

Illinois American Water would like to share results from samples that the Illinois Environmental Protection Agency (Illinois EPA) recently collected from our water systems for compounds known as Per- and Polyfluoroalkyl Substances (PFAS). These samples were collected as part of a review by Illinois EPA of water supplies across Illinois. Illinois EPA is requiring Illinois American Water to provide you notice of these sampling results.

PFAS refers to per- and polyfluoroalkyl substances, a class of synthetic chemicals, manufactured for industrial applications and commercial household products such as: non-stick cookware; waterproof and stain resistant fabrics and carpets; firefighting foam and cleaning products. The properties that make these chemicals useful in so many of our every-day products also resist breaking down and therefore persist in the environment. Human exposure to PFAS may be from food, food packaging, consumer products, house dust, indoor and outdoor air, drinking water and at workplaces where PFAS are made or used.

Neither the Illinois EPA nor the U.S. EPA have yet developed enforceable drinking water standards for PFAS. In the interim, Illinois EPA has developed guidance levels to determine if additional investigation or other response action is necessary for the small number of PFAS for which there is appropriate information to do so. The guidance levels are intended to be protective of all people consuming the water over a lifetime of exposure. It is important to understand that guidance levels are not regulatory limits for drinking water. Rather, the guidance levels are benchmarks against which sampling results are compared to determine if additional investigation or other response action is necessary.

Illinois EPA testing has determined that one or more PFAS were detected in our water system at values greater than or equal to the Illinois EPA guidance levels, as provided in the table below.

<b>Cairo, IL PFAS Results</b>					
<b>PFAS Analyte</b>	<b>Acronym</b>	<b>Guidance Level (ppt)</b>	<b>Your Results (ppt)</b>		
			<b>TP10 Collected 6/8/2021</b>	<b>TP01DUP Collected 6/8/2021</b>	<b>TP01 Collected 7/15/2021</b>
Perfluorobutanesulfonic acid	PFBS	2,100	ND	ND	ND
Perfluorohexanesulfonic acid	PFHxS	140	ND	ND	ND
Perfluorononanoic acid	PFNA	21	ND	ND	ND
Perfluorooctanesulfonic acid	PFOS	14	3.1	3.2	4.0
Perfluorooctanoic acid	PFOA	2	2.6	2.6	3.1
Perfluorohexanoic acid	PFHxA	560,000	ND	ND	ND
Hexafluoropropylene oxidedimer acid	HFPO-DA	560	ND	ND	ND

The science and regulation of PFAS and other contaminants is always evolving, and Illinois American Water strives to be a leader in delivering reliable, safe, and affordable water service. This is one of the most rapidly changing landscapes in drinking water contamination. We have invested time and effort engaging with other experts in the field to understand PFAS occurrence, fate, and transport in the environment. We are also actively assessing treatment technologies that can effectively remove PFAS from drinking water, because we believe that investment in research is critical for addressing this issue.

We take water quality and safety very seriously and we are very proud of our water quality record. Illinois EPA has posted on their website information about PFAS in water systems. This includes a review of available water quality information and the collection of additional samples. We are coordinating with Illinois EPA as we work through this process and will continue to inform you regarding the results through our annual water quality reports available at <https://www.amwater.com/ilaw/water-quality/water-quality-reports/>

Additional information regarding PFAS, the statewide PFAS investigation network, and the impact to public health can be found on the Illinois EPA PFAS webpage: <https://www2.illinois.gov/epa/topics/water-quality/pfas/Pages/default.aspx>.

The confirmed sampling results for IL American-Cairo (IL0035030) are also available on Illinois EPA's Drinking Water Watch system at <http://water.epa.state.il.us/dww/index.jsp>.

If you have questions, please contact:

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