

10/31/22

# WATER TREATMENT FACILITY UPDATE

TREATING PFOA TO ENSURE SAFE  
DRINKING WATER



## PROGRESS CONTINUES ON SOUTH PLAINFIELD TREATMENT PLANT

We are pleased to report that construction of the entire new upgraded plant in South Plainfield to treat PFOA remains on target for completion by June 30, 2023. We continue to work with our engineering and contracting project partners and navigate supply chain issues as we work towards continuing progress.

Specifically, the roof is now complete, the additional 16 new filter vessels have been set in the building, exterior masonry walls are near completion and interior painting has begun. Tanks, treatment and pumps have been delivered and our teams are working to obtain all necessary permitting approvals.

As we had communicated in past, because we were able to successfully construct interim treatment effective June 2022, we have already been delivering water from this plant that is in compliance with the PFOA MCL. We continue to conduct bi-weekly sampling at the plant before the water enters the distribution system, to ensure our groundwater sources containing PFOA are being treated successfully and your drinking water remains in compliance with NJDEP and USEPA water quality standards.

**What's Next:** We will continue to periodically keep you informed about our construction and operational progress as we work to place this entire plant into service. Thank you for your continued confidence and support of our commitment to quality drinking water.

View our most recent Public Notice [here](#).



10/31/22

# ACTUALIZACIÓN DE LAS INSTALACIONES DE TRATAMIENTO DE AGUA

TRATAMIENTO DEL PFOA PARA  
GARANTIZAR AGUA POTABLE SEGURA



## CONTINÚA EL PROGRESO EN LA PLANTA DE TRATAMIENTO DE SOUTH PLAINFIELD

Nos complace informar que la construcción de toda la nueva planta mejorada en South Plainfield para tratar el PFOA sigue según lo previsto para el 30 de junio de 2023. Continuamos trabajando con nuestros socios de proyectos de ingeniería y contratación y navegando por los problemas de la cadena de suministro mientras trabajamos para continuar el progreso.

Específicamente, el techo ya está completo, los 16 recipientes de filtro nuevos adicionales se han colocado en el edificio, las paredes exteriores de mampostería están casi terminadas y se ha comenzado a pintar el interior. Se han entregado tanques, tratamiento y bombas y nuestros equipos están trabajando para obtener todas las aprobaciones de permisos necesarias.

Como habíamos comunicado en el pasado, debido a que pudimos construir con éxito un tratamiento provisional a partir de junio de 2022, ya hemos estado entregando agua de esta planta que cumple con el PFOA MCL. Continuamos realizando muestreos quincenales en la planta antes de que el agua ingrese al sistema de distribución, para garantizar que nuestras fuentes de agua subterránea que contienen PFOA se traten con éxito y que su agua potable cumpla con los estándares de calidad del agua del NJDEP y la USEPA.

Lo que sigue: Continuaremos manteniéndolo informado periódicamente sobre nuestro progreso operativo y de construcción a medida que trabajamos para poner toda la planta en servicio. Gracias por su continua confianza y apoyo a nuestro compromiso con el agua potable de calidad.

Vea nuestro Aviso público más reciente [aquí](#).



Desplácese hacia abajo para la traducción al español.



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## An Important Update for Middlesex Water Company Customers

### Middlesex Water Begins Treating Ground Water for PFAS Compounds

Middlesex Water Company announced on June 6, 2022 via press release that it has completed Phase 1 construction of an advanced treatment facility at its Park Avenue wellfield **that is effectively treating ground water to ensure compliance with all state and federal drinking water standards.** This press release may be viewed on our website at [www.middlesexwater.com](http://www.middlesexwater.com).

### Treated Water from Wellfield Now in Compliance with all Drinking Water Standards

Working in coordination with the New Jersey Department of Environmental Protection (NJDEP), Middlesex Water has begun a phased, start-up of its Park Avenue wellfield and is successfully introducing treated water into the distribution system as of June 6, 2022. Water being delivered to customers is in compliance with all U.S. Environmental Protection Agency (USEPA) and NJDEP drinking water standards, including the newly established water quality standard for Perfluorooctanoic Acid, otherwise known as PFOA.

