2,4-Dichlorophenoxyacetic Acid (C_5Cl_6)

What is 2,4-Dichlorophenoxyacetic Acid?

2,4-D is a systemic herbicide used for post-emergence control of annual and perennial broad-leaved weeds in cereal cropland, on lawns, turf and pastures, in forests and in non-cropland (including areas adjacent to water). It is also used to control broad-leaved aquatic leaves.

2,4-D can enter the environment through effluents and spills arising from its manufacture and transport and through direct application as a weed control agent.

Does 2,4-Dichlorophenoxyacetic Acid have any additional names?

2,4-D, 2,4-D hedonal trinoxol

What are the known health effects?

Some people who drink water containing the weed killer 2,4-D well in excess of the MCL over many years could experience problems with their kidneys, liver, or adrenal glands.

How does exposure occur?

You may be exposed to 2,4-D when applying products that contain 2,4-D if you breathe it in or get it on your skin. You may also be exposed to 2,4-D while walking or playing on very recently treated lawns, gardens, golf courses, parks, or other grassy areas.

You are unlikely to be exposed to high levels of 2,4-D in food, water, or soil.

Is this contaminant regulated?

Yes, and water supplied to Mount Laurel MUA customers is in compliance with USEPA and NJDEP requirements. The maximum concentration of 2,4-Dichlorophenoxyacetic Acid permitted in drinking water is 70 ppb; 2,4-Dichlorophenoxyacetic Acid is not currently detected in water supplied to MLTMUA customers.

How can I reduce exposure?

2,4-Dichlorophenoxyacetic Acid in drinking water can be removed at point of use by granular activated carbon filtration.

Additional information regarding 2,4-Dichlorophenoxyacetic Acid, including the information referenced, can be found at:
https://www.atsdr.cdc.gov/toxfaqs/tfacts210.pdf
https://www3.epa.gov/pesticides/chem_search/reg_actions/reregistration/fs_PC-030001_30-Jun-05.pdf