



Additional information can be found online at www.secnav.navy.mil/eie/pages/pfc-pfas.aspx

For updates as more information becomes available, visit https://go.usa.gov/xR6SX If you have specific questions, please contact NavyAtlanticWater@usmc.mil or 1-877-MCOLF17 (1-877-626-5317)

### The Navy is completing this investigation out of an abundance of caution.

- The EPA established a drinking water lifetime health advisory (70 ppt) for PFOS and PFOA.
- The Navy is taking action to:
  - Identify and prioritize locations with the potential for exposure to PFOS and/or PFOA.
  - Protect our neighbors who may be exposed to drinking water that has PFOS and/or PFOA above the EPA lifetime health advisory.
  - Prevent AFFF (firefighting foam), which contains PFOS and PFOA, from being used for fire training.
  - Identify exposure to PFBS, which does not have a lifetime health advisory.



PFBS perfluorobutane sulfonate PFOA perfluorooctanoic acid



# PFAS Drinking Water Results in Atlantic, North Carolina

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- 223 drinking water samples were collected in the sampling area during initial sampling.
- 197 samples had non-detect values.
- 26 samples had detections.
- 2 out of the 26 samples with detections had values above the EPA lifetime health advisory.

#### LEGEND

- Developed Parcel
- Undeveloped/Vacant Parcel
- Assumed Groundwater Flow Direction
- PFBS perfluorobutane sulfonate PFOA perfluorooctanoic acid
  - Ifonate PFC acid ppt
- PFOS perfluorooctane sulfonate ppt parts per trillion

AFFFaqueous film forming foamEPAU.S. Environmental Protection Agency

LHA lifetime health advisory PFAS per- and polyfluoroalkyl substances



### PFAS Drinking Water Results in Atlantic, North Carolina

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# Combined PFOS, PFOA, and PFBS 23 samples collected ABOVE EPA LHA 2 samples 1% DETECTED 26 samples 11% NOT DETECTED 197 samples 88%

- The 2 samples with detections above the EPA lifetime health advisory for PFOS and PFOA are included in the number of detections.
- There is no lifetime health advisory for PFBS.

AFFFaqueous film forming foamEPAU.S. Environmental Protection AgencyLHAlifetime health advisory

PFAS per- and polyfluoroalkyl substances PFBS perfluorobutane sulfonate

PFBS perfluorobutane sulfor PFOA perfluorooctanoic acid



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The 2 samples with detections above the EPA lifetime health advisory for PFOS and PFOA are included in the number of detections.

PFAS per- and polyfluoroalkyl substances PFBS perfluorobutane sulfonate

PFOA perfluorooctanoic acid

# Understanding **Data Packages**

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AFFF aqueous film forming foam U.S. Environmental Protection Agency EPA lifetime health advisory

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- PFAS per- and polyfluoroalkyl substances
- PFBS perfluorobutane sulfonate
- PFOA perfluorooctanoic acid
- PFOS perfluorooctane sulfonate ppt parts per trillion





## What Are PFAS?

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If you have specific questions, please contact allenbach.becky@epa.gov or 404-562-9687

#### Where Do PFAS Come From?

- Man-made compounds, no natural occurrence
- Used since 1950s in many products
- Last a long time in the environment
- Found in people, animals, and fish around the world



firefighting foam



stain-resistant carpets



nonstick cookware



paints and stains



water-repelling fabrics



food packaging

### What Is the EPA LHA for PFOS and PFOA?

- Sets a concentration of 70 ppt in drinking water
- Protects against harmful health effects to sensitive populations and the general public, even for lifetime exposure
- Compares the total concentration of both PFOS and PFOA found to the 70 ppt advisory
- Provides information to state agencies and public health officials on health effects and water treatment so they can take steps to reduce exposures
- Is non-enforceable

### How Is the EPA LHA Calculated?

- Based on studies of health effects with PFOS and PFOA in laboratory animals
- Considers information regarding health effects of people exposed to PFOS and PFOA
- Protects sensitive populations including the fetuses or nursing infants of mothers who are exposed
- Assumes 20 percent of overall exposure is from drinking water, 80 percent of exposure is from other sources
- aqueous film forming foam AFFF
- ATSDR Agency for Toxic Substances and Disease Registry
- CDC Centers for Disease Control and Prevention EPA
  - U.S. Environmental Protection Agency
- LHA lifetime health advisory
- per- and polyfluoroalkyl substances PFAS
- PFBS perfluorobutane sulfonate
- PFOA perfluorooctanoic acid
- PFOS perfluorooctane sulfonate ppt
  - parts per trillion





# **Exposure and Health Effects**

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### **PFAS** in People

- CDC monitoring estimates that most people in the U.S. have PFAS in their bodies.
- Levels of PFOS and PFOA are going down over time following their phase-out from use.
- Some PFAS stay in the body a long time there is no recommended medical treatment to reduce PFAS in the body.



Source: CDC National Health and Nutrition Examination Surve

#### **Exposures to PFAS**

- Appear to be widespread around the world
- Are primarily through:
  - Ingestion of contaminated food, water, or soil
  - Breathing air that contains contaminated dust from carpets, upholstery, clothing, etc.



Source: Minnesota Department of Health.

Available from: http://www.health.state

- Will build up in the body until exposure stops
- Reach the fetuses or nursing infants of mothers who are exposed mn.us/divs/hpcd/tracking/biomonitoring/ projects/emetro-landing.html
- Are not significant through skin contact when bathing or showering

### **How To Reduce Exposure**

- If water contains PFOS and PFOA above the health advisory level, you can reduce exposure by using a different water source for drinking, cooking, and brushing teeth.
- Filter PFOS and PFOA from water using certified granular activated carbon or high-pressure membrane systems, such as reverse osmosis. These systems require ongoing maintenance.

