

New EPA health advisories for PFOA and PFOS

This notice is to give you information about the new health advisory levels issued by the U.S. Environmental Protection Agency (EPA) for PFOA (perfluorooctanoic acid) and PFOS (perfluorooctane sulfonic acid) in drinking water. It describes what is known so that you can make informed decisions about how to use your water.

Your system has detections of PFOA/PFOS.

The Vermont drinking water standard for the combination of five perfluoroalkyl and polyfluoroalkyl substances (PFAS), including PFOA, PFOS, PFHxS (perfluorohexane sulfonic acid), PFHpA (perfluoroheptanoic acid) and PFNA (perfluorononanoic acid) is 20 parts per trillion (ppt). **That means the sum of the five PFAS levels must not exceed 20 ppt in your drinking water** or the water system would have been required to notify you and address PFAS in the water. **The Springfield water system tested 2.95 part per trillion (ppt).**

Attached to this notice is the sampling history for your public water system. While levels detected in your water system are well below the state drinking water standard, new EPA health advisories mean health effects could occur at levels close to zero. The EPA lowered the health advisory level for PFOA to 0.004 ppt and PFOS to 0.02 ppt. **These levels are below what can be detected in water using current technologies.**

What are PFAS?

PFAS are a group of human-made chemicals – including PFOA and PFOS – that have been in use since the 1940s. PFAS are (or have been) found in a wide variety of consumer products and as an ingredient in firefighting foam. PFAS manufacturing and processing facilities, airports, and military installations are some of the contributors of PFAS releases into the air, soil and water.

Because of their widespread use, most people, fish and wildlife have been exposed to PFAS. Some PFAS do not break down easily and therefore stay in the environment for a very long time, especially in water. There is evidence that exposure to certain PFAS is associated with negative health effects.

What are the health effects of exposure to PFAS?

Health risks depend on the specific chemical you are exposed to, how much of the chemical you are exposed to, length of exposure, and during which life stage(s) you are exposed. Some populations are especially sensitive to PFOA and PFOS including babies, children who are developing, and people who are pregnant or might become pregnant. The lower your exposure to PFAS, the lower your risk of negative health outcomes. Exposure to PFAS may result in a wide range of negative health outcomes, including:

- developmental effects including to fetuses after exposure during pregnancy or postnatal development (for example, decreased birth weight, accelerated puberty, skeletal variations, development of the immune system)
- cancer (for example, testicular, kidney)
- liver effects
- immune effects (for example, decreased antibody response to vaccination, decreased immune response)
- thyroid effects and other effects (for example, cholesterol changes)

What is being done?

- Ongoing sampling is being conducted at the Springfield Water Dept Community Water System.

- PFOA and PFOS detections are reported annually in the Consumer Confidence Report for community drinking water systems.
 - PFAS sample data is available in real time at: <https://anrweb.vt.gov/DEC/DWGWGP/SearchWS.aspx>
 - Specific Actions being taken by the water system are:
Notifying the public of the new health advisory
-
-
-

What could I do?

- The Health Department recommends that you continue to breastfeed your baby, as there are many benefits of breastfeeding.
- If you want to reduce your exposure, you can use bottled water for drinking, making baby formula, cooking, or making ice cubes.
 - Vermont has tested some brands of bottled water, which you can find on the Department of Environmental Conservation’s website at: dec.vermont.gov/pfas.
- You can install a home or point-of-use filter to reduce your exposure.
 - Water filters that meet NSF/ANSI certification 53 or 58 have been proven to reduce PFOA and PFOS concentrations in drinking water to below the previous EPA health advisory of 70 ppt, but have not been tested to reduce PFAS to the new EPA advisories. Current research shows that reverse osmosis systems that have been certified by NSF/ANSI standard 58 and carbon filters that meet NSF/ANSI standard 53 are most effective.
- You can use the water for bathing, brushing teeth, washing dishes, and watering your garden.
- If you have specific health concerns, contact your doctor or healthcare professional.
- Boiling, freezing or letting water stand does not reduce PFAS levels.

For more information, please contact Roy Farrar, Jr. at wwwsupt@vermontel.net

If you would like to contact a state official regarding the PFAS Health Advisory or to request a translation of this notice at no cost to you, contact Agency of Natural Resources PFAS information line: 802-693-0206 or email ANR.DWPFASInfo@vermont.gov.

Additional PFAS information is available on the Agency of Natural Resources website: <https://dec.vermont.gov/pfas>

Springfield Water Dept Community Water System, VT0005333 PFOA and PFOS Sampling Results

WSID #	System Name	Sample Date	PFOA Concentration (in ppt)	PFOS Concentration (in ppt)
VT0005333	Springfield Water Dept	10/30/2023	2.95	Non-detect
		11/02/2020	Non-detect	Non-detect
		10/10/2019	Non-detect	Non-detect

A summary of this document has been translated into the following five languages, Spanish, French, Chinese, Bosnian, and Nepali for distribution to customers who may want more information in their language. To request a translation of the public notice in your language, at no cost to you, contact the Agency of Natural Resources PFAS information line: 802-693-0206 or email ANR.DWPFASInfo@vermont.gov.

