**CONSUMER DRINKING WATER NOTICE**

The **[PWS name]** public water system has found

per- and polyfluoroalkyl substances (PFAS) in

the drinking water supplied to you.

On **[Sample Date]** **[a]** sample**[s]** of drinking water from the **[PWS Name]** Public Water System (PWS) **[was** or **were]** collected and analyzed for PFAS. The Connecticut Department of Public Health (DPH) has recommended public water systems test for PFAS. *[Insert additional or specific reasons why this effort was conducted].*

We detected **[X]** parts-per-trillion or ppt of **[PFAS compound]**[[1]](#footnote-2). This exceeds the Connecticut DPH drinking water Action Levelfor **[**exceeding PFAS compound: **PFOA at 16 ppt**, **PFOS at 10** **ppt**, **PFNA at 12 ppt**, or **PFHxS at 49 ppt]**. [We have also tested for PFBS and GenX chemicals, two additional PFAS for which the United States Environmental Protection Agency (EPA) issued final Health Advisories.]

*[Insert additional exceeding concentrations of each individual PFAS as necessary].*

Results along with the DPH’s Action Levels and the EPA’s Health Advisories are shown in the table below. Action Levels and Health Advisories are non-regulatory and not enforceable, rather they are guidelines that may be used to prompt protective measures.

A total of **[X]** additional PFAS compounds were also detected, although neither the EPA nor the CT DPH have established drinking water Health Advisories or Action Levels for these PFAS. Please see links provided below for more information.

|  |  |
| --- | --- |
|  | **PFAS** (parts-per-trillion or ppt; nanograms-per-Liter or ng/L) |
|  | **PFOS** | **PFNA** | **PFOA** | **PFHxS** | **PFBS** | **GenX Chemicals** |
| CT DPHAction Level | 10 | 12 | 16 | 49 | *NA* | *NA* |
| EPA Lifetime Health Advisory Level | 0.004 (*Interim*) | *NA* | 0.02 (*Interim*) | *NA* | 10 (*Final*) | 2,000 (*Final*) |
| **Sample Results** |  |  |  |  |  |  |
| [**Sample Location:** *Entry point to the distribution system*] | [**X** or **ND**] | [**X** or **ND**] | [**X** or **ND**] | [**X** or **ND**] | [**X** or **ND**] | [**X** or **ND**] |

**What are we doing?** *[edit/update with specifics as necessary]*

CT DPH’s Action levels and EPA’s Health Advisory levels are guidelines and although they are not enforceable, we are taking the following steps to protect public health:

* Follow up sampling will be conducted at the **[PWS Name]** PWS and a monitoring program will be established.
* **[PWS Name]** PWS will continue to share the results with you.
* **[PWS Name]** is examining available options to address PFAS in the drinking water supply and will keep you informed. *OPTIONAL [If there are actions planned or under way to reduce the levels of PFAS found in the drinking water (treatment, taking a source offline, blending sources, or alternative sourcing) briefly describe those actions and when they will be taken].*

**What are PFAS?**

PFAS are a group of over 5,000 manmade chemicals with useful properties such as repelling water and oil, preventing staining and sticking, and increasing heat resistance. PFAS are used on and in many consumer and industrial products such as waterproof fabrics, carpets, non-stick cookware, food packaging and firefighting foams. However, PFAS do not biodegrade and are known to be persistent in the environment. This enables PFAS to migrate through soil and impact water used for drinking.

**What are the health effects of exposure to PFAS?**

Consuming water with PFAS concentrations greater than the Connecticut DPH Action Levels (see table above) over a long period of time may increase your risk of developing a variety of health effects.

The main health concerns from ingestion of PFAS come from animal laboratory studies that consistently show liver, immune system, developmental, and pregnancy-related effects. Animal studies have also shown that PFAS can disturb blood lipids, such as cholesterol, and affect the endocrine (e.g., thyroid) and hormonal systems. Some studies of human populations have shown an increased risk for kidney cancer, and at very high exposure levels, for testicular cancer.

Due to the concerns about developmental and pregnancy-related effects, it is especially important that pregnant women and children avoid drinking water with PFAS, and that this water not be used to prepare baby formula. Wherever feasible take steps to reduce exposure to PFAS from all potential sources (e.g., drinking water, food packaging, consumer products). However, PFAS are not readily absorbed through the skin, so water with PFAS can be used for bathing, showering, and washing dishes and clothes.

**For More Information**

PWS Contact Name\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_

PWS Contact Phone and email\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_

For information on PFOS, PFNA, PFOA, PFHxS, PFBS, GenX chemicals and other PFAS, including possible health outcomes, you may visit these websites:

* Connecticut Department of Public Health Frequently Asked Questions about PFAS: [PFAS FAQs (ct.gov)](https://portal.ct.gov/DPH/Environmental-Health/PFAS/PFAS)
* The Agency for Toxic Substances and Disease Registry’s website: [What are the health effects of PFAS?](https://www.atsdr.cdc.gov/pfas/health-effects/index.html)
* Basic information and links to informational resources: [PFAS Explained | US EPA](https://www.epa.gov/pfas/pfas-explained)

*Please share this information with all the other people who drink this water, especially those who may not have received this notice directly (for example, people in apartments, nursing homes, schools, and businesses). You can do this by posting this notice in a public place or distributing copies by hand or mail.*

1. Perfluorooctane sulfonic acid (PFOS), perfluorononanoic acid (PFNA), Perfluorooctanoic acid (PFOA), and perfluorohexanesulfonic acid (PFHxS) [↑](#footnote-ref-2)