## **Forest Lakes Water Company**

## A Nonprofit Corporation serving The Forest Lakes Community

P.O. BOX 264 ANDOVER, N.J. 07821

April 14, 2004

Dear Consumer/Owner,

Recently, all of us have read in the papers about the presence of uranium in the wells of the Seneca Lake water system in sections of Sparta and Byram. You may have also received correspondence in the mail from private water suppliers telling you not to drink the water due to the presence of uranium and the potential health effects. Recent mailings by certain bottled water organizations to consumers of Forest Lakes Water Company and other surrounding communities is an attempt to capitalize on speculation and hearsay about the quality of our water. It is important for everyone to deal with the facts and not speculation regarding the issue. This letter provides the facts for the benefit of the consumers of Forest Lakes Water Company:

- The uranium test performed by Seneca Lake Water system was performed in response to a new standard established by the New Jersey Department of Environmental Protection (NJDEP), effective January 1, 2004, for public water systems serving more than 25 people. The new standard for uranium is 30 parts per billion (ppb).
- The Seneca Lake Water system serves portions of the Autumn Hill section of Byram Township. Two out of 4 wells in the Seneca Lake water system exceeded the new standard; however, none of the wells of this system is near the Forest Lakes Water Company wells.
- Water companies have until 2007 to test for uranium to demonstrate compliance with the new standard.
- Forest Lakes Water Company is in full compliance with current standards. Forest Lakes Water Company currently tests for Gross Alpha particles, Radon and Radium, decay products of uranium. These tests all comply with current standards. These results are available to you in the Consumer Confidence Report. In general, if these elements are in compliance, it is expected that uranium compliance should follow.
- Forest Lakes Water Company is planning to perform the uranium testing during the next scheduled cycle of testing to be completed. In addition, as new standards are developed, these will be added to the testing regiment. A complete list of current standards and their results are in our annual Consumer Confidence Report sent to each of you annually in July.
- If the results of the test indicate levels of uranium in excess of the new standard, a plan will be developed and put forth to the consumers/owners of Forest Lakes Water Company.

We encourage all of you to attend the annual meeting of Forest Lakes Water Company on May 3, 2004 if you have further questions about this issue. In addition, a Well Water Workshop, sponsored by the Byram Township Environmental Commission is scheduled for May 5, 2004, at the Byram Township

Municipal Building. Representatives from the DEP, USGS, and other local water companies will be in attendance.

As always, questions are welcome and will be answered.

Sincerely, FLWC Board of Trustees