

TOWN OF BURRILLVILLE

Office of Town Manager
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TOWN BUILDING
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FACT SHEET

Water Concerns for Oakland Association and Abutters within a Quarter Mile:

Tests revealed a *slightly elevated level of certain man-made chemicals*, called per- and polyfluoroalkyl substances (PFAS), in the system's drinking water.

Where is the problem?

- The Oakland Association Well is at 1264 Victory Highway and serves 35 homes (or approximately 55 families).
- Potential concerns for private wells within ¼ mile radius around that well
- *NOTE that all the other results from other systems sampled in Rhode Island thus far have been below 70 ppt contamination level.*

What can we do right now?

- Affected residents **should not drink the water** or use for any purpose when you may swallow the water (ie, brushing teeth, cooking, etc.)
- Do not boil water for consumption (boiling water concentrates these chemicals)
- Do not use home filtration systems (such as Brita). There are no known commercially available systems for filtering PFAS.
- It is safe to shower, wash laundry, wash dishes, or other purposes where the water will not be consumed.
- Residents within ¼ mile area can pick up bottled water, provided by RI DEM, at the Community Room of the Burrillville Police Station on the following schedule
 - Thursday (10/5) 7 AM to 8 PM
 - Friday (10/6) 10 AM to 7 PM
 - Saturday (10/7) 9 AM to 4 PM
 - Sunday (10/8) 11 AM to 4 PM
- After Monday, October 9, a new schedule to pick up bottled water at the Police Station will be published.

- Use potable water from a clean, licensed source, such as
 - Harrisville Fire District, 115 Central Street, Harrisville
 - Harrisville Fire Department, 201 Callahan School Street
 - Outdoor spigot available 24 hours each day at these locations.
 - You must bring your own containers.

Private well owners

- If you are within ¼ mile of the Oakland well, the RI DEM will be providing testing of your water at no cost to you.
- Representatives of DEM and/or Weston & Samson Company will be canvassing all affected addresses over the next several days to take water samples for this testing.
- If you are not contacted by these agencies by Monday, October 9, please contact Steve LaRosa at Weston & Samson at 802-505-8909 to schedule an appointment.
- Testing results take approximately 7 to 10 calendar days, and residents will be advised of their results as soon as they are available.

What's the long-term solution?

Oakland Association is already developing a plan of action with RIDOH to reduce these chemicals to acceptable levels,

Where can we get more info?

- For general information, call RIDOH at 401-222-5960
- health.ri.gov/burrillville
- For questions on the source investigation and private well sampling within the ¼ mile, call Matt Destefano at RIDEM 401-222-4700, ext.7141 or ext. 7517.
- Subscribe to the Town of Burrillville website to receive notices by email. Go to www.burrillville.org, click the E-Subscribe button on the left-hand side and follow directions on that page.
- Sign up for **CodeRED**. From our website (see above), click the Code Red button on the left-hand side. Code Red messages are being sent out regularly with updates on this water situation.
- If you need help signing up for emails or CodeRED, call the Town Clerk's office at 568-4300.

Where did this problem come from?

- DEM will conduct an investigation to determine the source of the contamination.
- PFASs are a class of man-made chemicals used in a variety of products and applications that are resistant to water, grease or stains including non-stick cookware, carpets, upholstered furniture, clothing, and food packaging
- The majority of PFAS have been phased out in the United States.
- Examples of facilities that have the potential to contain these chemicals due to use or disposal include industrial factories, airports, fire training academies, and landfills
- You can find more information of PFAS on the RI DOH website: health.ri.gov/Burrillville.

As always, if you have any questions or concerns not answered by this fact sheet, you may contact the Burrillville Police Department at 401-568-6255.