#### PFOA SAMPLING RESULTS OF GRANULAR ACTIVATED CARBON (GAC) VESSELS FOLLOWING START-UP OF NEW TREATMENT

GAC Vessel #1  
(ND) Not Detected

GAC Vessel #2  
(ND) Not Detected

GAC Vessel #3  
(ND) Not Detected

GAC Vessel #4  
(ND) Not Detected

The wells had been turned off since November 2021 when the Company had begun providing water from its surface water treatment plant and other sources. This plan to turn on, and treat, certain wells to support normal heightened seasonal demand was met with full approval from state regulatory agencies. The completion of construction of the full treatment facility remains on target for mid-2023.

“The Middlesex team has been focused on meeting consumption demands as the summer months are upon us and we are constantly evaluating operational alternatives to continue to ensure a safe and reliable source of drinking water,” said Dennis Doll, Middlesex Water Chairman, President and CEO. “Establishing an advance treatment solution while the larger portion of the new plant is being constructed allows the Company to utilize an existing source of supply and produce water from its wellfield that complies with state and federal guidelines while also supporting seasonal demands. We are grateful to our engineering, operational and contractor partners for their roles in helping to identify and implement this effective solution,” said Doll.

The Company continues to monitor the water treatment process and perform water quality tests to ensure the continued safety of its water for consumption, bathing and other domestic needs.

For more information, please contact our Customer Service Department at 800-549-3802.

This notice is being sent to you by Middlesex Water Company within the notification parameters as established by the NJDEP. State Water System ID#1225001

Date distributed: June 28, 2022.



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## Una actualización importante para los clientes de Middlesex Water Company

### Middlesex Water comienza a tratar el agua subterránea para compuestos de PFAS

Middlesex Water Company anunció el 6 de junio de 2022 a través de un comunicado de prensa que completó la construcción de la Fase 1 de una instalación de tratamiento avanzado en su campo de pozos de Park Avenue que está tratando de manera efectiva el agua subterránea para garantizar el cumplimiento de todos los estándares estatales y federales de agua potable. Este comunicado de prensa se puede ver en nuestra página web en [www.middlesexwater.com](http://www.middlesexwater.com).

### El agua tratada del campo de pozos ahora cumple con todos los estándares de agua potable

Trabajando en coordinación con el Departamento de Protección Ambiental de Nueva Jersey (NJDEP), Middlesex Water ha comenzado una puesta en marcha por etapas de su campo de pozos de Park Avenue y está introduciendo con éxito agua tratada en el sistema de distribución a partir del 6 de junio de 2022. Agua que se entrega para los clientes cumple con todos los estándares de agua potable de la Agencia de Protección Ambiental de EE. UU. (USEPA) y el NJDEP, incluido el estándar de calidad del agua recientemente establecido para el ácido perfluorooctanoico, también conocido como PFOA.

#### RESULTADOS DE MUESTREO DE PFOA EN RECIPIENTES DE CARBÓN ACTIVADO GRANULAR (GAC) TRAS EL INICIO DEL NUEVO TRATAMIENTO

<u>GAC Recipiente #1</u>	<u>GAC Recipiente #2</u>	<u>GAC Recipiente #3</u>	<u>GAC Recipiente #4</u>
(ND) No Detectado	(ND) No Detectado	(ND) No Detectado	(ND) No Detectado

Los pozos habían estado cerrados desde noviembre de 2021 cuando la Compañía había comenzado a suministrar agua de su planta de tratamiento de aguas superficiales y otras fuentes. Este plan para abrir y tratar ciertos pozos para respaldar la demanda estacional normal elevada se cumplió con la aprobación total de las agencias reguladoras estatales. La finalización de la construcción del centro de tratamiento completo sigue prevista para mediados de 2023.

