Caldwell Water Department is required to notify our customers.

Attached, please find the public notice for the second quarter 2022 from Essex Fells.

What is PFOA?

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 is expected to continue indefinitely because it is extremely persistent in the environment and is soluble and mobile in water.

What should I do?

- If you have specific health concerns, a severely compromised immune system, have an infant, are pregnant, or are elderly, you may be at higher risk than other individuals and should seek advice from your health care providers about drinking this water.
- The New Jersey Department of Health advises that infant formula and other beverages for infants, such as 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 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. For more



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specific information regarding the effectiveness of home water filters for reducing PFOA, visit the National Sanitation Foundation (NSF) International website, <http://www.nsf.org/>.

- Boiling your water will not remove PFOA.

For more information, see <https://www.nj.gov/dep/watersupply/pdf/pfoa-pfos-faq.pdf>.

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 further information, please contact
Brad Taylor
973-226-6347
Caldwell Water Department
1 Provost Square
Caldwell, NJ 07006

This notice is being sent to you by
Caldwell Water Department.
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July 11, 2022

Commented [DS[1]: Update to date distributed