

## **NOTICE TO CONSUMERS of the TOWN of VIRGILINA WATERWORKS IMPORTANT INFORMATION ABOUT YOUR DRINKING WATER**

### **Preliminary Water Test Results Show PFAS Levels Above New Standards**

The Town of Virgilina water system recently tested its drinking water as part of new federal rules that check for PFAS (per- and polyfluoroalkyl substances). PFAS are man-made chemicals that can stay in the environment for a long time. This is not an emergency, but we want you to know what happened and what it means.

In March 2026, the Halifax County Service Authority (HCSA) tested all of the wells that supply water to the Virgilina water system. These tests are required by new federal PFAS regulations. The town must test each water entry point to the water distribution system twice, 5 – 7 months apart and report results by April 2027.

The first test results found PFAS in the drinking water at levels from **1.1 – 110 parts per trillion (ppt)**. The new Primary Maximum Contaminant Level (PMCL) for PFAS ranges from **4 ppt** to **10 ppt**, depending on the type of PFAS. While we are not required to notify the public until the 2027 Consumer Confidence Report (CCR), HCSA is sharing this information now so you are aware of the results.

### **What Should I Do?**

You do not need to take any action at this time. You do not need to boil your water.

If you have health concerns, especially if you have an infant, are pregnant, or have a weakened immune system, talk to your doctor for advice.

Some home water filter devices, such as point-of-use Granular Activated Carbon (GAC) filters can help reduce PFAS levels.

### **What Does This Mean?**

This is not an emergency. If it were, you would have been notified within 24 hours.

### **What is a PMCL and How is it Set?**

A PMCL is the highest level of a contaminant that is legally allowed in drinking water. The Environmental Protection Agency (EPA) set these limits based on research into how chemicals affect human health.

Water systems have until 2029 to lower PFAS levels in drinking water. If a water supplier does not meet the standard after that, it must take action to remove the contaminant and notify the public.

### **What We Know About Health Effects**

Research shows that PFAS exposure may be linked to:

- Reproductive effects such as decreased fertility or high blood pressure during pregnancy.
- Developmental effects or delays in children's physical and behavioral development.

- Increased risk of some cancers, including prostate, kidney, and testicular cancers.
- Weakened immune response.
- Hormone changes.
- Higher cholesterol or increased risk of obesity.

### **Why Health Effects are Hard to Predict**

Scientists are still learning about PFAS. There are thousands of PFAS chemicals, people are exposed in different ways, and many PFAS uses have changed over time.

### **Who May Have Higher PFAS Exposure**

#### **Adults**

Some people have higher exposures to PFAS than others because of their occupations or where they live. For example:

- Industrial workers who are involved in making or processing PFAS or live near PFAS-producing sites.
- Pregnant and breastfeeding women tend to drink more water per pound of body weight than the average person and as a result they may have higher PFAS exposure compared to other people if it is present in their drinking water.

#### **Children**

- Children may be more sensitive because their bodies are still developing
- They drink more water, eat more food, and breathe more air per pound of body weight than adults.
- Young children crawl on floors and put things in their mouths which could increase exposure to PFAS in carpets, household dust, toys, and cleaning products.
- Babies may receive PFAS through breast milk or formula made with PFAS-containing water. . If you have questions, talk to your doctor.

### **Where Can I Find More Information?**

#### **Federal Resources**

- [U.S. Environmental Protection Agency \(EPA\)](#)
- [Agency for Toxic Substances and Disease Registry \(ATSDR\)](#)
- [National Institutes of Health \(NIH\)](#)
- [Food and Drug Administration \(FDA\)](#)
- [United States Department of Defense \(DOD\)](#)
- [United States Navy](#)
- [United States Air Force, Civil Engineering Center](#)

#### **State Resources**

- [Virginia Department of Health Office of Drinking Water PFAS page \(VDH ODW\)](#)
- [Association of State Drinking Water Administrators \(ASDWA\)](#)
- [Interstate Technology and Regulatory Council \(ITRC\)](#)
- [Environmental Council of the States \(ECOS\)](#)

- [Environmental Research Institute of the States \(ERIS\)](#)

### **What is Being Done?**

HCSA is working with the Virginia Department of Health and consultants to understand the potential source of the contaminant, the available treatment options, and/or any additional source water options that are available in order to mitigate and reduce your exposure to these compounds. More testing will be done in 5 – 7 months.

For more information, please contact:

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Email: [\*\*csamples@hcsa.us\*\*](mailto:csamples@hcsa.us)

*\*Please share this information with 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 the Halifax County Service Authority. State Water System ID#: VA5083940.

Date distributed: \_\_\_\_\_.