

Regarding: Village of Weston PFAS

The Village of Weston Water Utility takes its role in protecting public health by providing safe drinking water to our community very seriously. Our drinking water is closely regulated by both the **EPA (U.S Environmental Protection Agency)** and DNR (**Wisconsin Department of Natural Resources**) and it meets strict Federal and State drinking water standards. We appreciate that an important conversation is happening right now regarding PFAS (**Perfluoroalkyl and polyfluoroalkyl substances**). PFAS is an emerging contaminant that EPA and DNR do not currently regulate. Recent tests of water by area utilities found levels of PFAS in their drinking water.

Weston sampled and tested its 6 wells for PFAS as required during the EPA's **Unregulated Contaminants Monitoring Rule** sampling program (UCMR3) in 2014 and 2015. PFAS compounds were not found in the UCMR3 samples above the reporting limits of 20 ppt. (parts per trillion). EPA's recommended health standard for PFA's is 70 ppt. and Wisconsin is currently focusing on 20 ppt.

Weston will be voluntarily sampling for PFAS in the coming weeks and will post the results of those samples when they are available. Routine testing for PFAS has not yet been required by state or federal regulations however, the EPA will be requiring water utilities throughout the country to sample for PFAS as part of UCMR5, scheduled to take place between 2023 and 2025.

Our voluntary testing will tie in with our continued advance planning for 2 upcoming projects. The first is the development of 2 new high-capacity wells by the end of 2023 and the second is a water treatment plant for 2 existing wells in the central part of the Village within the next 5 years. Results of PFAS sampling in 2022 and later may lead to adding a treatment process to these projects but, we are currently able to modify these projects without backtracking, if necessary

EPA and DNR are both working to determine how and when PFAS should be regulated. The DNR has never adopted a drinking water standard without first having a federal standard in place but, the current target dates for DNR recommending a standard in 2022 and EPA by fall of 2023, are causing confusion with the issue. We will continue to follow EPA's and DNR's lead on PFAS to keep your drinking water safe according to the Safe Drinking Water Act.

PFAS is a group of thousands of compounds used in everything from food packaging and cookware to upholstery, clothing, and firefighting foam. These chemicals do not break down in the environment and are commonly found in dust, air, soil, and water. Use of PFAS began in the 1940's.

We are providing links to more information about PFAS on the Village of Weston website. Please visit www.westonwi.gov/pfas.