LELWD to Livestream PFAS Briefing on LCTV

The Littleton Electric Light and Water Departments have announced the PFAS Informational Forum scheduled for March 28 will be replaced by a livestreamed broadcast available on cable and the internet. LELWD made the decision amid increased concern about public gatherings during the state of emergency related to the COVID-19 virus.

The public will be able to watch the community briefing by LELWD staff at 10 a.m. on Littleton Community Television on Comcast channel 9 and Verizon channel 37. Live-streaming of the forum will also be available at https://littleton.vod.castus.tv/vod. The community briefing will be recorded and posted online for viewing and replayed on LCTV.

Residents may submit questions, to be answered during the broadcast, in advance or during the event by emailing info@lelwd.com.

LELWD is committed to providing regular updates on the progress of its short- and long-term solutions to address the PFAS pollution found in drinking water wells.

“We strongly encourage residents to take time to watch the program and participate by submitting questions. It is important for us to keep our consumers informed as we work to continue the delivery of safe and reliable water,” said Nick Lawler, general manager for LELWD.

During the program, LELWD staff will explain PFAS, the status of LWD’s wells, the state’s new PFAS regulations and plans to mitigate the manmade contaminant. The second part of the hour-long program will focus on answering community questions.

Tests have shown the Spectacle Pond wells have PFAS at an average of 25 parts per trillion, above the new proposed state standard of 20 ppt. to be adopted later this year. Currently, the Spectacle Pond well has been voluntarily taken out of service until
LELWD is able to install a short-term remedy to bring the system’s PFAS levels below 20 ppt.

Starting this month, LELWD will be installing a temporary water main on the northerly side of Great Road. The temporary main will allow LWD to blend water from Spectacle Pond wells and Beaver Brook wells. The blended water will meet the new state PFAS standard.

LELWD has a long-term solution to filter PFAS from the water supply at a new water treatment plant planned for Whitcomb Avenue. However, building and commissioning the plant is expected to take two to three years once construction starts.

Residents and consumers are encouraged to call LWD with any questions at 978-540-2222. Regular updates are posted on the website, www.lelwd.com/pfas, on LELWD’s Facebook page, and in the Watts & Drops newsletter.

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