

Drinking Water Well Sampling for PFAS

Frequently Asked Questions

How do I return the drinking water well questionnaire? There are several options for returning your completed questionnaire:

In-person: Give to the person scheduling your sampling appointment at the Open House on June 10, 2025 between 5:00 p.m. and 7:00 p.m. at the Hickory Ruritan Club, or to the sampling team at the time of your sampling appointment.

Mail: Commanding Officer
Naval Air Station Oceana
c/o Jacobs
5701 Cleveland Street
Suite 200
Virginia Beach, VA 23462

Email: NALFFentressWater@us.navy.mil

If you would rather discuss the questionnaire with someone, please leave a message at 1-800-931-6118 with your name, property address, parcel number (if known), and telephone number.

How do I schedule sampling? Property owners with a drinking water well within the sampling area can schedule an appointment at the Open House or can call 1-800-931-6118 and leave a message with their contact information to schedule a sampling appointment.

What are the dates and times for sampling? The sampling will be conducted beginning in June 2025. Sampling appointments will be available between the hours of 8 am to 5 pm. The sampling period may be extended as necessary. Accommodations can be made for property owners who may not be available during the sampling times. An adult (18 years of age or older) must be at the property during the sampling.

Who will be taking the sample? A sampling team of two Navy contractors will collect the sample.

How long will the sampling take? The sampling will take less than an hour. The sampling team will take a sample from as close to the well as possible, preferably from a spigot that does not receive any 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 card with a sample identification number to you. The sample identification number is specific to your sample; please provide this sample identification number if you have any questions about your sample or sample results.

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 call you (and your tenant, if your property is rented and we have their phone number) to let you know whether your drinking water sample contains certain PFAS at or above DoD PFAS Interim Action Levels for private drinking water wells. All preliminary results will be validated by an independent 3rd party. The validated results will be provided to property owners and tenants via letter approximately 3 months after sampling.

What actions will the Navy take to address PFAS in my drinking water?

If your drinking water has PFOA and/or PFOS above 70 ppt, the Navy will provide bottled water for drinking and cooking in your home; bottled water will be provided until an enduring solution can be implemented. If your drinking water has certain PFAS at or above DoD PFAS interim action levels for private drinking water wells, the Navy will expedite implementation of an enduring solution, such as treatment. For more information about these actions, please visit the Department of Defense's PFAS FAQ website: <https://www.acq.osd.mil/eie/eer/ecc/pfas/faqs.html>.

Will my results be private? All references to results in official reports or in documents will include the sample identification number associated with your drinking water sample. By signing the right-of-entry agreement, you authorize the Navy to share the coordinates (latitude and longitude) of your property along with the results of your drinking water well sampling with federal regulatory agencies supporting DoD's cleanup efforts if they request this information. Reports and documents will not contain your name or address.

Will health precautions be in place for sampling? Yes, if requested. If you would like our sampling team to take health precautions while sampling your well, please notify us of this when scheduling your sampling appointment.

Can the Navy use my previous sample results to provide bottled water? No. The Navy does not have a way to verify how other drinking water well samples were collected or analyzed. Even if your drinking water well has been sampled for PFAS previously by another party, the Navy will sample your well at no cost to you. 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.