



January 2016

### **Horsham public water supply quality assurance update**

Happy New Year! As part of the Horsham Water & Sewer Authority's (HWSA) continued commitment to ensure the health and safety of the Horsham residents, we bring you this update to briefly summarize activities that occurred during 2015 related to the discovery of Perfluorinated Compounds (PFCs) in the local groundwater supply.

- Continued to supply water to HWSA customers which meets established drinking water standards, and worked closely with local, state and federal agencies in responding to the PFC situation.
- Participated in a second, two day open house public meeting together with representatives of the Navy, Air National Guard, Environmental Protection Agency (EPA), Pennsylvania Department of Environmental Protection (PA DEP), Montgomery County Health Department, and the Agency for Toxic Substances and Disease Registry.
- Attended and participated in all 2015 Naval Air Station Joint Reserve Base Restoration Advisory Board public meetings to publicly share and discuss information regarding water quality issues.
- Entered into an \$8.8 million Cooperative Agreement with the Navy to extend the public water system and connect homes with private wells affected by PFCs, design and install treatment for the removal of PFCs from HWSA wells, purchase supplemental water to offset lost production, and continue monitoring of other HWSA wells.
- Entered into a \$250,000 Cooperative Agreement with the National Guard Bureau to provide public water to properties immediately adjacent to the Horsham Air Guard Station.
- Connected five homes with private wells exceeding the EPA's Provisional Health Advisory (PHA) level for PFCs to existing public water supply mains; additional house connections are underway as we begin 2016.
- Performed numerous additional field surveys of homes with private wells, for potential future connection to public water.
- Performed field surveys and preliminary design for water main extensions to serve properties with private wells affected by PFCs, where public water is not currently available.
- Prepared and submitted necessary permit applications to regulatory agencies for planned water main extensions.
- Continued monthly monitoring of three HWSA wells where PFCs were detected below the PHA level under the third round of the EPA-mandated testing.
- Performed the first annual PFC monitoring of all HWSA wells, regardless of prior testing results; this testing was performed using a method even more sensitive than the EPA protocol, and confirmed that all active Authority wells remain significantly below EPA's PHA level. (Detailed results are available on the HWSA website at horshamwater-sewer.com, or by calling the Authority office at 215-672-8011.)
- Participated in a pre-application meeting with Pennsylvania DEP and began design of the PFC treatment systems for HWSA wells 26 and 40.
- Conducted pilot testing for the treatment systems, which successfully removed Perfluorooctane Sulfonate (PFOS) and Perfluorooctanoic Acid (PFOA), the primary PFCs of concern, to undetectable levels.

Please be assured that the Authority and Horsham Township Council will remain vigilant in protecting your water and the health of the families of the Horsham community, as well as those who work in the Township. Continued proactive monitoring of the public water supply for PFCs will allow the Authority to quickly respond if levels show signs of approaching those that might present a health concern.

Again in 2016, there will be an open house meeting at which representatives from all related agencies will be present to share any new information that may become available and to answer any questions you may have. The date and time of the next meeting has not yet been established but will be advertised in local media. In the meantime, please refer to the Authority (horshamwater-sewer.com) and Horsham Township (horsham.org) websites for additional links and continued updates.