



Warrington Township
Water and Sewer Department
(WTWSD)

Water Quality- July 12, 2016

FAQs

- Q: Is my public water safe to drink?
- A: The water in Warrington Township's public water system is safe according to today's scientific standards. We continue to comply with the PADEP's Safe Drinking Water Act as well as EPA regulations including the recently released combined Health Advisory Level (HAL) for PFOA/PFOS.

FAQs

- Q: Is my private well water safe to drink?
- A: The Air National Guard (ANG) and EPA area of responsibility bordered in south by County Line Road, east by Valley Road, north by Street Road and west by Bradford Avenue.
 - The ANG and EPA test any private wells used for drinking purposes within area of responsibility at no cost to you.
 - Contact Environmental Restoration Program Manager of ANG at (240) 612-8762 to coordinate your private well test.

FAQs

- Q: Where is my water coming from?
- A: The western district of the Township is served entirely by NWWA water. All public wells in eastern district feed into distribution system of eastern district. All public wells in eastern district (except those shut down) contribute water delivered to all customers in eastern district.
 - Additional water from NWWA purchased to supplement the loss of water from public wells taken offline as a result of contamination.

FAQs

- Q: Am I in the western or eastern district?
- A: Generally west of Elbow Lane/Folly Road, western district. Generally, east of Elbow Lane/Folly Road, eastern district.
- Q: What kind of health effects do these chemicals have?
- A: Contact the Agency for Toxic Substances and Disease Registry (ATSDR) with questions concerning health effects. Visit their website at <http://www.atsdr.cdc.gov/> or contact them by phone at 800-CDC-INFO (800-232-4643).

Notable Events

- October 2014- WTWSD sampled public wells under EPA's third Unregulated Contaminant Monitoring Rule (UCMR3)
 - Wells 1, 2 and 6 exceeded the Provisional Health Advisory Level (PHAL) and were taken offline.
- February 24 and 25, 2015- WTWSD Open House Meetings held by Navy in Horsham

Notable Events 2

- October 2015- WTWSD Cooperative Agreement (CA) with Air National Guard (ANG) for \$5.9 million:
 - Filtration System for public wells 1, 2, 6
 - Water service connections for private well owners that test at or above PHAL
 - Water Main Extension
 - Additional Water purchased from North Wales Water Authority (NWWA)
 - Operating Expenses for 5 years

Notable Events 3

- May 19, 2016- EPA released new Health Advisory Limit (HAL)
 - Wells 3 and 9 exceeded HAL and taken offline that day
- May 24 and 25, 2016- WTWSD Open House Meetings held by Navy in Horsham
- May 2016- WTWSD sampled public wells with release of new HAL
 - Wells 5, 8 and 11 remain compliant with HAL
 - These wells continue to be monitored

Meeting with Air National Guard

- July 8, 2016- Warrington Township met with the Air National Guard (ANG)
- Discussions negotiating an Amendment to the existing Cooperative Agreement (CA) for the closure of Wells 3 and 9
- Significant progress been made in negotiations and we expect an amendment in coming months
 - Additional costs for short term supplemental water agreed upon
- Please check our website for updates:
<http://www.warringtontownship.org/departments/water-sewer/pfc-info/>

Scheduling of Public Meeting

- The Warrington Township Board of Supervisors will be holding a public meeting on Water Quality
 - This meeting is proposed to be held at Central Bucks South High School
 - Proposed-August 8, 2016; 7:00PM

PFC Regulations

- Prior to May of this year, the EPA had Provisional (short-term) Health Advisory Levels (PHAL) for PFOA and PFOS:
 - 400 parts per trillion (ppt) for PFOA
 - 200 parts per trillion (ppt) for PFOS
- In May 2016, EPA issued a combined lifetime Health Advisory Limit (HAL) of 70 parts per trillion (ppt) for PFOA and PFOS

What are PFCs?

- Perfluorinated Compounds, or PFCs, are a family of 20 chemical compounds, not found in nature. PFCs are an emerging contaminant, but not regulated by EPA as hazardous substances.
- We think of this as a local issue, but PFCs are an international problem. EPA has been studying PFCs since 1999, but Europe has studied them much longer.
- U.S. Department of Defense has identified 644 potential sites, and to date, PFCs have been found in 63 public water supplies.
- 98% of people tested have some level of PFCs in their blood. Tests on polar bears have shown levels of PFCs.

Sources of PFCs

- PFCs in Warrington's water are believed to come from fire-fighting foam used in flight operations at the NASJRB
- Experts estimate that only 5% of PFCs produced were used in fire-fighting foam. Other sources include:
 - Microwave popcorn (Orville Redenbacher recently stopped using PFCs)
 - Fast food wrappers
 - Scotchgard (until 2002)
 - Non-stick cooking surfaces (Teflon)
 - Dental floss
 - Water-repellent clothing
- The majority of PFCs were phased out of production by the end of 2015