

Notice to Drinking Water Customers

PFAS Detection

If any questions please call Jeff Edgmon District Manager @

509-742-0338

Drinking water samples collected from: [East Spokane Water District 1, 21650, Spokane, 8th and Park, State Action Level is \(15.00ug/l\) and Results came back at 4.06](#) on 8/13/2025 included detections of the following per- and polyfluoroalkyl substances (PFAS) above a State Action Level (SAL).

<<Instructions only, remove highlighted text before sending. Remove all rows for results below the SAL>>

PFAS contaminant	Detected level (ppt*)	SAL (ppt)
PFOA—perfluorooctanoic acid	2.49	10
PFOS—perfluorooctane sulfonic acid	4.06	15
PFHxS—perfluorohexane sulfonic acid	ND	65
PFNA—perfluorononanoic acid	ND	9
PFBS—perfluorobutane sulfonic acid	2.32	345

*ppt—parts per trillion or nanograms per liter.

In 2021, the Washington State Board of Health (SBOH) adopted a rule that requires our water system to test for a new class of contaminants not yet regulated by the Environmental Protection Agency (EPA). We are required to notify you when our results exceed a SAL.

On April 10, 2024, EPA announced the final National Primary Drinking Water Regulation for PFAS. Starting April 2029, these new federal standards will become effective. You can find more information about those changes in [US EPA's Federal Safety Regulations on PFAS in Drinking Water 331-751 \(PDF\)](#)

What should you do?

There is nothing required of you at this time.

The Washington State Department of Health (DOH) recommends the following.

- If you are pregnant, breastfeeding, or mixing infant formula with tap water, use an alternative drinking water source. You can also install water treatment in your home, using [Point of Use Water Treatment 331-699 \(PDF\)](#) such as reverse osmosis or an activated carbon filter, that is certified to lower the levels of PFAS in your water. There are several different types of filters you can purchase depending on your budget and water flow rate ([PFAS Point-Of-Use Filter Options 331-713 \[PDF\]](#)). Follow the manufacturer's maintenance and replacement recommendations.
- You can learn about PFAS and the steps you can take to reduce your exposure to PFAS in drinking water, while your water system considers options. [Visit the PFAS information page \(doh.wa.gov/CommunityandEnvironment/Contaminants/PFAS\)](#) on the DOH website to learn more and get involved in any local decisions.
- Do NOT boil your water to reduce PFAS. Boiling your water will not reduce PFAS levels.
- If you have specific health concerns, consult your healthcare provider.

What do we know about PFAS?

PFAS are a large family of chemicals that are tasteless, colorless, and odorless. They do not occur in nature and are manufactured to make many products including stain-resistant carpets and fabrics, nonstick pans, fast food wrappers, grease-proof food containers, waterproof clothing, makeup, and a special kind of firefighting foam. Over many years, these unregulated chemicals were released into the environment from factories, fire training areas, everyday products, and other places. Once released, PFAS do not break down easily and last a long time in the environment. Some PFAS seeped from surface soil into groundwater. Public health officials are concerned about PFAS in drinking water because of new information about their potential human health effects. When ingested, some PFAS can build up in the body and, over time, may increase to a level where health effects could occur. Human health effects of PFAS are still being actively researched and health advice continues to evolve.

What are the potential health effects?

There are many different PFAS. We are still learning about their health effects in people.

<<PWS instructions only. Remove highlighted text before sending. Choose the appropriate PFAS that exceeded the SAL(s) in your sample(s), and remove the health effects language for PFAS that do not exceed the SAL.>>

- **PFOA.** Some people who drink water containing PFOA in excess of the SAL over many years may experience problems with their cholesterol, liver, thyroid, or immune system; have high blood pressure during pregnancy, have babies with lower birthweights; and be at higher risk of getting certain types of cancers.
- **PFOS.** Some people who drink water containing PFOS in excess of the SAL over many years may experience problems with their cholesterol, liver, thyroid, kidney, or immune systems; or have children with lower birthweights.
- **PFHxS.** Some people who drink water containing PFHxS in excess of the SAL over many years may experience liver or immune problems, or thyroid hormone problems during pregnancy and infancy. It is possible that exposed children may have increased risk of abnormal behavior.
- **PFNA.** Some people who drink water containing PFNA in excess of the SAL over many years may experience cholesterol, immune, liver, or reproductive problems. Children exposed prenatally may have lower birthweights and increased risk of abnormal development.
- **PFBS.** Some people who drink water containing PFBS in excess of the SAL may experience higher risk of cholesterol, liver, kidney, or thyroid problems. Early life is the most sensitive period for altered thyroid hormone; sensitive populations include persons who are pregnant, nursing or less than a year old.

You can learn more at atsdr.cdc.gov/pfas/health-effects/index.

What is a State Action Level (SAL)?

Washington state develops SALs to protect the health of drinking water consumers from contaminants that are not yet regulated federally. The PFAS SALs are public health goals for a lifetime of drinking water. They also apply to water intake by pregnant and breastfeeding persons and infants over shorter periods of time (months). If you have been drinking water over the SAL, it doesn't mean you will get sick or have health problems from this exposure. When tap water exceeds a SAL, the DOH recommends that the water system take action to bring the level below the SALs for long term drinking.

What is Being Done

<<PWS Instructions only. Remove highlighted text before sending to customers. These are **suggestions** that may work for systems that aren't sure what they will do yet. Please **only keep bulleted items that apply to your system and remove bullets that do not apply to your system.**>>

- We are working with DOH to determine next steps.

- We will continue to update you about steps we take to resolve this problem.
- We have taken the source with high PFAS offline until we can find an effective solution.
- We are determining how to best address PFAS in our water supply.
- We are seeking financial support to address the PFAS in our drinking water.
- We experienced a technical problem with our PFAS treatment system and are working to repair (or have repaired).
- We will continue to notify you every quarter results exceed a SAL, as required.

For more information, please call [Water System Contact Name](#) at [Phone Number](#) or email [Enter Email](#).

Please share this notice with others who may drink this water, especially those who may not have received this notice directly (for example, people in apartments and businesses). We encourage you to post it in a public place, share copies by hand, or mail.

The [WS Name Here](#) Water System sent this notice to you on [Choose Date](#).

For Water System Use Only

PFAS Public Notice Certification Form

Within 10 days of notifying your customers, please complete this certification form and return a copy of each type of notice you distributed (hand-delivered notice, news release, email, phone transcript, etc.) to our regional office.

Eastern Regional Office Anna Duron EROChemical@doh.wa.gov	Northwest Regional Office Jeff Roeser Jeff.Roeser@doh.wa.gov	Southwest Regional Office Sophia Petro sophia.petro@doh.wa.gov
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