



For Immediate Release

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**Educational Forum Expert: Health Effects of PFOA and PFOS Underestimated,
Require Stricter Drinking Water Standards**

Warminster, PA - Bucks-Mont People for Clean Water presented an educational forum Sunday, September 18 at “The Fuge” featuring epidemiologist Richard Clapp from University of Massachusetts, author of scientific papers on the health effects of perfluorinated compounds with over forty years of experience in public health practice, teaching, and consulting. He discussed that the health risks are greatly underestimated and existing drinking water limits on perfluorooctanoic acid (PFOA) and perfluorooctane sulfonate (PFOS) may be more than 100-fold too high, with negative public health implications.

Attending through a live stream Skype platform, Professor Clapp answered questions posed by audience members with a goal of educating the public from a health perspective, based on the most up to date scientific research and studies.

“Perfluorinated compounds have been harmful to lab animals and humans over the past several decades, and early evidence of harm was concealed or ignored,” stated Professor Clapp. “We are still learning about these chemicals and catching up from the past failure of our chemical regulations to protect human health,” he explained.

This was the first event of the newly formed local organization, Bucks-Mont People for Clean Water. The group is working to empower people who live and work in areas whose water has been contaminated by PFOA and PFOS to seek answers and take action on these tough issues. People from several municipalities are in the process of organizing a network to demand clean water for everyone immediately, blood sampling and health studies, and PFC remediation to non-detect levels, among other demands. The group plans to produce a series of events exploring these topics.

Participating in the production of the event, two nonprofit organizations – Delaware Riverkeeper Network and Clean Water Action - are working with the local group with a goal of bringing together into one organization people representing the fifteen communities in Bucks and Montgomery Counties where PFC's have been found in public water systems or private wells (more municipalities will be added as new locations with PFC contamination emerge):

- Horsham
- Warminster
- Warrington
- Abington
- Bristol Township
- Bristol Borough
- Buckingham
- Doylestown Borough
- Doylestown Twp
- Ivyland
- Plumstead
- Upper Dublin
- Warwick
- Hatboro

People were encouraged to sign up and to reach out to their neighbors to support and get involved with Bucks-Mont People for Clean Water to resolve this water crisis.

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