

PFAS Drinking Water Sampling Frequently Asked Questions

How do I schedule the sampling of my drinking water? Property owners with a private drinking water well within the designated sampling area can call 833-397-3778 (833-DWREQST) to schedule a sampling appointment.

What are the dates and times for sampling of my drinking water? The sampling will be conducted during the period starting on September 14, 2020 through September 27, 2020. Sampling appointments will be available daily between the hours of 8:00 a.m. to 7:00 p.m. Accommodations can be made for property owners who may not be available during the regularly scheduled sampling times or dates.

Who will be taking the sample of my drinking water? A team of two Navy-contracted professional environmental samplers will collect the sample. An adult resident (18 years of age or older) must be present on the premises during the sampling event.

How will I be kept safe from COVID-19 transmission during sampling of my drinking water? Safety is a top priority. We have developed COVID-19 safety precautions, including: all communications between the property owner and the sampling team will be conducted by phone; samplers will wear face masks and gloves at all times; and samplers will maintain social distancing from property owners of at least six feet. Additional information explaining our procedures for social distancing and contactless sampling will be provided when you call 833-397-3778 (833-DWREQST) to schedule a sampling appointment.

How long will the sampling take? The sampling of your drinking water will take less than 1 hour. The samplers will take a sample from the closest spigot to your well, typically from an outdoor spigot that does not receive any in-home treatment. The sampler will measure and record basic information about the drinking water sample.

When will I receive the results? The preliminary results of your drinking water sample are expected within approximately 30 days from when the sample was collected. The Navy will provide private notification of your preliminary results:

- If your drinking water is found to contain PFOA and/or PFOS above the EPA lifetime health advisory levels, the Navy will contact you (likely by phone) to give you these preliminary results and to make arrangements to provide bottled water for drinking and cooking in your home until a long-term solution can be implemented.
- If your drinking water is found to contain PFOA and/or PFOS below the EPA lifetime health advisory levels, you will be contacted (by phone) and informed of these preliminary results.

All preliminary results will be validated, which typically takes a month to complete. The validated sample results will be provided to homeowners by letter. (Note: Besides the results for PFOA and/or PFOS, the laboratory data sheets contain additional PFAS compounds analyzed for within the EPA test method the Navy is using for this program; however, there are no EPA health advisory levels for these additional compounds.)

Will my results be private? All results will be kept confidential to the extent possible, as permitted by law. You will receive your results individually and all references to results in official reports will have a random number associated with your drinking water sample. Reports will not contain your name or address. The Navy will not share any personal information that you provide, such as name, address, email, or phone number to the extent permitted by law.