

#### **Orange Water and Sewer Authority**

Our community's trusted partner for clean water and environmental protection

# Clear Waters: Navigating Your PFAS Questions and Concerns PFAS Regulations Update

**April 17, 2024** 

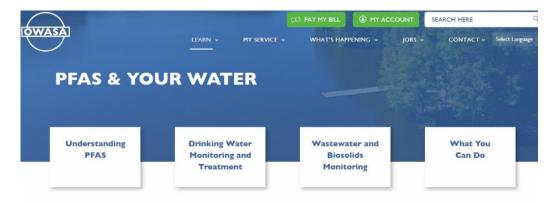
### **PFAS Regulations Update**

On April 10, the U.S. EPA issued the the <u>first national enforceable drinking water</u> <u>regulations for six per-and polyfluoroalkyl substances (PFAS)</u>. This is the finalization of regulations that were proposed in March 2023. OWASA's work to meet these regulations is already underway, including increased monitoring, interim modifications to our water treatment process, and planning for a long-term treatment to reduce PFAS in drinking water.

OWASA's Board of Directors will vote on a FY 2025 budget at their May 11 meeting. The proposed budget includes a rate increase in part to fund project expenses for drinking water PFAS reduction.

Since 2018, OWASA has monitored for PFAS in our drinking water. You can see these monitoring results, as well as learn about our work to design and construct a PFAS treatment system on our new online hub for PFAS information at owasa.org/pfas-and-your-water. OWASA is committed to keep the community informed on this topic:

## PFAS & Your Water



#### **PFAS & Your Water**

PFAS, short for per-and poly-fluroalkyl substances, are a group of compounds used in a variety of industrial processes and in everyday products to increase resistance to water, grease, and stains. PFAS can be found in carpet, clothing, furniture fabric, food packaging, cookware, some firefighting foams, and other materials. This family of compounds has been around for decades, accumulating in the environment—including drinking water sources. There is no known active industry in the watersheds that feed our reservoirs.

Our mission is to protect public health and the environment. Our dedication to doing what is best for our customers means we are following available science and new technology while ensuring we are making sound investments for our community's future. Our commitment to each of you is to share what we know and to move forward without delay to reduce PAS in your water.

Thank you for your interest in how OWASA is addressing PFAS in our community's water. Our goal is to connect with our community and become partners with you in understanding and addressing PFAS in our drinking water, wastewater, and biosolids. With this quarterly newsletter, we hope to keep you well-informed of our research and design of new treatment facilities, as well as regulations that affect how we manage your drinking water and wastewater treatment. Please reach out to us with questions related to this newsletter at info@owasa.org

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