“El equipo de Middlesex se ha centrado en satisfacer las demandas de consumo a medida que se acercan los meses de verano y constantemente evaluamos alternativas operativas para continuar garantizando una fuente segura y confiable de agua potable”, dijo Dennis Doll, presidente y director ejecutivo de Middlesex Water. . “Establecer una solución de tratamiento avanzado mientras se construye la mayor parte de la nueva planta permite a la Compañía utilizar una fuente de suministro existente y producir agua de su campo de pozos que cumple con las pautas estatales y federales y al mismo tiempo respalda las demandas estacionales. Estamos agradecidos con nuestros socios de ingeniería, operativos y contratistas por su papel en ayudar a identificar e implementar esta solución efectiva”, dijo Doll.

La Compañía continúa monitoreando el proceso de tratamiento del agua y realizando pruebas de calidad del agua para garantizar la seguridad continua de su agua para consumo, baños y otras necesidades domésticas.

Para obtener más información, comuníquese con nuestro Departamento de Servicio al Cliente al 800-549-3802. Middlesex Water Company le envía este aviso dentro de los parámetros de notificación establecidos por el NJDEP. Sistema Estatal de Agua ID#1225001. Fecha de distribución: 28 de junio de 2022.

# PROGRESS UPDATE!

We are pleased to announce that we are no longer producing water from the wellfield that was testing above state limits for the new PFOA standard. The wells have been shut down and we are currently replacing that water supply with alternate sources that comply with all state and federal drinking water standards.

## HOW DID WE GET HERE?

Recently completed upgrades to our infrastructure allow us to bypass the affected wells while meeting customer demand. After significant testing and sample analysis, we are reporting that water being delivered to customers is no longer coming from the wells which tested over the standard.

<Flip for more>



## WHAT'S NEXT?

We intend to continue using alternate sources of water supply until the new water treatment plant in South Plainfield, currently under construction, is online in mid-2023. The upgraded facility has been designed to comply with New Jersey's stringent PFOA standards.

You should be aware that unforeseen emergencies could require us to turn the wells on prior to the completion of construction. We will be closely monitoring this approach should challenges arise and pledge to keep you updated on any developments.

As required by regulation, you will be receiving another Public Notification in the coming weeks that our wells again tested above permitted PFOA levels. This is because we utilized these wells during the earlier part of the fourth quarter of 2021. Please know that the wells have since been shut down and are no longer producing water.

We hope you can enjoy peace of mind knowing your drinking water is now being supplied from an alternate compliant source.





## **PARK AVENUE TREATMENT PLANT PROJECT MOVING CLOSER TO COMPLETION**

As a follow-up to our October 2022 update, Middlesex Water Company is pleased to report that construction of the upgraded facility to treat Perfluorooctanoic acid (PFOA) remains on target for completion by June 30, 2023. Our teams are working hard to navigate construction challenges and supply chain constraints related to certain required system components to ensure we can meet our in-service target date.

As a reminder, Middlesex Water has been delivering water to customers that is in compliance with drinking water standards, including the PFOA standard, once the Company switched water sources in November of 2021. In June 2022, the alternate water sources were curtailed as the Company implemented partial permanent treatment at the new treatment plant and began delivering water from that plant that met all regulatory water quality standards, including those for PFOA. Those regulatory water quality standards continue to be met to the present day.

It should be noted that Middlesex Water has always been committed to delivering quality water service over its 125 year history. It's what we do. Our water complied with all regulations before the new standard became effective. There was no change in the water we deliver. It was the regulation that changed, requiring us to implement enhanced treatment to meet the new, more stringent standard.

