



PUBLIC NOTICE

IMPORTANT INFORMATION ABOUT YOUR DRINKING WATER

Notice of The U.S. Environmental Protection Agency's Health Advisory Levels for Some Per- and Polyfluoroalkyl Substances (PFAS)

The Town of Stowe delivers water that is high in quality and meets all federal and state drinking water standards, including all current State of Vermont drinking water standards. For the most recent copy of our Water Quality Report, visit our website at https://www.townofstovevt.org/vertical/sites/%7B97FA91EA-60A3-4AC6-8466-F386C5AE9012%7D/uploads/Water_Quality_Report_2021.pdf

Since the 1940s, per- and polyfluoroalkyl substances (PFAS) have been widely used in the manufacturing of carpets, clothing, fabrics for furniture, paper packaging for food and numerous other materials and consumer products. They are also used for firefighting and in industrial processes. Drinking water is one source of exposure in communities where the chemicals have entered the water supplies. Some PFAS do not break down easily and therefore stay in the environment for a very long time, especially in water. There is evidence that exposure to certain types of PFAS is associated with negative health effects. Health risks depend on the specific chemical you are exposed to, how much of the chemical you are exposed to, length of exposure, and during which life stage(s) you are exposed. Some populations are especially sensitive to perfluorooctanoic acid (PFOA) and perfluorooctane sulfonic acid (PFOS) including babies, children who are developing, and people who are pregnant or might become pregnant. The lower your exposure to PFAS, the lower your risk of negative health outcomes. Exposure to PFAS may result in a wide range of negative health outcomes, including:

- developmental effects including to fetuses after exposure during pregnancy or postnatal development (for example, decreased birth weight, accelerated puberty, skeletal variations, development of the immune system)
- cancer (for example, testicular, kidney)
- liver effects
- immune effects (for example, decreased antibody response to vaccination, decreased immune response)
- thyroid effects and other effects (for example, cholesterol changes).

Currently, there are not any federal regulations for PFAS in drinking water. Vermont has established a Maximum Containment Level of 20 part per trillion (ppt) for the sum of 5 types of PFAS, including PFOA, PFOS, perfluorohexane sulfonic acid (PFHxS), perfluoroheptanoic acid (PFHpA) and perfluorononanoic acid (PFNA). On June 15, 2022, the U.S. Environmental Protection Agency (EPA) issued new Health Advisory Levels (HALs) for 4 types of PFAS including PFOA and PFOS. These new HALs are 0.004 ppt for PFOA and 0.02 ppt for PFOS, significantly below current Vermont MCL's. This advisory indicates negative health effects at levels close to zero. These levels are below what can be detected in water using current technologies. **This notice is to advise that Stowe Water has**

had detectible levels of PFOA above the new EPA Health Advisories Levels in one of its two sources, the Village Green Supply.

It is important to note the significant difference between a Maximum Contaminant Level (MCL) and a Health Advisory Level (HAL). An MCL is a regulatory standard, the highest level of a contaminant that is allowed to be in the water. It reflects the level that protects human health while considering the best available technology and costs. An HAL is non-regulatory and non-enforceable but provides information on a contaminant that can potentially cause negative human health effects and is known or anticipated to occur in drinking water, but it does not consider costs and feasibility to remove the chemical from the drinking water. It contains technical information for drinking water system operators, as well as federal, state, Tribal, and local officials, on the health effects, analytical methods, and treatment technologies associated with drinking water contaminants. It is also used in considerations associated with the establishment or amendment of an MCL thru the Rules making process The EPA has stated it expects to release draft MCLs for PFOA and PFOS in late 2022 or early 2023. Following release of the federal MCL, Vermont will assess any changes needed to its current PFAS MCL.

The Town of Stowe’s drinking water is NOT above Vermont’s current MCL of 20 parts per trillion for PFAS. In fact, only PFOA has been detected during some required tests, and those results are well below the state’s standards:

STOWE WATER DEPT, VT0005163 PFOA and PFOS Sampling Results

WSID #	System Name	Sample Date	Sample Location	PFOA Concentration (in ppt)	PFOS Concentration (in ppt)
VT0005163	STOWE WATER DEPT	12/7/2021	TREATMENT PLANT 1 - VILLAGE GREEN	3.38	Non-detect
		11/4/2020	TREATMENT PLANT 1 - VILLAGE GREEN	2.19	Non-detect
		11/4/2020	TREATMENT PLANT 2 - EDSON HILL	Non-detect	Non-detect
		10/2/2019	TREATMENT PLANT 1 - VILLAGE GREEN	2.12	Non-detect
		10/2/2019	TREATMENT PLANT 2 - EDSON HILL	Non-detect	Non-detect
		3/25/2019	TREATMENT PLANT 1 - VILLAGE GREEN	2	Non-detect
		3/25/2019	TREATMENT PLANT 2 - EDSON HILL	Non-detect	Non-detect

What is being done?

