



HO-CHUNK NATION DEPARTMENT OF HEALTH



PRESS STATEMENT – For immediate Release

May 5, 2023

PFAS Detected in Town of Brockway

The Ho-Chunk Nation Health Department is working with the Jackson County Health Department on how to address the Town of Brockway detecting PFAS in their drinking water well. The situation is ongoing but out of precaution the Wisconsin Department of Health and Wisconsin Department of Natural Resources recommend limiting consumption of the drinking water from the Brockway Sanitary District to reduce exposure to PFAS.

Ho-Chunk Nation Facilities affected include: Tribal Executive Building, Veteran Affairs, Community Health, Ho-Chunk Nation Health Care Center, Food Distribution, Montessori School, and Records.

Residential areas affected include: Maplewood Apartments and Ho-Chunk Residences on the Brockway Sanitary District Drinking Water System.

Unaffected areas include: Social Services which is served by Black River Falls Municipal Utilities. Ho-Chunk Gaming – Black River Falls, District 1 Community Center, Indian Mission and Sand Pillow which are served by the Ho-Chunk Nation Community Water System which has been tested for PFAS and is **PFAS Free.**

If you have your own well, you are not on a Community Water System.

Ho-Chunk Nation Emergency Management has obtained bottled water for its affected members. The water will be available today at Ho-Chunk Nation Food Distribution (N6262 Lumberjack Guy Rd. Black River Falls, WI 54615)

The detection of PFAS within the Brockway Sanitary District is below the Maximum Contaminant Level for Drinking Water, but exceeds the Health Index established by the Wisconsin Department of Health.

As such the WDNR notified Brockway that this was a Tier II violation and required notification of customers within 30 days of notification. They received their notification on April 26th. Brockway posted a notice on May 1st and is completing a notification letter to be sent to all of its customers.

The HCN Health Department will continue to work with Jackson County to ensure that everyone gets the same information and is properly informed. HCN Environmental Health is also working on collecting additional information to provide the Office of the President and the HCN Legislature with options to assist impacted tribal members.

Ho-Chunk Health Care Center
N6520 Lumberjack Guy Road
Black River Falls, WI 54615
Ph. 715-284-9851 FAX 715-284-5150

House of Wellness
S2845 White Eagle Rd
Baraboo, WI 53913
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