We're eager to get this treatment plant fully constructed and operational. The following details progress our team has made since our last comprehensive update in October 2022:

- ✓ The building has been erected and is 90% enclosed.
- ✓ Media in the permanent treatment vessels will be installed in February and hydrostatic testing of the vessels is being performed.
- ✓ Process piping has been installed and pressure tested.
- ✓ Intermediate pumps have been installed with chemical feed systems now 90% complete.
- ✓ Exterior masonry walls are complete and interior painting nears completion.
- ✓ The upgraded electrical service has been installed and natural gas service installation is in progress.
- ✓ Legal proceedings continue as we seek recovery for the upgraded plant construction costs from the alleged polluter.

As a water utility, we serve as a protector of public health. We continue to conduct routine sampling at the plant to ensure your drinking water continues to meet all state and federal quality standards. We thank our Engineering, Operations and contractor teams for strategizing collaboratively to manage through the challenges of seasonal water usage demands to bring this complex project to the finish line. We thank you for your continued confidence and support of our ongoing commitment to delivering quality drinking water.

Middlesex Water Company initially exceeded the PFOA MCL during the 3rd quarter of 2021 and, despite non-detectable levels of PFOA over the past 3 calendar quarters, we are required by regulation to continue providing quarterly web updates and public notification until the upgraded treatment process is fully functional. Please visit <https://www.middlesexwater.com/water-quality/#PFAS> for copies of prior notices and other information.

Despite our current regulatory compliance, public notification is a continued regulatory requirement under an Administrative Consent Order in place with the New Jersey Department of Environmental Protection.

Under state regulations, Middlesex Water Company is required to issue a Tier 2 Public Notice to customers containing required PFOA regulatory language in February 2023. This may appear confusing because water being delivered to customers does not contain detectable levels of PFOA. The public notice being sent to customers in February 2023 should not lead you to think that the water you receive is not in compliance with the required regulatory standards. To reiterate, your drinking water currently complies with all New Jersey drinking water quality standards. But because our sampling must represent a running annual average of the four most recent quarters, and the water did not meet the standard in the first of the four previous quarters, we are required to include this regulatory language in a public notice.

Also, per the federal Safe Drinking Water Act, we will continue to provide a quarterly update on our website until we complete all approved remedial measures and the plant is fully in operation.

As per our Administrative Consent Order, please see the required regulatory language below:

## **Important Information about your Drinking Water**

***In 2021, Middlesex Water Company had levels of Perfluorooctanoic Acid (PFOA) above the recently enacted NJ Drinking Water Standard. However, throughout 2022 and currently, the drinking water you are currently receiving does not exceed this standard.***

In the third and fourth quarters of 2021, our water system violated a New Jersey drinking water standard. You may recall you were previously notified of the PFOA Maximum Contaminant Level (MCL) exceedances in public notices issued on October 22, 2021, January 22, 2022 and August 19, 2022.

Middlesex Water Company is no longer providing water above the New Jersey PFOA drinking Water standard. This is because the Company switched water sources shortly after exceeding the standard and placed into operation an accelerated partial treatment facility at its Park Avenue Treatment Plant in June 2022. This phased approach has enabled Middlesex Water Company to effectively treat PFOA and use a portion of this important water supply before the full treatment plant is completed and goes online in 2023. This has been confirmed through sampling conducted at our treatment plant before the water enters the distribution system, demonstrating our groundwater sources containing PFOA are being treated successfully.

However, the water system continues to be in violation of the New Jersey Safe Drinking Water Act regulations until the full and complete treatment plant is constructed and in service. As our customers, you have a right to know what happened, what you should do, and what we are doing to correct this situation.

Contact us at 800-549-3802 or [info@middlesexwater.com](mailto:info@middlesexwater.com) to obtain a translated copy of the public notification materials or to request assistance.