### **Potential Health Effects**

- More research is needed to confirm or rule out possible links between exposure and health effects.
- Animals exposed to high levels of PFAS had changes in liver, thyroid, and pancreas function; altered hormone levels; and increased rates of certain cancers.
- Based on limited evidence from studies with people, potential health effects can include:
  - Increased cholesterol levels
  - Changes in growth, learning, and behavior of the developing fetus and child
- Decreased fertility
- Altered hormone function
- Increased risk of certain types of cancer

- Immune system changes
- The levels of PFOS or PFOA in drinking water do not predict what, if any, health impact might occur as a result of exposure.

### **Should I Have My Blood Tested?**

ATSDR and CDC understand and acknowledge that you may want to know the level of PFAS in your body. However, there are some limitations with blood tests to consider:

- Test results will not provide clear answers for existing or possible health effects or patient care.
- Blood testing for PFAS is not a routine test that health care providers offer.

Consult with your doctor for more information.

- AFFF aqueous film forming foam
- ATSDR Agency for Toxic Substances and Disease Registry
- Centers for Disease Control CDC and Prevention
- FPA U.S. Environmental Protection Agency
- I HA lifetime health advisory
- per- and polyfluoroalkyl substances PFAS
- PFBS perfluorobutane sulfonate
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- PFOS perfluorooctane sulfonate ppt
  - parts per trillion





# **Off-Base Drinking Water Investigation – Next Steps**

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### Sampling appointments are available February 22–March 1.

Are the PFOS/PFOA test results **above** the health advisory level?

Are the test results **at or below** the health advisory level?



The Navy will provide bottled water for drinking and cooking.

No immediate action is needed.

### The Navy will respond in a timely manner.

### **Ongoing Actions**

- Continue to request permission to sample drinking water wells not previously sampled in the designated area.
- Respond to PFOS and PFOA results above health advisory in drinking water.
- Keep the community informed.
- Partner with Agency for Toxic Substances and Disease Registry, North Carolina Department of Environmental Quality, and North Carolina Division of Public Health.

# The Navy will develop a suitable long-term solution if needed.

AFFF aqueous film forming foamEPA U.S. Environmental Protection Agency

LHA lifetime health advisory PFAS per- and polyfluoroalkyl substances

- PFBS perfluorobutane sulfonate PFOA perfluorooctanoic acid
- PFOS perfluorooctane sulfonate ppt parts per trillion

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# Off-Base Drinking Water Well Sampling

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- PFOS perfluorooctane sulfonate ppt parts per trillion

# Path Forward for On-Base Investigation

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### **Objectives of Preliminary Assessment/Site Inspection**

- Identify potential on-base sources of PFAS.
- Measure PFAS concentrations.
- Determine groundwater characteristics.

The Navy will be involved until necessary actions are complete.

Comprehensive Environmental Response, Compensation, and Liability Act (CERCLA) Implementation Process



AFFF aqueous film forming foam LHA lifetime health advisory	PFBS perfluorobutane sulfonate	PFOS perfluorooctane sulfonate
EPA U.S. Environmental Protection Agency PFAS per- and polyfluoroalkyl substances	PFOA perfluorooctanoic acid	ppt parts per trillion



# **Managing Your Private Well**

Additional information can be found online at http://ehs.ncpublichealth.com/oswp/wells-resources.htm If you have specific questions, please contact 252-728-8499 (Carteret County Environmental Health)

### **Managing the Risks**

- Testing of private wells is recommended to ensure water quality.
- Bacteriological testing once a year is a good idea. Regular testing can tell you the quality of the water.
- More frequent testing is recommended if your water changes in taste, odor, or appearance or if you have recurrent incidences of gastrointestinal illness.
- The National Groundwater Association recommends you test for bacteria, nitrates/nitrites, and any other contaminants of local concern.
- If using water conditioner (aka, "water softener") equipment, it should be maintained and kept in working order.
- Do not dispose of or store hazardous materials or chemicals on your property or near your well.

### **Typical Well Design**



# We Need Your Cooperation – Drinking Water Sampling Process

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### **Sampling Process**

- We need your cooperation to:
  - Make your appointment (sampling will take less than an hour).
  - Review and fill out the questionnaire.
- A team of qualified professionals will:
  - Collect water from the sample point (water will run for 3–5 minutes).
  - Analyze the sample according to EPA guidelines for a sampling and analysis process that follows strict quality control and quality assurance protocols.



### **Other Ways To Schedule an Appointment**

To schedule an appointment for sampling a drinking water well in the designated area, please contact: NavyAtlanticWater@usmc.mil or 1-877-MCOLF17 (1-877-626-5317).

AFFF aqueous film forming foam EPA U.S. Environmental Protection Agency PFBS perfluorobutane sulfonate PFOA perfluorooctanoic acid



# Sign Up for Your Sampling Appointment Here

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### **Off-Base Drinking Water Well Sampling**

- The Navy is currently sampling drinking water wells not previously sampled in the designated area only.
- Drinking water samples will be collected February 22–March 1.
- Sampling appointments are available 9 a.m.–6 p.m. Monday–Friday, 9 a.m.–1 p.m. Saturday, and 1 p.m.–5 p.m. Sunday.
- The sampling period may be extended as necessary.
- The property owner must give permission for sampling.
- Sampling takes less than an hour.



 An adult resident (18 years of age or older) must be present during sampling. Accommodations can be made for property owners who may not be available during the regularly scheduled sampling times.

### Drinking Water Sampling Activity Timeline

