

STATE OF CONNECTICUT

DEPARTMENT OF PUBLIC HEALTH



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Environmental Health & Drinking Water Branch

EHDW Circular Letter #2024-17

To: All Community and Non-Transient Non-Community Public Water Systems, Certified Operators, Directors of Health

From: Patricia Bisacky, Supervising Environmental Analyst, Emerging Contaminants Unit

Date: April 18, 2024 PPT

Subject: EPA National Primary Drinking Water Rule for PFAS

On April 10, 2024, the United States Environmental Protection Agency (US EPA) announced the Final National Primary Drinking Water Rule (NPDWR) for Per- and Polyfluoroalkyl Substances (PFAS): <https://www.epa.gov/newsreleases/biden-harris-administration-finalizes-first-ever-national-drinking-water-standard>

The new EPA NPDWR for PFAS sets regulatory limits called maximum contaminant levels (MCL) for six (6) PFAS in public drinking water through individual values and a Hazard Index. It also requires that public water systems monitor for PFAS, provide customer notification, and report to the CT Department of Public Health (DPH) if PFAS are detected. Water companies are also required to reduce customers' exposure to PFAS in drinking water if levels exceed the MCL.

EPA has set individual MCL's as shown below:

Analyte	EPA MCL (parts per trillion, ppt, ng/L)
Perfluorooctanoic acid (PFOA)	4.0
Perfluorooctane sulfonic acid (PFOS)	4.0
Perfluorononanoic acid (PFNA)	10
Perfluorohexane sulfonic acid (PFHxS)	10
Hexafluoropropylene oxide dimer acid (HFPO-DA / GenX)	10



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The EPA has also set a Hazard Index for mixtures of two or more of the following PFAS:

Analyte	Health Based Water Concentration (ppt)	Hazard Index* (HI)
PFNA	10	1
PFHxS	10	
Gen X	10	
Perfluorobutane sulfonic acid (PFBS)	2000	
<p>*Hazard Index (HI): The Hazard Index is a long-established approach that EPA regularly uses to understand health risk from a chemical mixture (i.e., exposure to multiple chemicals). The HI is made up of a sum of fractions. Each fraction compares the level of each PFAS measured in the water to their respective health-based water concentration. For additional information on the HI please see the following link from EPA: https://www.epa.gov/system/files/documents/2024-04/pfas-ndpwr_fact-sheet_hazard-index_4.8.24.pdf</p>		

The new NPDWR requires public water systems to conduct initial sampling within three (3) years and comply with the MCL within five (5) years of the date of the final rule promulgation.

EPA has scheduled three informational webinars for communities, water systems and other drinking water professionals about the final PFAS NPDWR. They are as follows:

- April 16, 2024 (2:00-3:00 pm EDT) [Webinar Registration: General Overview of PFAS NDPWR for Communities](#)
- April 23, 2024 (2:00 - 3:00 pm EDT) [Webinar Registration: Drinking Water Utilities and Professionals Technical Overview of PFAS NPDWR](#)
- April 30, 2024 (2:00 - 3:30 pm EDT) [Webinar Registration: Small Drinking Water Systems Webinar Series on Final PFAS NPDWR and PFAS Drinking Water Treatment](#)

In the coming weeks, CT DPH will provide an estimated timeline for adopting this rule in Connecticut and recommendations to public water systems to prepare for implementation. CT DPH will also update our web pages for PFAS Frequently Asked Questions: <https://portal.ct.gov/DPH/Environmental-Health/PFAS/PFAS> and PFAS Information for Public Water Systems: <https://portal.ct.gov/DPH/Drinking-Water/DWS/Per--and-Polyfluoroalkyl-Substances> and guidance acknowledging the difference between the new MCLs and the CT Drinking Water Action Levels for these compounds.

If you have any questions regarding this Circular Letter, please contact Pat Bisacky at 860-509-7356 or email the DPH Emerging Contaminants Unit at DPH.EmergingContaminants@ct.gov.

C: Lisa Michelle Morrissey, MPH, Deputy Commissioner, CT DPH
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