**INFORMACIÓN IMPORTANTE SOBRE SU AGUA POTABLE**

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**En 2021, Middlesex Water Company tenía niveles de ácido perfluorooctanoico (PFOA) por encima del estándar de agua potable de NJ recientemente promulgado. Sin embargo, a lo largo de 2022 y en la actualidad, el agua potable que está recibiendo actualmente no supera este estándar.**

Como saben, en el tercer y cuarto trimestre de 2021, nuestro sistema de agua violó las regulaciones de la ley de agua potable segura de Nueva Jersey. Se le notificó previamente sobre los excesos del nivel máximo de contaminantes (MCL) de PFOA en avisos públicos emitidos el 22 de octubre de 2021 y el 22 de enero de 2022 y el 19 de agosto de 2022.

Middlesex Water Company ya no proporciona agua por encima del estándar de agua potable PFOA de Nueva Jersey. Esto se debe a que la empresa cambió las fuentes de agua poco después de superar el estándar y puso en funcionamiento una instalación de tratamiento parcial acelerado en su planta de tratamiento de Park Avenue en junio de 2022. Este enfoque por etapas ha permitido a Middlesex Water Company tratar eficazmente el PFOA y utilizar una parte de este importante suministro de agua antes de que se complete la planta de tratamiento completa y entre en funcionamiento en 2023. Esto se ha confirmado mediante un muestreo realizado en nuestra planta de tratamiento antes de que el agua ingrese al sistema de distribución, lo que demuestra que nuestras fuentes de agua subterránea que contienen PFOA están siendo tratadas con éxito.

Sin embargo, el sistema de agua sigue violando las normas de la Ley de Agua Potable Segura de Nueva Jersey hasta que se construya y ponga en servicio la planta de tratamiento total y completa. Como nuestros clientes, tiene derecho a saber qué sucedió, qué debe hacer y qué estamos haciendo para corregir esta situación.

Comuníquese con nosotros al 800-549-3802 o [info@middlesexwater.com](mailto:info@middlesexwater.com) para obtener una copia traducida de los materiales de notificación pública o para solicitar asistencia.

We routinely monitor for the presence of federal and state regulated drinking water contaminants. New Jersey adopted a standard, or MCL, for PFOA in 2020 and monitoring began in 2021. The MCL for PFOA is 0.014 parts per billion (ppb) and is based on a running annual average (RAA), in which the four most recent quarters of monitoring data are averaged. MWC's RAA for PFOA is 0.007 ppb.

### **What is PFOA?**

Perfluorooctanoic acid (PFOA) is a member of the group of chemicals called per- and polyfluoroalkyl substances (PFAS), used as a processing aid in the manufacture of fluoropolymers used in non-stick cookware and other products, as well as other commercial and industrial uses, based on its resistance to harsh chemicals and high temperatures. PFOA has also been used in aqueous film-forming foams for firefighting and training, and it is found in consumer products such as stain-resistant coatings for upholstery and carpets, water-resistant outdoor clothing, and greaseproof food packaging. Major sources of PFOA in drinking water include discharge from industrial facilities where it was made or used and the release of aqueous film-forming foam. Although the use of PFOA has decreased substantially, contamination is expected to continue indefinitely because it is extremely persistent in the environment and is soluble and mobile in water.

### **What does this mean?**

*\*People who drink water containing PFOA in excess of the MCL over time could experience problems with their blood serum cholesterol levels, liver, kidney, immune system, or, in males, the reproductive system. Drinking water containing PFOA in excess of the MCL over time may also increase the risk of testicular and kidney cancer. For females, drinking water containing PFOA in excess of the MCL over time may cause developmental delays in a fetus and/or an infant. Some of these developmental effects may persist through childhood.*

*\* For specific health information, see*

[https://www.nj.gov/health/ceohs/documents/pfas\\_drinking%20water.pdf](https://www.nj.gov/health/ceohs/documents/pfas_drinking%20water.pdf).