Spanish:

**AVISO PÚBLICO
Nuevo Aviso de Salud de la EPA sobre PFAS**

El propósito de este aviso es proveerle información acerca de los nuevos estándares provisionales de salud establecidos por la Agencia de Protección Ambiental de los Estados Unidos (EPA, por sus siglas en inglés) sobre PFOA y PFOS. PFOA y PFOS son un grupo de agentes químicos conocidos como perfluoroalquiladas y polifluoroalquiladas (PFAS, por sus siglas en inglés) que se pueden encontrar en agua potable.

Su sistema público de agua potable contiene niveles detectables de PFOA, PFOS, o ambos agentes. Este aviso contiene información para ayudarle a tomar decisiones acerca de cómo utilizar su agua.

Para más información, contacte a su empresa local de suministro de agua a: Roy Farrar, Jr. at wwwsupt@vermontel.net

Para comunicarse con un funcionario gubernamental acerca del aviso de salud sobre PFAS o para solicitar la traducción, libre de costo, de este aviso, comuníquese con la línea de información de PFAS de la Agencia de Recursos Naturales al 802-693-0206 o escriba al siguiente correo electrónico: ANR.DWPFASInfo@vermont.gov.

Para más información sobre PFAS, visite la página web de la Agencia de Recursos Naturales: <https://dec.vermont.gov/pfas>

Chinese:

**公告
EPA 针对 PFAS 的新健康警告**

本通知旨在为您提供有关美国环境保护署 (EPA) 针对饮用水中的 PFOA 和 PFOS, 即被称为全氟和多氟烷基物质 (PFAS) 的人造化学品发布的新健康警告级别。

您的公共饮水系统中检测到了 PFOA 或 PFOS 或两种化学物质均有。本通知提供背景信息, 以便您可以对于如何使用您的水做出明智的决定。

获取更多信息, 请联系 Roy Farrar, Jr. at wwwsupt@vermontel.net

如果您想就 PFAS 健康警告联系州政府官员或要求免费翻译本通知, 请联系自然资源署 PFAS 信息热线: 802-693-0206 或 电子邮件 ANR.DWPFASInfo@vermont.gov。

其他 PFAS 信息可在自然资源署网站上获得: <https://dec.vermont.gov/pfas>

French:

**Avis public
Nouvel avis sanitaire de l'EPA sur les PFAS**

Cet avis a pour but de vous informer sur les nouveaux niveaux de recommandations sanitaires émis par l'Agence de protection de l'environnement des États-Unis (EPA, Environmental Protection Agency) en ce qui concerne le PFOA et le PFOS, des produits chimiques artificiels connus sous le nom de substances per- et polyfluoroalkylées (PFAS) dans l'eau potable.

Le PFOA ou le PFOS, ou les deux ensemble ont été détectés dans votre réseau public d'eau potable. Les informations générales contenues dans cet avis sont destinées à vous permettre de prendre des décisions éclairées sur vos usages de l'eau.

Pour plus d'information, veuillez contacter Roy Farrar, Jr. at wwwsupt@vermontel.net

Si vous souhaitez contacter un fonctionnaire de l'État au sujet de l'avis sanitaire relatif aux PFAS ou pour demander une traduction gratuite de cet avis, veuillez contacter la ligne d'information sur les PFAS de l'Agency of Natural Resources (Agence des ressources naturelles): 802-693-0206 ou envoyez un e-mail à ANR.DWPFASInfo@vermont.gov.

Des informations supplémentaires sur les PFAS sont disponibles sur le site Web de l'Agency of Natural Resources à l'adresse: <https://dec.vermont.gov/pfas>

Bosnian:

**Obavještenje za javnost
Novi zdravstveni savjeti EPA-e za PFAS**

Ovim obavještenjem vam dostavljamo informacije o novim zdravstveno savjetodavnim nivoima koje je izdala Agencija SAD za zaštitu okoliša (EPA) za PFOA i PFOS, hemikalije koje je proizveo čovjek poznate kao per i polifluoroalkilne supstance (PFOA) u pitkoj vodi.

U vašem javnom sistemu za pitku vodu otkrivene su PFOA ili PFOS ili obje hemikalije. U ovom obavještenju se pružaju pozadinske informacije tako da možete da donesete informisane odluke o tome kako da koristite svoju vodu.

Za više informacija, kontaktirajte Roy Farrar, Jr. at wwwsupt@vermontel.net

Ako želite da kontaktirate državnog službenika u vezi zdravstvenih smjernica za PFAS ili da zahtijevate besplatan prijevod ovog obavještenja, kontaktirajte liniju za informacije Agencije za prirodne resurse PFAS: 802-693-0206 ili na e-poštu ANR.DWPFASInfo@vermont.gov.

Dodatne informacije o PFAS-u su dostupne na web-stranici Agencije za prirodne resurse: <https://dec.vermont.gov/pfas>