October 2, 2020

Western Water Company

PO Box 756

Goshen, Ohio 45152

Subject: Water Testing Results

Dear Customer:

Ohio and states nationwide are faced with challenges related to Per- and Polyfluoroalkyl substances (PFAS), which have been manufactured and used for years in everyday items such as nonstick cookware, water-resistant clothing and personal care products. PFAS have also been widely used in firefighting foams, at military installations and fire training facilities. PFAS are classified as contaminants of emerging concern, meaning that research into the harm they may cause to human health is still ongoing.

In an announcement on September 27, 2019, Governor Mike DeWine directed the Ohio Environmental Protection Agency (EPA) and Ohio Department of Health (ODH) to develop a statewide PFAS action plan to analyze the prevalence of these substances in Ohio’s drinking water. Under this plan, Ohio EPA is coordinating sampling and analysis, through contracted environmental firms and certified laboratories, of approximately 1,500 public water systems statewide. These systems provide water to cities, mobile home parks, schools, and daycares and serve approximately 90 percent of Ohio’s population.

Ohio EPA is testing for six specific PFAS identified in the table below and has worked with ODH to establish Action Levels for each. Action Levels are based on health advisory information published by U.S. EPA and other health-related research that has been conducted on PFAS exposures.

An Action Level is not a boundary between a “safe” and “dangerous” level of a chemical. Rather, it is a level that represents the concentration at below which no adverse non-cancer health effects would be anticipated for the most sensitive populations.

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| --- | --- | --- | --- | --- | --- | --- |
| **PFAS**  | **PFOA** | **PFOS** | **GenX** | **PFBS** | **PFHxS** | **PFNA** |
| Action Level in parts per trillion (ppt) | >70 single or combined with PFOS | >70 single or combined with PFOA | >700 | >140,000 | >140 | >21 |
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**Western Water Company’s water was tested and the results show that PFOS was found at 11.6 ppt in the raw water and 10.8 ppt in the finished water, which is less than the Ohio Action Level.**

The results of the sampling data for Western Water Company are being posted on the state website at [pfas.ohio.gov](http://www.pfas.ohio.gov).

As a proactive measure, Western Water Company will be taking the following actions to monitor and reduce PFAS levels in our drinking water supply:

* Conducting quarterly monitoring
* Working with Ohio EPA to develop an action plan to reduce PFAS levels

Ohio EPA and ODH are also closely coordinating on outreach and educational materials for residents on PFAS, including health-related information and steps to reduce potential exposures. A state website has been set up to provide information about PFAS at [pfas.ohio.gov](http://www.pfas.ohio.gov). We encourage you to visit this website for helpful information about PFAS and reducing your exposure risks.

Sincerely,

Jim Swearingen

Treatment Plant Superintendent