## **What should I do?**

- Anyone concerned about their health should consult with their personal healthcare provider.
- The New Jersey Department of Health advises that infant formula and other beverages for infants, such as plain water or juice, should be prepared with bottled water when PFOA is elevated in drinking water.
- Pregnant, nursing, and women considering having children may choose to use bottled water or a home filter designed to remove PFOA for drinking and cooking to reduce exposure to PFOA.
- Other people may also choose to use bottled water for drinking and cooking to reduce exposure to PFOA or a home water filter that is certified to reduce levels of PFOA.
- Home water treatment devices are available that can reduce levels of PFOA. If a water treatment device is used, it is important to follow the manufacturer's guidelines for maintenance and operation. For more specific information regarding the effectiveness of home water filters for reducing PFOA, visit the National Sanitation Foundation (NSF) International website, <http://www.nsf.org/>. [NSF does not certify reduction of PFOA to the NJ MCL for PFOA.]
- Boiling your water will not remove PFOA.

For more information, see the following links

<https://nj.gov/dep/pfas/drinking-water.html>

<https://nj.gov/dep/pfas/about.html>

<https://www.nj.gov/dep/pfas/standards.html>

## **What is Being Done?**

Our latest progress appears at the beginning of this update. To best support peak water usage seasons, Middlesex Water Company accelerated the construction of a portion of the treatment facility at its Park Avenue Treatment Plant, and on June 6, 2022, announced that construction of this smaller, partial treatment facility was complete and in service. This phased approach has enabled Middlesex Water Company to effectively treat PFOA before the full and complete plant goes online in 2023. Currently groundwater is successfully being treated for PFOA and is being introduced into the distribution system along with water supplied by MWC's surface water treatment plant and interconnection(s) with a neighboring water purveyor. **All PFOA results since the installation of this treatment have been and continue to be non-detect.**

For more information, please contact our Customer Service Department at 800-549-3802 or email [cwmwc@middlesexwater.com](mailto:cwmwc@middlesexwater.com)

*\*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 Middlesex Water Company State Water System ID#1225001

Date to be distributed by mail: February 22, 2023.

*Progress Update – April 30, 2023*

## **MIDDLESEX WATER PARK AVENUE PLANT ACHIEVES MAJOR CONSTRUCTION MILESTONE**

*Process Progresses from Temporary to Permanent Treatment*

As a follow-up to our last progress update posted January 26, 2023, Middlesex Water is pleased to report that the upgraded Park Avenue Treatment Plant facility is treating water for Perfluorooctanoic Acid (PFOA) as designed in compliance with state and federal drinking water regulations.

The start-up of the plant moved beyond accelerated temporary treatment, which occurred over the last ten months and has now ended, and progressed to Phase 1 permanent treatment. Now, eight filters are fully capable of delivering 4 million gallons of treated water per day to the distribution system. Overall construction continues to progress although supply chain delays for some materials are likely to push final completion, which includes grounds restoration, past the month of June. The plant will be operated incrementally from April and through June 2023 to meet upcoming summer demands. The remaining eight pair of Granular Activated Carbon filters will be placed into service in two additional phases, with four more pairs expected in May 2023 (Phase 2) and the final two pair in June 2023 (Phase 3). The project team continues to work collaboratively through typical construction issues to complete the project.



*The Park Avenue Treatment Plant is delivering water in compliance with state and federal standards.*

We once again remind our customers, **Middlesex Water has been delivering water that is in compliance with drinking water standards, including the PFOA standard, once the Company switched water sources in November of 2021.** In June 2022, the alternate water sources were curtailed as the Company implemented accelerated interim treatment at the new treatment plant and began delivering water from that plant that met all regulatory water quality standards, including those for PFOA. **Those regulatory water quality standards continue to be met to the present day as we progress to producing water through the new permanent process.**

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Providing periodic progress updates are a continued regulatory requirement under an Administrative Consent Order (ACO) in place with the New Jersey Department of

Environmental Protection (NJDEP). We are pleased to post quarterly updates on our website to demonstrate our progress.

Middlesex Water continues to conduct routine sampling at the plant to ensure your drinking water meets all state and federal water quality standards. We thank you for your continued confidence and support of our ongoing commitment to delivering quality drinking water.

Middlesex Water Company.  
State Water System ID#1225001