

Ridgewood Water Weekly

Week of January 6, 2025

Latest Quarterly PFAS Public Notice

All Ridgewood Water customers will receive our 2024 Fourth Quarter PFAS Public Notice this week.

Ridgewood Water is one of the estimated 6,600 public drinking water systems in the United States impacted by per- and polyfluoroalkyl substances (PFAS). We are also proud to be a leader in the treatment of PFAS.

By the end of 2026, all regulated PFAS compounds will be nondetectable in our treated water, exceeding the EPA standard of 4 parts per trillion. In addition, our system-wide project will be completed three years ahead of the EPA's 2029 deadline.

You may be asking:

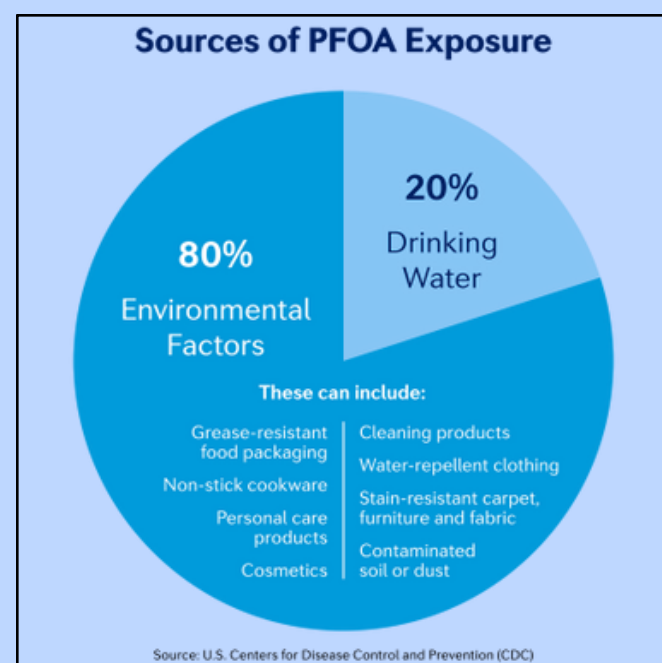
Why is it taking so long? The short answer is that it takes time to consolidate 31 treatment facilities spread across four towns into 12 PFAS Treatment Facilities. Our entire system needed to be redesigned to effectively address PFAS.

What exactly is being done? Ridgewood Water proactively commissioned a PFAS Treatment Master Plan study in January 2019.

- In September 2019, our first PFAS Treatment Facility was up and running.
- The second facility went online in August 2022.
- An additional six are under construction, four of which are on target to come online in 2025.
- The remaining four are on schedule to be completed by the end of 2026.

What are you doing in the meantime? We are working to deliver water with the lowest levels of PFAS and are purchasing additional supply from Veolia Water, Hawthorne Water and the Passaic Valley Water Commission, all of which are compliant with New Jersey Department of Environmental Protection PFAS regulations.

If you have any questions about our water system, please don't hesitate to reach out at 201-670-5520 or cswater@ridgewoodnj.net.



Ridgewood Water Weekly

Week of January 13, 2025

Goals for the New Year

Ridgewood Water has set several key objectives for 2025 to enhance water quality and infrastructure:

General Goals

- Complete update on the system-wide pressure study and review the recommendations for improved transfer of water between system zones.
- Install booster station on Glen Avenue in spring 2025 to increase flow to the low-pressure area affected by the boil water advisory this past September.

PFAS Goals

- Complete construction on the Ravine, East Ridgewood, West End and Prospect PFAS Treatment Facilities.
- Break ground on the remaining four PFAS treatment facilities.
- Continue to seek out grant opportunities and/or recover funds through other avenues.
- Break ground on the fourth PFAS raw water mains contract and complete the third contract work by the end of 2025.

Lead Service Line (LSL) Goals

- Complete engineering design for LSL Replacement Program and award the first LSLR contract.
- Continue regular communications with customers regarding the replacement of lead service lines.

Road Work Ahead

Two water main breaks will be repaired this week, requiring road closures with detours. *Water service interruptions are not expected.*

GLEEN ROCK

2 De Boer Drive - January 15th, 8:00 am to 6:00 pm

MIDLAND PARK

Godwin Avenue and Erie Avenue - 10:00 pm on January 16th to 6:00 pm on January 17th

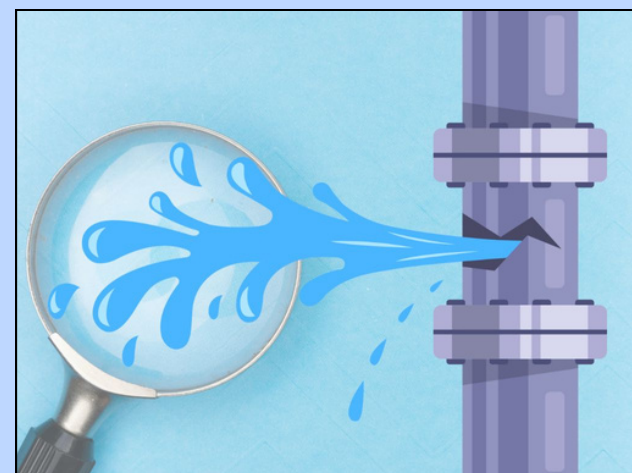


Ridgewood Water Weekly

Week of January 21, 2025

Do You Need a 'Leak Detective'?

Is your water usage higher than usual or expected? Call Customer Service at 201-670-5520 to see if you are eligible for a datalogger. A datalogger will pull the last 96 days of consumption history, breaking it down on an hourly basis. This can be especially helpful for evaluating sprinkler usage, but it can also assist in uncovering a leak inside your home. The process takes 10 to 15 minutes, and our technician will walk you through the results on site.



