LAKESIDE
WATER & SEWER

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PFAS Testing Underway in District Water Systems

The Lakeside County Water & Sewer District would like to let our customers know about PFAS testing that is taking place throughout our water systems.

The Montana Department of Environmental Quality (DEQ) is requiring public water systems such as ours to test for PFAS (per- and polyfluoroalkyl substances) as part of new drinking water monitoring requirements.

The District operates three separate water systems with a total of 11 wells:
Mission View (4 wells)
Lakeside (5 wells)
South 80 (2 wells)

All 11 wells are currently being sampled. Because the wells will be sampled at different times, we will also receive laboratory results at different times throughout the testing process.

One important thing we want our customers to understand in advance is just how sensitive PFAS testing is. PFAS are measured in parts per trillion (ppt), an extremely small concentration. Modern laboratory testing is capable of detecting PFAS at these very low levels. The District is following all current standards set by the DEQ.

Because of this, a PFAS detection does not automatically mean the water exceeds a drinking water standard or that there is a drinking water violation. The amount detected and the specific PFAS compound are important when determining what a result means.

As results are received, the District will review them and work with DEQ to ensure all applicable requirements are followed. Since Mission View, Lakeside, and South 80 are separate water systems, customers will be notified individually by water system if notification is necessary.

Once all required testing has been completed and the results have been received and reviewed, the District will make the final results available to the public.

We wanted to share this information ahead of time so our customers know why this testing is occurring and have some context for understanding the results as they become available.

As always, the District is committed to providing safe, reliable drinking water and keeping our customers informed.

Please feel free to contact the District office if you have any questions.