

IMPORTANT INFORMATION ABOUT YOUR DRINKING WATER

South Brunswick Township Water Department Fails to Meet Water Quality Parameter (WQP) Level for pH

Our water system recently violated a drinking water standard. Although this is not an emergency, as our customers, you have a right to know what happened, what you should do, and what we did (are doing) to correct this situation.

Our system has installed corrosion control treatment years ago to help prevent lead and/or copper in the pipes from dissolving into the water. During the July to December 2022 6-month monitoring period, we failed to consistently meet treatment technique requirements for our corrosion control system. WQP results did not meet the optimal WQP control values set by the State for a total of 42 days in the 6-month monitoring period, and the system cannot be outside the values set by the State for more than nine days. Although our system did not meet the optimal WQP control values, our water system has not detected lead or copper levels above the action level.

What should I do?

Listed below are some steps you can take to reduce your exposure to lead and/or copper:

- Run water to flush out lead and/or copper. Run water for 15 – 30 seconds or until it becomes cold or reaches a steady temperature before using it for drinking or cooking, if it hasn't been used for several hours.
- Use cold water for cooking and preparing baby formula. Do not cook with or drink water from the hot water tap; Lead dissolves more quickly into hot water. Do not use water from the hot water tap to make baby formula.
- Do not boil water. Boiling water will not reduce lead and/or copper levels.
- Use alternate sources or treatment of water. You may want to consider using bottled water for drinking and cooking or a water filter designed to remove Lead. Read the package to be sure the filter is approved to reduce Lead or contact NSF International at 800-NSF-8010 or www.nsf.org for information on performance standards for water filters. Be sure to maintain and replace a filter device in accordance with the manufacturer's standards to ensure water quality.
- Get your child tested. Contact your local health department or healthcare provider to find out how you can get your child tested for lead if you are concerned about lead exposure.

What does this mean?

This is not an emergency. If it had been, you would have been notified within 24 hours.

However, Infants and children who drink water containing lead in excess of the action level could experience delays in their physical or mental development. Children could show slight deficits in attention span and learning abilities. Adults who drink this water over many years could develop kidney problems or high blood pressure.

Copper is an essential nutrient, but some people who drink water containing copper in excess of the action level over a relatively short amount of time could experience gastrointestinal distress. Some people who drink water containing copper in excess of the action level over many years could suffer liver or kidney damage. People with Wilson's Disease should consult their personal physician.

If you have a severely compromised immune system, have an infant, are pregnant, or are elderly, you may be at increased risk and should seek advice from your health care providers about drinking this water.

What is being done?

South Brunswick Township Water Department is working with the New Jersey Department of Environmental Protection (NJDEP) on establishing new optimal WQP limits at our point of entry to the distribution system as well as ensuring our corrosion control equipment is working properly to be within the NJDEP established Optimal Range.

For more information, please contact South Brunswick Township Water Department at 732-329-4000 ext.7270 PO BOX 190, Monmouth Junction NJ 08852 or NJDEP Safe Drinking Water at 609-292-5550.

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: South Brunswick Township Water Department, State Water System ID#: 1221004
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