

Contaminants in Drinking Water

PFCs/PFASs

“PFCs”: perfluorinated chemicals, also known as poly-fluorinated chemicals

“PFASs”: per- and polyfluoroalkyl substances

NOTE: PFOA & PFOS are perfluorinated chemicals and per- and polyfluoroalkyl substances. The EPA is choosing to use the acronym PFASs and the CDC is using PFCs (perfluorinated chemicals) to discuss PFOA, PFOS and other similar chemicals

Quick Facts About PFCs/PFASs:

Source of Contamination	<ul style="list-style-type: none">• Fire fighting (aqueous film foams—AFFF); household products• industrial/commercial facilities (textile coaters, chromium platers, car washes)• PFCs-containing wastes (landfills, wastewater treatment effluent/biosolids)
Potential Health Effects	<p>C8 Science Panel assessed probable links between PFOA exposure and diseases. And reports links to:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none">• Diagnosed High Cholesterol• Ulcerative Colitis• Thyroid Disease• Pregnancy-Induced Hypertension• Testicular & Kidney Cancer
Regulated Action Level for Drinking Water parts per trillion (ppt)	<ul style="list-style-type: none">• U.S. EPA Lifetime Health Advisory: Sum of PFOA and PFOS @ 70 ppt• Australia Health-Based Guidance: PFOA @ 560 ppt; Sum of PFOS and PFHxS @ 70 ppt• Canada Drinking Water Screening Value: PFOA @ 200 ppt; PFOS @ 600 ppt• Proposed EU Drinking Water Directive: Individual PFASs @ 100 ppt; Sum of PFASs @ 500 ppt

*All C8 evaluation reports are public: http://www.c8sciencepanel.org/prob_link.html



Courtesy of The Water Quality Association
a not-for-profit organization

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Water Treatment Methods:

Studies on reduction of PFCs in drinking water have found effective Point-of-Use and Point-of-Entry solutions:

- Reverse Osmosis
- Carbon Filters
- Anion Exchange

Minnesota Department of Health Study on PFCs Removal:

<http://www.health.state.mn.us/divs/eh/wells/waterquality/poudevicefinalsummary.pdf>

New Jersey Drinking Water Quality Institute Treatment Subcommittee:

<http://www.nj.gov/dep/watersupply/pdf/pfna-pfc-treatment.pdf>

U.S. EPA Factsheet:

https://www.epa.gov/sites/production/files/2016-06/documents/drinkingwaterhealthadvisories_pfoa_pfos_updated_5.31.16.pdf

How to find a water treatment professional:

To contact a water professional in your area visit WQA.org.

Certified water treatment professionals are individuals who have completed a voluntary credentialing process through WQA. To become certified, the candidate must pass a comprehensive examination.

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For more information contact:



International Headquarters and
Laboratory
4151 Naperville Road
Lisle, IL 60532-3696 USA
Phone: 630-505-0160
Website: www.wqa.org
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