



PFAS drinking water health advisories update

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Updated EPA PFAS Health Advisories

- Essentially zero for PFOA and PFOS in drinking water (non-regulatory)
- EPA plans to establish a national rule in late 2022
- Based on human health studies showing serious health effects:
 - Impacts immune system, thyroid, liver, cholesterol
 - Concerns during pregnancy and low infant birth weight
 - Kidney and testicular cancer
- PFAS chemicals are persistent:
 - In the environment - often referred to as “forever chemicals”
 - In the human body - they last for years
- There is not an immediate public health risk, and people do not need to stop drinking their water at this time
- CDPHE will keep providing facts to help inform the public

CDPHE's response

- Following EPA's recommendations in partnership with our water utilities:
 - Assess contamination, inform public if confirmed in tap water, reduce if possible
- PFAS water quality issues create water quantity impacts
- Utilities often shut off impacted wells or shift supplies until treatment can be installed
 - Widefield aquifer in 2016, Frisco and Commerce City in 2022
- PFAS Grant Program supports sampling, treatment, emergency assistance
 - We are encouraging all water systems that have not yet tested to sign up
 - Supports private well testing
- Federal funding for treatment via Infrastructure Investment and Jobs Act and Emergency Contaminants in Small or Disadvantaged Communities grant program
- PFAS Takeback Program: so far 11k gallons of PFAS foam taken out of service

Water systems with PFOA or PFOS previous detects

PFOA+PFOS levels	Community water systems	Cumulative population
>20 ppt	South Adams County WSD (Commerce City), Wigwam (Fountain Valley), Garden Valley (Fountain Valley)	68,510
>15 ppt	Above and Frisco	73,005
>10 ppt	Above and Arapahoe County WWA, 6 more communities	140,586
>5 ppt	Above and Brighton, Thornton, East Cherry Creek Valley, Aurora, Englewood, 18 more communities	1,317,440
Detection	Above and 51 more communities	1,420,726

404 of 895 communities and businesses/schools with wells tested, 103 detected PFOA/PFOS

11 schools and 8 businesses with wells detected PFOA and/or PFOS



Thank you! Any questions?

Resources available at: cdphe.colorado.gov/pfas

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