March 21, 2016

Re: *Traces of toxic chemical in water supplies*, The Record, Sunday, March 20, 2016

Dear Pompton Lakes Residents,

The topic of a chemical compound known as 1,4-dioxane, AKA dioxane, is discussed in the above-mentioned Record article regarding possible health hazards and environmental implications. Unlike chemicals such as Lead, Arsenic, and PCBs that have been studied for many years, the health effects of dioxane have only been studied for a relatively short period of time. Because of this limited data, the USEPA and NJDEP have maintained an unregulated status for this chemical compound. No Maximum Contaminant Level is in place from the USEPA.

The unregulated designation does not mean that dioxane is not tested for, just that the USEPA has not officially determined the extent of the health hazards of the chemical. Further testing of dioxane will continue and the data pool will grow, providing more concrete evidence, one way or the other.

The USEPA in 2012 established a lifetime health advisory of 0.2 mg/L (200 ug/L) for 1,4-dioxane in drinking water.

In Pompton Lakes, we carry out extensive monitoring of our water supply, and this includes testing for dioxane. Pompton Lakes last tested for dioxane in 2013, and had results ranging from 0.38ug/L to 0.53ug/L, falling well below the USEPA’s advisory levels.

At this time, we do not believe there to be any risk from 1,4-dioxane in the Pompton Lakes water system.

The Pompton Lakes MUA will continue to monitor for dioxane as well as all other NJDEP and USEPA regulated and unregulated contaminants as required. If you have any questions or concerns about your drinking water, you can contact our office.

Sincerely,

George D. Decker
Chairman

cc. Mayor & Council, Borough of Pompton Lakes