

PFAS Drinking Water Sampling

Frequently Asked Questions

How do I schedule sampling? Property owners or tenants with a private or a community drinking water well within the sampling area can call 1-800-931-6118 to schedule a sampling appointment. If your drinking water is supplied by the City of Virginia Beach, we do not need to test your drinking water.

How do I return the drinking water well questionnaire? The questionnaire can be returned to the Navy at the time of your sampling appointment. Alternatively, it can be emailed to: Jillian Wheeler, NAVFAC Mid-Atlantic Remedial Project Manager, at jillian.wheeler@navy.mil. If you would rather discuss the questionnaire with someone, you can call 1-800-931-6118 and leave a voicemail including your name, property address, property number (if known), and telephone number.

What are the dates and times for sampling? The sampling will be conducted from **MONTH DAY, YEAR – MONTH DAY, YEAR**. Sampling appointments will be available between the hours of 9 am to 6 pm, Monday – Friday. The sampling period may be extended as necessary. Accommodations can be made for property owners and/or tenants who may not be available during the sampling times.

Who will be taking the sample? A team of two Navy representatives will collect the sample. An adult (18 years of age or older) must be at the property during the sampling.

How long will the sampling take? The sampling will take approximately 30 minutes. The Navy representatives will take a sample from as close to the well as possible, preferably from a spigot that does not receive any in-home treatment. The team will measure and record basic information about the water and will review the completed drinking water well questionnaire. Upon completion of sampling, a team member will provide a sample ID card to you with a tracking number (sample ID).

When will I receive the results? The preliminary results of your drinking water sample are expected within 30 days from when the sample was collected. The Navy will contact you via phone for notification of your preliminary results, regardless of if your drinking water is found to contain PFOA and/or PFOA above or below 70 parts per trillion ppt. If your drinking water is found to contain PFOS and/or PFOA above 70 parts per trillion (ppt), the Navy will contact you to make arrangements to provide bottled water for drinking and cooking in your home until a long-term solution can be implemented.

All preliminary results will be validated by an independent 3rd party. The validated sample results will be provided to property owners and tenants via letter approximately 3 months after sampling.

Will my results be private? All results will be confidential to the greatest extent possible. You will receive your results and all references to results in official reports or in documents that will have a random number associated with your drinking water sample. Reports and documents 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 without your permission.

Can the Navy use my previous sample results to provide bottled water? Even if your drinking water well has been sampled for PFAS previously, the Navy will sample your well at no cost to you and will use these results to determine if your drinking water contains PFOA and/or PFOS above 70 ppt. The Navy follows EPA's guidelines for sample collection and analysis, and implements strict measures during sample collection to help ensure that the sample results are representative of what is in the drinking water well. The Navy does not have a way to verify how other drinking water well samples were collected or analyzed.