



Village of Harriman

1 Church Street
Harriman, New York 10926
TEL: (845) 783-4421
FAX: (845) 782-2016

MAYOR
Lou Medina

DEPUTY MAYOR
Carol Schneider

TRUSTEES
G. Bruce Chichester
Sandra M. Daly
Wayne Mitchell

TREASURER
Marie Coimbra

VILLAGE CLERK
Jane Leake

VILLAGE ATTORNEY
David L. Darwin

February 21, 2023

Village Water Customer:

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.

The enclosed **Public Notice** contains important information about your drinking water and this PFOS MCL exceedance. We routinely monitor the water system for the presence of drinking water contaminants. The testing results for the 4th Quarter 2022 show that our system exceeded the standard, or maximum contaminant level (MCL), for PFOS. The areas of the Lower Pressure system which are **NOT** affected are:

- Harriman Farms
- Brookside Drive West
- Brookside Drive East
- Melody Lane
- Meadow Glen
- Harriman Business Park
- Woodbury Center
- Commerce Drive

The Village, Water Department, and our Hydrogeological Consultants acted promptly, and the current results are below standard. A recent water quality test on January 11, 2023 confirms that the PFOS levels are below the drinking water standard.

IMPORTANT INFORMATION ABOUT YOUR DRINKING WATER PFOS MCL Exceedance at VILLAGE OF HARRIMAN

Why are you receiving this notice/information?

You are receiving this notice because testing of our public water system found the chemical Perfluorooctanesulfonic acid (PFOS) in your drinking water at 12.4 ppt. This is above New York State's maximum contaminant level (MCL) of 10 ppt for PFOS in public drinking water systems. The MCL is set well below levels known or estimated to cause health effects. Consuming drinking water with PFOS at or somewhat above the MCL does not pose a significant health risk. Your water continues to be acceptable for all uses. The Village is working on a strict timetable to reduce levels below the MCL.

What are the health effects of PFOS?

The available information on the health effects associated with PFOS, like many chemicals, comes from studies of high-level exposure in animals or humans. Less is known about the chances of health effects occurring from lower levels of exposure, such as those that might occur in drinking water. As a result, finding lower levels of chemicals in drinking water prompts water suppliers and regulators to take precautions that include notifying consumers and steps to reduce exposure.

PFOS has caused a wide range of health effects when studied in animals that were exposed to high levels. Additional studies of high-level exposures of PFOS in people provide evidence that some of the health effects seen in animals may also occur in humans. The most consistent findings in animals were effects on the liver and immune system and impaired fetal growth and development. The United States Environmental Protection Agency considers PFOS as having suggestive evidence for causing cancer based on studies of animals exposed to high levels of this chemical over their entire lifetimes.

At the level of PFOS detected in your water, exposure from drinking water and food preparation is well below PFOS exposures associated with health effects.

What is New York State doing about PFOS in public drinking water?

The New York State Department of Health (NYS DOH) has adopted a drinking water regulation that requires all public water systems to test for PFOS. If found above the MCL of 10 ppt, the water supplier must take steps to lower the level to meet the standard. Exceedances of the MCL signal that steps should be taken by the water system to reduce contaminant levels.

What is being done to meet the MCL?

Village of Harriman is working with the Orange County Department of Health on a compliance schedule that includes steps to reduce levels of PFOS. Additional information will be shared as further testing and progress occurs. This process is similar for any chemical detected in public drinking water that requires mitigation due to exceedance of an MCL. The compliance timetable will ensure that your drinking water will meet the MCL as rapidly as possible.

Where can I get more information?

For more information, please contact Kyle Livsey, DPW Superintendent at 845-604-1079. You can also contact the Orange County Department of Health at 845-291-2331, or the Village by mail at Village of Harriman, Village Hall, 1 Church Street, Harriman, NY 10926.

If you have additional questions about these contaminants and your health, talk to your health care provider who is most familiar with your health history and can provide advice and assistance about understanding how drinking water may affect your personal health.

Public Water System ID# NY3503531
Date distributed: FEB. 21, 2023