- The Stowe Water Department is required to continue to monitor for PFAS according to State requirements.
- PFOA and PFOS detections are reported annually in the Consumer Confidence Report for community drinking water systems. PFAS sample data and test results is available in real time at: <https://anrweb.vt.gov/DEC/DWGWP/SearchWS.aspx>.
- Implementation of operational modifications to maximize the use of water sourced from our Edson Hill supply, which has no PFAS detection, effectively diluting PFOA levels by blending Village Green water supply.
- Undertaking additional testing at our Village Green Treatment facility, to better understand the source of our PFOA detected.
- Commencement of evaluation of potential treatment options. These are believed potentially feasible but with likely significant capital expense and operating costs associated with the management of PFAS saturated residuals.
- Conceptually evaluating securing additional supply capacity from the Town’s Edson Hill Waterworks property and other potential sources of supply, including work associated with integrating these with the existing distribution system.

What could I do?

- The Health Department recommends that you continue to breastfeed your baby, as there are many benefits of breastfeeding.
- If you want to reduce your exposure, you can use bottled water for drinking, making baby formula, cooking, or making ice cubes.
- Vermont has tested some brands of bottled water, which you can find on the Department of Environmental Conservation's website at: dec.vermont.gov/pfas.
- You can install a home or point-of-use filter to reduce your exposure. Water filters that meet NSF/ANSI certification 53 or 58 have been proven to reduce PFOA and PFOS concentrations in drinking water to below the previous EPA health advisory of 70 ppt but have not been tested to reduce PFAS to the new EPA advisories. Current research shows that reverse osmosis systems that have been certified by NSF/ANSI standard 58 and carbon filters that meet NSF/ANSI standard 53 are most effective.
- You can use the water for bathing, brushing teeth, washing dishes, and watering your garden.
- If you have specific health concerns, contact your doctor or health care professional.
- Boiling, freezing, or letting water stand does not reduce PFAS levels.

For more information regarding Stowe water, please contact Harry Shepard, Public Works Director @ 802-253-8770 or HShepard@stowevt.gov. If you would like to contact a state official regarding the PFAS Health Advisory or to request a translation of this notice at no cost to you, contact Agency of Natural Resources PFAS information line: 802-693-0206 or email ANR.DWPFASInfo@vermont.gov. Additional PFAS information is available on the Agency of Natural Resources website: <https://dec.vermont.gov/pfas>.

Need for translation services: A summary of the PFOA and PFOS health advisory notice has been translated into the following five languages, Spanish, French, Chinese, Bosnian, and Nepali for distribution to customers who may want more information in their language. To request a translation of the public notice in your language, at no cost to you, contact the Agency of Natural Resources PFAS information line: 802-693-0206 or email ANR.DWPFASInfo@vermont.gov.

Spanish:

AVISO PÚBLICO

Nuevo Aviso de Salud de la EPA sobre PFAS

El propósito de este aviso es proveerle información acerca de los nuevos estándares provisionales de salud establecidos por la Agencia de Protección Ambiental de los Estados Unidos (EPA, por sus siglas en inglés) sobre PFOA y PFOS. PFOA y PFOS son un grupo de agentes químicos conocidos como perfluoroalquiladas y polifluoroalquiladas (PFAS, por sus siglas en inglés) que se pueden encontrar en agua potable.

Su sistema público de agua potable contiene niveles detectables de PFOA, PFOS, o ambos agentes. Este aviso contiene información para ayudarlo a tomar decisiones acerca de cómo utilizar su agua. Para más información, contacte a su empresa local de suministro de agua a: HARRY SHEPARD at hshpard@stowevt.gov. Para comunicarse con un funcionario gubernamental acerca del aviso de salud sobre PFAS o para solicitar la traducción, libre de costo, de este aviso, comuníquese con la línea de información de PFAS de la Agencia de Recursos Naturales al 802-693-0206 o escriba al siguiente correo electrónico: ANR.DWPFASInfo@vermont.gov. Para más información sobre PFAS, visite la página web de la Agencia de Recursos Naturales: <https://dec.vermont.gov/pfas>

Chinese:

公告

EPA 针对 PFAS 的新健康警告

French:

Avis public

Nouvel avis sanitaire de l'EPA sur les PFAS

Cet avis a pour but de vous informer sur les nouveaux niveaux de recommandations sanitaires émis par l'Agence de protection de l'environnement des États-Unis (EPA, Environmental Protection Agency) en ce qui concerne le PFOA et le PFOS, des produits chimiques artificiels connus sous le nom de substances per- et polyfluoroalkylées (PFAS) dans l'eau potable.

Le PFOA ou le PFOS, ou les deux ensemble ont été détectés dans votre réseau public d'eau potable. Les informations générales contenues dans cet avis sont destinées à vous permettre de prendre des décisions éclairées sur vos usages de l'eau. Pour plus d'information, veuillez contacter HARRY SHEPARD at hshpard@stowevt.gov.

