



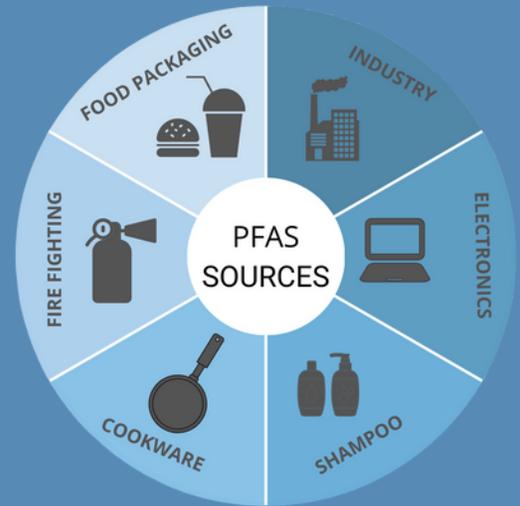
# INFORMATION ON PFAS

WATER SUPPLY MONITORING

Tap water you can trust.

## MANAGEMENT OF PERFLUOROALKYL AND POLYFLUOROALKYL SUBSTANCES (PFAS)

In recent years, the ability to measure minute concentrations of constituents in water has increased dramatically. This has led to the identification of a series of contaminants referred to as Contaminants of Emerging Concern (CECs). One category of these contaminants is Perfluoroalkyl and Polyfluoroalkyl Substances, abbreviated as PFAS. These are manmade chemicals that have been used in the manufacturing of products designed to be waterproof, stain resistant and non-stick, including carpets, fabrics and cookware. They are also used in personal hygiene products, electronics and paper packaging.



Although awareness of these compounds is more recent, PFAS have been in use since the 1940s. Because of their ability to repel stains, water and oil, PFAS do not readily degrade in the environment. While imported items may contain PFAS, its use is being phased out in the United States.

## SPECIFIC CONTAMINANTS OF INTEREST, PFOA, PFOS, PFBS, AND PFHXS

Four substances, Perfluorooctanoic Acid (PFOA), Perfluorooctanesulfonic Acid (PFOS), Perfluorobutane Sulfonic Acid (PFBS), and Perfluorohexanesulfonic Acid (PFHxS), are of particular interest because of their widespread use and because they have been assigned Notification Levels by the Drinking Water Division of the State Water Resources Control Board (State Board). Notification Levels are health-based advisory limits for contaminants that will likely be regulated in the future. The Notification Level for PFOA is 5.1 parts per trillion (ppt), for PFOS it is 6.5 ppt, for PFBS it is 500 ppt, and for PFHxS it is 3 ppt. Parts per trillion refers to tiny amounts of something in water or air. A part-per-trillion is equivalent to four grains of sugar dissolved in an Olympic size pool. The State Board has also defined Response Levels for these contaminants. A Response Level is a recommended level where water utilities consider taking a water source out of service or provide additional water treatment. The Response Level for PFOA is 10 ppt, for PFOS it is 40 ppt, for PFBS it is 5000 ppt, and for PFHxS, it is 20 ppt.



## STATEWIDE EFFORTS ON PFAS

In March 2019, the State Board began a state-wide PFAS investigation and issued orders to water utilities to test groundwater wells for PFAS that are in close proximity to fire training/fire response sites (e.g. airfields), industrial sites, landfills and/or wastewater treatment plants. ACWD was not issued monitoring orders in 2019 since ACWD groundwater sources are not located near potential sources of contamination.



In October 2022, DDW issued new PFAS monitoring orders to numerous water agencies, including ACWD, to monitor all groundwater sources effective January 1, 2023.

## ACWD'S PROACTIVE APPROACH TO PFAS



The Alameda County Water District is committed to delivering high-quality drinking water to our customers. In line with this commitment, in June 2020, ACWD began voluntarily monitoring of the water delivered to customers (drinking water) and source water supplies (both surface water and groundwater) for PFAS. **This testing confirms that no ACWD customers are receiving water with concentrations of PFOA/PFOS/PFBS/PFHxS above the Notification Levels, and ACWD water provided to customers continues to meet or exceed all state and federal drinking water quality standards.**

Collecting more data about source water quality ensures that ACWD will be fully prepared to protect public health and implement additional treatment if needed. A summary of source water testing results is as follows:



- **PFOA in Groundwater** - Low levels of PFOA exist in our groundwater sources between non-detection and 6.4 ppt, so some sources are above the notification level of 5.1 ppt.
- **PFOS in Groundwater** - PFOS was detected in most groundwater sources at low levels, between non-detect and 15 ppt, so some groundwater sources are above the notification level of 6.5 ppt.
- **PFBS in Groundwater** - Low levels of PFBS exist in our groundwater sources, between non-detection and 7.4 ppt, all groundwater sources are below the notification level of 500 ppt.
- **PFHxS in Groundwater** – Low levels of PFHxS exist in our groundwater sources, between ND and 14 ppt, so some groundwater sources are above the notification level of 3 ppt.
- **PFOA, PFOS, PFBS, and PFHxS in Treated Water** - Water delivered to customers was below the notification level or was non-detect for PFOA, PFOS, and PFBS. As of the publication of this fact sheet, no monitoring data has been collected for PFHxS since the notification level was established on October 31, 2022.
- **PFOA, PFOS, PFBS and and PFHxS in Surface Water** - PFOA, PFOS, PFBS, and PFHxS were not detected in surface water supplies which account for nearly two-thirds of the water delivered to customers.



