

Dear Water System Customer,

The Illinois Environmental Protection Agency (Illinois EPA) recently tested our water system for 18 compounds known as Per- and Polyfluoroalkyl Substances (PFAS) as part of a statewide investigation of community water supplies. PFAS are a group of thousands of manmade substances that have been produced in the United States since the 1940s and utilized for a variety of applications ranging from water and stain-proofing to firefighting. Some PFAS have been phased out of production in the United States due to environmental and human health concerns, yet they persist in the environment and may contaminate surface and ground waters.

Neither the Illinois EPA nor the U.S. EPA have yet developed enforceable drinking water standards for PFAS. In the interim, Illinois EPA has developed health-based guidance levels for the small number of PFAS for which there is appropriate information to do so. The health-based guidance levels are intended to be protective of all people consuming the water over a lifetime of exposure.

While none of the analytes sampled were above the health-based guidance levels, Illinois EPA testing has determined that one or more PFAS were detected in our water system at levels greater than or equal to the lowest concentration the laboratory can reliably detect, shown as the Minimum Reporting Level in the table below. The levels are presented in units of nanogram per liter (ng/L) or parts per trillion (ppt).

PFAS Analyte	Acronym	Minimum Reporting Level (ng/L)	Health-Based Guidance Level (ng/L)	Analytical Results Range (ng/L)
Perfluorobutanesulfonic acid	PFBS	2	2,100	3.4 – 4.1
Perfluoroheptanoic acid	PFHpA	2	---- ^a	2.8 – 4.2
Perfluorohexanesulfonic acid	PFHxS	2	140	Not Detected
Perfluorononanoic acid	PFNA	2	21	Not Detected
Perfluorooctanesulfonic acid	PFOS	2	14	Not Detected
Perfluorooctanoic acid	PFOA	2	2	Not Detected
Perfluorodecanoic acid	PFDA	2	----	Not Detected
Perfluorododecanoic acid	PFDoA	2	----	Not Detected
Perfluorohexanoic acid	PFHxA	2	560,000	5.3 – 11
Perfluorotetradecanoic acid	PFTA	2	----	Not Detected
Perfluorotridecanoic acid	PFTTrDA	2	----	Not Detected
Perfluoroundecanoic acid	PFUnA	2	----	Not Detected
11-chloroeicosafluoro-3-oxaundecane-1-sulfonic acid	11Cl-PF3OUdS	2	----	Not Detected
9-chlorohexadecafluoro-3-oxanone-1-sulfonic acid	9Cl-PF3ONS	2	----	Not Detected
4,8-dioxa-3H-perfluorononanoic acid	ADONA	2	----	Not Detected
Hexafluoropropylene oxide dimer acid	HFPO-DA	2	560	Not Detected
N-ethyl perfluorooctanesulfonamidoacetic acid	NEtFOSAA	2	----	Not Detected
N-methyl perfluorooctanesulfonamidoacetic acid	NMeFOSAA	2	----	Not Detected

^a Toxicity criteria is not available to calculate a health-based guidance level.

PFAS are present in many consumer goods, including food packaging and personal care products, and scientists have found levels of PFAS in the blood of nearly all individuals tested. Exposure to high levels of PFAS over time may cause adverse health effects such as increased cholesterol levels, increased risk for thyroid disease, low infant birth weights, reduced response to vaccines, pregnancy-induced hypertension and increased risk of liver and kidney cancer as seen in studies of laboratory animals. Exposure to PFAS above the recommended health-based guidance levels does not mean that a person will get sick or an adverse health effect will occur. Health-based guidance levels are conservative estimates. The possible health effects of PFAS are dependent on how much a person is exposed to and how long they are exposed to it. Exposure to PFAS above recommended health-based guidance levels for periods of time may mean that a person is at a greater risk of experiencing these adverse effects.

The Village of Romeoville has taken measures to respond to the results of this testing. As a proactive measure to protect our drinking water supply, Romeoville is working to:

- Continue to monitor PFAS levels through quarterly sampling
- Identify which water source (wells) are affected

Based on these initial results, the water department will perform additional sampling beginning in July 2021 and will keep the community updated and informed.

Additional information regarding PFAS, the statewide PFAS investigation network, and the impact to public health can be found in the attached fact sheet as well as on the Illinois EPA PFAS webpage: <https://www2.illinois.gov/epa/topics/water-quality/pfas/Pages/default.aspx>.

The confirmed sampling results for Romeoville are also available on Illinois EPA's Drinking Water Watch system at <http://water.epa.state.il.us/dww/index.jsp>.

If you have questions, please contact:

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