

IMPORTANT INFORMATION ABOUT YOUR DRINKING WATER

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

Last year during the July to December 2022 6-month monitoring period 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. As required lead and copper sampling is ongoing and the 90th percentile for both lead and copper are below 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?

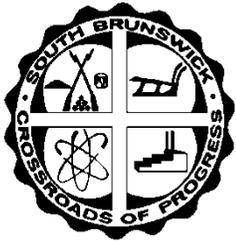
South Brunswick has begun work to implement new automated online pH analyzers at all of our wells. We plan to have the analyzers online by the end of summer 2023. South Brunswick has also re-trained staff on the new OWQP ranges. Additionally, we have also increased our preventative maintenance program on our corrosion control system at our wells.

For more information, please contact South Brunswick Township Water Department at 732-329-4000 ext.7226 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

Date distributed: June 20th 2023



TOWNSHIP OF SOUTH BRUNSWICK

Municipal Building • P.O. Box 190 • Monmouth Junction, NJ 08852-0190

Phone
732-329-4000
Fax
732-329-3061

Dear Neighbor,

There is no reason to be alarmed by this letter as there have been no measured violations of the new Optimal Water Quality Parameters (OWQP) at any of our water distribution system facilities since November 2022.

Why am I receiving another notification?

The water quality is and has been within the new Optimal Water Quality Parameters (OWQP) range at all wells since November 2022. NJDEP regulations require another public notification three months after the initial notification, which was sent out on March 20th 2023. NJDEP requires a full 6-month pH sampling monitoring period to be completed, after the initial violation has occurred, in order to be considered back in compliance. The data period to meet this requirement is from January 2023 through June 2023. After the six-month monitoring is complete at the end of June 2023, South Brunswick will be considered back in compliance with NJDEP regulations.

What caused South Brunswick to be in violation in 2022?

Last year's violation was not considered an emergency. The few exceptions were due to new NJDEP OWQP going into effect. Effective July 1st 2022, NJDEP placed South Brunswick Township on Optimal Water Quality Parameters (OWQP) for pH. The new standards are more stringent than the previous standards. The pH levels fell outside of the new optimal OWQP ranges that NJDEP has established for our wells.

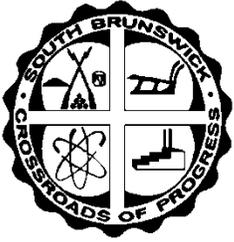
South Brunswick has always been within the previous secondary drinking water standard. During the time that the reported violation occurred, the pH was also tested as required at locations throughout South Brunswick Township's Water Distribution System from July to December 2022.

The pH readings in the distribution system were within the 2022 OWQP range. As required, our interconnections with New Jersey American Water were also tested during the July to December 2022 timeframe last year, and were also within the OWQP range. The pH violation only occurred at our wells and not within the distribution system or interconnections with New Jersey American Water.

What is the current status of the water?

The Utilities Department wants to assure all residents and families that the Township water supply has been and continues to be safe for all. The events relating to this notice have been identified and corrected; the Township has been meeting all NJDEP testing requirements since the last violation period between July and December 2022.

There have been no pH readings outside of the OWQP range at our wells, distribution system or interconnection with New Jersey American Water since November 2022. Lead and copper sampling are ongoing as always required by the State and continue to be compliant with the State's regulations.



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South Brunswick has implemented automated pH analyzers at our wells. We plan to have the analyzers online soon. South Brunswick has also trained its staff on the new OWQP standards and ranges. Additionally, we have also increased our preventative maintenance program on our corrosion control system at our wells.

Your drinking and household water is safe.

There have been no pH readings outside of the OWQP range at our wells, distribution system or interconnection with New Jersey American Water since November 2022. Lead and copper sampling are ongoing as required and continue to be below the NJDEP and Federal EPA action level.

What if I have questions?

Please visit our website at www.southbrunswicknj.gov for FAQs. We can also be reached at 732-329-4000 extension 7226 or 7270.

****Please share this information with all water consumers, specifically those who may not have received this notice directly (for example, tenants, 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. ****