Ridgewood Water by the Numbers

When Ridgewood Water learns that a contractor or utility will be working on a street in our service area, we make sure that our underground pipes and service lines are clearly “marked” with blue paint and/or blue flags. These markouts enable contractors and utilities to operate efficiently and dig into the ground safely. In 2024, our **Metering and Markouts Team** has performed the following:

7,694 - Markouts Completed

641 - Average Markouts Per Month

31 - Average Markouts Per Day

2,300 - Scheduled Customer Appointments

1,100 - Meter Changes

350 - Service Turn Off/On

Did you know? Common projects - installing a fence, treating for termites, staking a tent - require a markout, which is often called in by the contractor without the homeowner’s knowledge. Surprise!

Meet the Teams

Pictured are just a few of the friendly folks working behind the scenes in the office and out in the field at Ridgewood Water.

Customer Service (L-R): Justin, Sarah, Mirella and Tyler. **Metering and Markouts** (L-R): Justin, Joe, Chris and Nate.



Customer Service



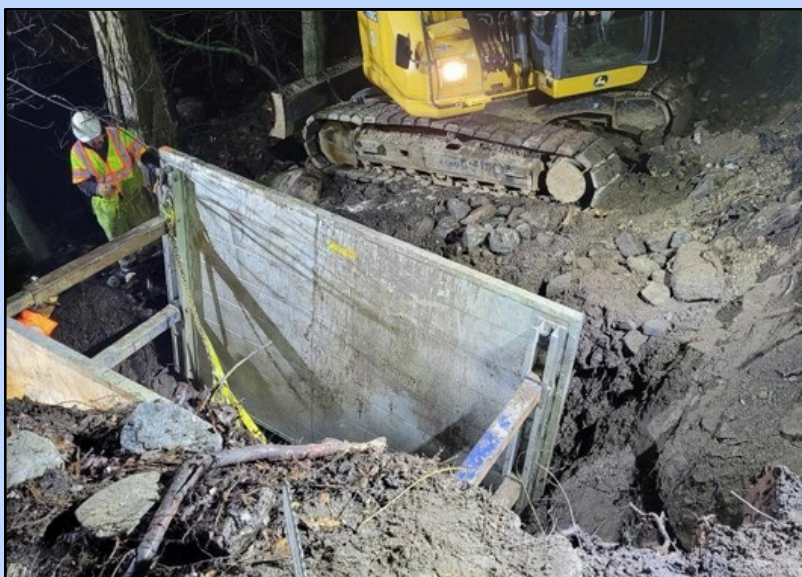
Metering and Markouts

Ridgewood Water Weekly

Week of February 3, 2025

Winter is 'Leak Season'

We have had quite a few water main breaks since the beginning of the year - 17, to be exact. Why so many? The short answer is "Because it's cold." When groundwater freezes and expands, the force on underground pipes doubles from 400 to 800 pounds per square inch. Extremely cold temperatures also can cause the surface of the pipes to become brittle. And when water mains freeze and then thaw, it creates an ideal scenario for cracks to form. **Rest assured, Ridgewood Water crews are standing by and ready to roll 24-7 if a break happens.**



An Inside Look at a Leak

A recent water main break in Midland Park was one of the most difficult that Ridgewood Water crews have tackled. The main runs under a stream - so deep that our equipment couldn't reach it even after digging down 14 feet and bringing in a local tree service to remove a large tree that was impeding progress. Ultimately, a special contractor was called in over the weekend to dig deeper and locate the leak so that it could be repaired by our crews. **We certainly appreciate the sacrifices that our staff members make!**

Lead Service Line Replacement Update

As you know, the state of New Jersey has mandated the removal of all lead and galvanized service lines by July 2031. Ridgewood Water's Lead Service Line Replacement (LSLR) Program allows customers to "opt in" for Ridgewood Water to replace their LSL. **To date, 450 property owners have opted in.** The contract for this first round of replacements is expected to go out to bid in the coming weeks, and work is anticipated to begin in June. If you have opted in, you will receive final pricing information, at which time you may choose to opt out of the program. You are under no obligation to Ridgewood Water!

Meanwhile, Ridgewood Water continues to accept opt-in forms, which can be found at leadreplacement.ridgewoodnj.net.



Ridgewood Water Weekly

Week of February 10, 2025

The Many Benefits of Snow

You may not like shoveling it or driving in it, but snow is beneficial to the environment. Snow cover acts like a protective blanket, trapping heat in the soil and helping to maintain a uniform temperature for slumbering plants. As snow melts, it gradually releases water into the ground, replenishing soil moisture and providing a steady water supply for plants when they begin to grow in the spring. Snow, in fact, has long been called “a poor man’s fertilizer” due to the nitrogen and other nutrients that are slowly released into the soil as it melts.



Water Conservation: It's a Year-Round Effort

Help the environment - and your wallet - by conserving water year-round. Yes, even during winter!

- Insulate exposed pipes, particularly those in unheated areas, to prevent freezing. Common problem spots include outdoor hose bibs, basements, crawl spaces and kitchen cabinets.
- Let your faucets drip slightly when the temperature drops below 32 degrees to keep water moving through the pipes and reduce the likelihood of freezing.
- Know where your shut-off valve is located. The faster you can turn off the water in the event of a leak, the less damage there will be.
- Wash dishes and clothes with cold water whenever possible.
- Only run the dishwasher when it's full.
- Shorten your showers, and turn off the water when you brush your teeth.
- Replace old showerheads and toilets with low-flow options.
- Collect melted snow to water your indoor plants.
- Check for leaks after the first thaw. The drastic temperature changes between night and day during the winter cause pipes to expand and contract, making them more likely to break.