



PFAS/PFOS

FACT SHEET

DATE: January 17, 2020

BACKGROUND

Recent national news reports, books, and movies about a group of synthetic chemicals known as PFAS may have some Waterworks customers concerned about the safety of their drinking water. We want to assure you that we're aware of this issue; ***we have tested for PFAS and have not detected those compounds in your drinking water.***

PFAS stands for perfluoroalkyl and polyfluoroalkyl substances. Two of these chemicals, PFOA and PFOS, have been used to make carpets, clothing, food packaging, non-stick cookware, and other materials. They're also found in firefighting foams, which have been used extensively on U.S. military bases.

For most people, consumer products and food are the main sources of exposure to these chemicals; however, drinking water can be a source in communities where these chemicals have contaminated the water supplies. Such contamination is typically localized and associated with a specific facility, for example, an industrial plant where these chemicals were produced or an airfield at which they were used for firefighting.

FOR YOUR INFORMATION

There have been no industrial PFAS manufacturers, in the watersheds of Waterworks' reservoirs (properties that drain to our reservoirs), and none of the airports or military facilities in the watersheds use PFAS as a flame retardant.

In 2013-2014, Waterworks tested for six PFAS compounds as part of a year-long, US EPA-mandated monitoring program. We were unable to detect PFAS in any of the finished water samples collected.

At this time, there is no regulatory limit on the concentration of these chemicals in drinking water. The US EPA has, however, established a "health advisory" and is currently considering regulations.

Waterworks customers can be assured that their water meets all federal and state standards for safety. We are committed to protecting public health and will continue to monitor this issue closely to stay ahead of potential health risks.

PLEASE NOTE

Waterworks is committed providing safe drinking water to the communities we serve.

- The results of our continual testing show that our water meets or exceeds state and federal standards for safe drinking water.
- We regularly share the results of our water quality testing with the public. You can view our annual water quality report at nnva.gov/waterqualityreport

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