



FACT SHEET

Per and polyfluoroalkyl substances (PFAS)

- **PFAS have not been detected in the drinking water supplied by Beaver Water District.**
- **Per and Polyfluoroalkyl substances (PFAS)** are man-made chemicals that have been used in the United States since the 1940s. They are found in many manufacturing industries as well as in common household items like non-stick cookware, stain repellants, carpeting, and cleaning products.¹ PFAS are also used in many firefighting retardant foams.
- **PFOA and PFOS** are the two most prominent and studied chemicals of the PFAS class of chemicals. These chemicals accumulate and do not break down, which is why they are of concern for the environment and public health.¹
- **Exposure to PFAS** can occur through contaminated soil and water used to grow food, food packaging, normal disposal or use of consumer products that are made with PFAS products including carpet, plastic packaging, and stain repellent sprays, and by consuming contaminated drinking water.¹
- **Possible adverse health effects of PFAS may include** increased cholesterol, liver and kidney damage, reproductive and developmental issues, and increased risk of cancer. The health effects to exposure of PFAS and mixtures of PFAS are still being studied.^{3,4}
- **There are currently no Maximum Contaminant Levels set for PFAS** under the Safe Drinking Water Act, however, a Health Advisory was issued for PFOA and PFOS in 2022.^{2,3} A health advisory gives a non-regulatory concentration for a contaminant at or below which adverse health effects are not anticipated to occur over specific exposure conditions.³
- **PFAS testing in drinking water** was conducted by drinking water utilities that were required to sample in the Unregulated Contaminant Monitoring Rule 3 (UCMR3). Six PFAS chemicals were included in the analysis for the sampling that occurred quarterly for 1 year. **None of these chemicals were detected in Beaver Water District's drinking water.** The next required sampling period for PFAS will be 2023-2025 for the UCMR5. The water will be tested for 29 different PFAS during this monitoring period.⁵

¹ [Basic information on PFAS](#)

² [PFAS Laws and Regulations](#)

³ [PFOA and PFOS Health Advisories](#)

⁴ [PFAS Health Effects](#)

⁵ [UCMR5](#)

###

About Beaver Water District

Beaver Water District supplies drinking water to people and industries in Fayetteville, Springdale, Rogers, Bentonville and surrounding areas. These cities then resell the water to surrounding towns and communities. The District's mission is to sustainably provide our customers with safe, economical drinking water. For more information, visit www.bwdh2o.org.