DWS Circular Letter #2022-27

To: Community, Non-Transient Non-Community Public Water Systems and Certified Operators

From: Lori J. Mathieu, Public Health Branch Chief

Date: June 1, 2022

Subject: Environmental Health and Drinking Water Branch Update for Public Water Systems regarding Per- and Polyfluoroalkyl Substances (PFAS)

The Connecticut Interagency PFAS Task Force PFAS Action Plan provided recommendations to state agencies in addressing PFAS impacts in four specific areas: Human Health, Pollution Prevention, Remediation and Communication. One of the key recommendations in area of human health is: “Continue to monitor new research and modify health-based guidelines as warranted.”

Since the Task Force delivered the PFAS Action Plan to Governor Lamont, the DPH Environmental Health and Drinking Water Branch has been evaluating the most recent toxicological studies and anticipates lowering the Drinking Water Action Level (DWAL) for PFAS this summer to better align with current science and other northeastern states that have adopted or are considering adopting guidelines for PFAS.

In conjunction with the DWAL update, the Drinking Water Section (DWS) is renewing the recommendation to all public water systems to test the water delivered to their customers for the PFAS that can be analyzed using EPA Method 537.1. The DWS also highly recommends that public water systems test their source water prior to treatment. These recommendations are consistent with the recommendation contained in Circular Letter 2018-20 which was sent to all Community Public Water Systems serving over 1,000 people. Voluntary sampling by some public water systems has shown that treatment installed for other purposes may also partially remove PFAS with unknown impacts to removal efficiency for both the target contaminant and PFAS. The DWS requests that public water systems share sample results through the Compliance Monitoring Data Portal, or via email to DPH.EmergingContaminants@ct.gov.
For more information on PFAS, you may visit DPH’s new PFAS Frequently Asked Questions webpage. If you have any questions regarding this Circular Letter, please contact Pat Bisacky at 860-509-7356 or email the Emerging contaminants Unit at DPH.EmergingContaminants@ct.gov.

C: Heather Aaron, Deputy Commissioner, DPH
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