

IMPORTANT INFORMATION ABOUT YOUR DRINKING WATER

Myron Powell School Has Levels of Gross Alpha Particle Activity AND Combined Radium-226/Radium-228 Above the Drinking Water Standard(s)

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 are doing to correct this situation.

We routinely monitor for the presence of drinking water contaminants. On November 16, 2021, we received notice that the samples collected during the April 1, 2021 – June 30, 2021 and July 1, 2021 – September 30, 2021 monitoring periods showed that our system exceeds the standard, or maximum contaminant level (MCL), for Gross Alpha Particle Activity and Combined Radium-226 and Radium-228. The standard for Gross Alpha Particle Activity is 15 pCi/L and the standard for Combined Radium-226/Radium-228 is 5 pCi/L. The average level of Gross Alpha Particle Activity and Combined Radium-226/Radium-228 over the last year has been 15.6 and 5.89 respectively.

What does this mean?

This is not an emergency. If it had been, you would have been notified within 24 hours. **However, certain minerals are radioactive and may emit a form of radiation known as alpha radiation. Some people who drink water containing alpha emitters and radium-226/radium-228 in excess of the MCL over many years may have an increased risk of getting cancer.**

What should I do?

There is nothing you need to do. You do not need to boil your water or take other corrective actions. However, if you have specific health concerns, consult your doctor.

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?

- We are working with NJDEP to evaluate the water supply and are researching options to correct the problem. These options may include treating the water to remove Gross Alpha Particle Activity and Combined Radium-226/Radium-228 or drilling a new well to replace current water supply.

We anticipate resolving the problem as soon as possible but no later than October 15, 2022.

For more information, please contact Sweetwater Environmental Management, LLC at 856-205-1999.

Please share this information with all the other people who drink this water, especially those who may not have received this notice directly in the school. You can do this by posting this notice in a public place or distributing copies by hand or mail.

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