## YOUR TAP WATER MEETS ALL STANDARDS

ACWD has a unique and diverse water supply. This diversity allows for operational adjustments to maximize water quality and reliability. While ACWD has some groundwater sources with levels of PFOA, PFOS, and PFHxS above the Notification Levels, ACWD will continue to utilize sound management practices and our water treatment facilities to ensure that your tap water meets all standards. This includes our blending facilities and the reverse osmosis technology located at our Newark Desalination Facility.



## ACWD'S WORK CONTINUES

ACWD will continue to identify potential sources of PFAS, and evaluate operational strategies to mitigate their impacts. Information will be provided on our website at [acwd.org/PFAS](https://acwd.org/PFAS). In addition to PFAS monitoring, ACWD:

- Treats and delivers an average of 37 million gallons of water per day.
- Analyzes over 10,000 water samples each year in our State-certified laboratories.
- Collects and analyzes over 200 samples daily from water sources, treatment facilities, and the distribution system.
- Is designing and building a treatment facility to address PFAS in groundwater at our Blending Facility. Currently in design, the facility will treat up to 6 million gallons per day (MGD) of PFAS-impacted groundwater and may be potentially expanded to treat up to 15 MGD in the future, if needed.



## ADDITIONAL RESOURCES

For more information on PFAS, visit:

- Environmental Protection Agency - <https://www.epa.gov/pfas>
- California State Water Board - <https://www.waterboards.ca.gov/pfas/>
- Food & Drug Administration - <https://www.fda.gov/food/chemicals/and-polyfluoroalkyl-substances-pfas>



This fact sheet contains important information about your drinking water. Translate it, or speak with someone who understands it.

这份说明书含有关于您的饮用水的重要讯息，翻译它或与理解它的人谈话。

Esta hoja de datos contiene informacion importante sobre el agua potable. Tradúzcalo o hable con alguien quien lo entiende.

This fact sheet contains important information about your drinking water. Translate it, or speak with someone who understands it.

આ ફેક્ટ શીટમાં તમારા પીવાના પાણી વિશે મહત્વની માહિતી સામેલ છે. તેનું ભાષાંતર કરો, અથવા તે સમજી શકતી વ્યક્તિ સાથે વાત કરો.

इस फैक्ट शीट (तथ्य पत्र) में आपके पीने के पानी के बारे में महत्वपूर्ण जानकारी शामिल है। इसका अनुवाद करें, या उसे समझ सकने वाली व्यक्ति से बात करें।

このファクトシートには飲料水に関する重要な情報を記載しています。翻訳するか内容が判る方とお話してください。

이 자료에는 귀하의 식수에 대한 중요한 정보가 포함되어 있습니다. 번역하거나, 또는 이해하는 사람과 이야기하십시오.

Esta ficha de dados contém informações importantes sobre sua água potável. Traduza a ficha ou fale com alguém que a entenda.

В этой информационной сводке содержится важная информация о вашей питьевой воде. Переведите ее или поговорите с человеком, который в этом разбирается.

Ang fact sheet na ito ay naglalaman ng importanteng impormasyon tungkol sa inyong iniinom na tubig. Ipasalin-wika ito, o sabihin sa isang taong nakakaunawa nito.

Tờ thông tin này chứa thông tin quan trọng về nước uống của bạn. Hãy dịch thông tin này, hoặc nói chuyện với người hiểu thông tin này.

تحتوي ورقة الحقائق هذه على معلومات هامة بشأن مياه الشرب التي تستخدمها. لذا قم بترجمتها أو اطلب من أي شخص يفهم مضمونها توضيح تلك المعلومات لك.

یہ فیکٹ شیٹ آپ کے پینے کے پانی کے بارے میں اہم معلومات پر مشتمل ہے۔ اس کا ترجمہ کریں، یا کسی ایسے فرد کے ساتھ بات کریں جو اسے سمجھتا ہو۔

این برگہ دربردارنده اطلاعات مهمی در مورد آب آشامیدنی شما است. آن را ترجمہ کنید، یا در بارہ آن با یک فرد آشنا با این امر صحبت کنید.