Si vous souhaitez contacter un fonctionnaire de l'État au sujet de l'avis sanitaire relatif aux PFAS ou pour demander une traduction gratuite de cet avis, veuillez contacter la ligne d'information sur les PFAS de l'Agency of Natural Resources (Agence des ressources naturelles) : 802-693-0206 ou envoyez un e-mail à ANR.DWPFASInfo@vermont.gov. Des informations supplémentaires sur les PFAS sont disponibles sur le site Web de l'Agency of Natural Resources à l'adresse : <https://dec.vermont.gov/pfas>

Bosnian

本通知旨在为您提供有关美国环境保护署 (EPA) 针对饮用水中的 PFOA 和 PFOS, 即被称为全氟和多氟烷基物质 (PFAS) 的人造化学品发布的新健康警告级。

您的公共饮水系统中检测到了 PFOA 或 PFOS 或两种化学物质均有。本通知提供背景信息, 以便您可以对于如何使用您的水做出明智的决定。

获取更多信息, 请联系 HARRY SHEPARD at
hshepard@stowevt.gov

如果您想就 PFAS 健康警告联系州政府官员或要求免费翻译本通知, 请联系自然资源署 PFAS 信息热线:

802-693-0206 或 电子邮件

ANR.DWPFASInfo@vermont.gov。其他 PFAS 信息可在自然资源署网站上获得: <https://dec.vermont.gov/pfas>

Nepali:

सार्वजनिक सूचना

EPA ले PFAS का लागि जारी गरेका स्वास्थ्यसम्बन्धी नयाँ सुझावहरू

पिउने पानीमा पर- तथा पोलिफ्लोरोअल्कायल पदार्थहरू (PFAS) नामक मानव निर्मित रसायनहरू PFOA र PFOS का लागि अमेरिकी पर्यावरण संरक्षण एजेन्सी (EPA) द्वारा जारी गरिएको स्वास्थ्यसम्बन्धी नयाँ सुझाव स्तरहरूको बारेमा जानकारी दिनका लागि यो सूचना पठाइएको हो। तपाईंको सार्वजनिक खानेपानी प्रणालीमा PFOA वा PFOS वा दुवै रसायनहरू रहेको पत्ता लगाइएको छ। तपाईं पानी कसरी प्रयोग गर्ने भन्ने सम्बन्धमा सूचित निर्णय लिन सक्नुहोस् भन्नाका लागि यस सूचनामा पृष्ठभूमि जानकारी प्रदान गरिएको छ। तपाईं यस सम्बन्धमा थप जानकारी प्राप्त गर्न चाहनुहुन्छ भने कृपया यहाँ सम्पर्क गर्नुहोस्: HARRY SHEPARD at
hshepard@stowevt.gov

यदि तपाईं PFAS स्वास्थ्यसम्बन्धी सुझावको सम्बन्धमा सरकारी अधिकारीलाई सम्पर्क गर्न चाहनुहुन्छ वा यो सूचनाको निःशुल्क अनुवाद गरिदिन अनुरोध गर्न चाहनुहुन्छ भने प्राकृतिक स्रोत एजेन्सी PFAS जानकारी लाइनमा सम्पर्क गर्नुहोस्:

802-693-0206 वा ANR.DWPFASInfo@vermont.gov मा इमेल गर्नुहोस्।

PFAS सम्बन्धी अतिरिक्त जानकारी प्राकृतिक स्रोत एजेन्सीको यस वेबसाइटमा उपलब्ध छ: <https://dec.vermont.gov/pfas>

Obavještenje za javnost

Novi zdravstveni savjeti EPA-e za PFAS

Ovim obavještenjem vam dostavljamo informacije o novim zdravstveno savjetodavnim nivoima koje je izdala Agencija SAD za zaštitu okoliša (EPA) za PFOA i PFOS, hemikalije koje je proizveo čovjek poznate kao per i polifluoroalkilne supstance (PFOA) u pitkoj vodi.

U vašem javnom sistemu za pitku vodu otkrivene su PFOA ili PFOS ili obje hemikalije. U ovom obavještenju se pružaju pozadinske informacije tako da možete da donesete informisane odluke o tome kako da koristite svoju vodu. Za više informacija, kontaktirajte HARRY SHEPARD at
hshepard@stowevt.gov

Ako želite da kontaktirate državnog službenika u vezi zdravstvenih smjernica za PFAS ili da zahtijevate besplatan prijevod ovog obavještenja, kontaktirajte liniju za informacije Agencije za prirodne resurse PFAS: 802-693-0206 ili na e-poštu ANR.DWPFASInfo@vermont.gov.

Dodatne informacije o PFAS-u su dostupne na web-stranici Agencije za prirodne resurse: <https://dec.vermont.gov/pfas>