



819 Superior Ave Tomah, WI 54660
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RE: PFAS advisories and monitoring.

Dear customer,

By now many of you have heard of PFAS. Mostly from the recent news stories that have focused on either ground or surface waters across the nation found to be contaminated with these “forever” chemicals used in the widespread manufacture of many goods since the 1940s. What you may not know is that 80% of a person’s exposure to PFAS comes from sources other than drinking water and has been detected worldwide in humans, animals, air and soil. Because this group of some six thousand manmade chemicals never breaks down, trace amounts can literally be found anywhere.

The intent of this letter is to provide a brief update on the latest information and how it relates to the City of Tomah’s drinking water, and to lay out a plan for PFAS monitoring moving forward.

Recent technological advances have led scientists and regulatory agencies to revise their view on the presence of these chemicals in drinking water and on June 15, 2022, the US EPA issued new interim Health Advisory Limits (HAL) for 4 PFAS compounds; PFOA, PFOS, GenX Chemicals and PFBS at near zero and are actually *below* the ability of detection at this time. These “interim HALs” are significantly lower than the August 1, 2022 revision of the NR 809 Wis. Adm. Code which set a maximum contaminant level (MCL) at 70 parts per trillion and a sampling timeline for systems of our size for April of 2023.

Test results from the initial sample obtained from the City of Tomah’s water system showed no concerning levels of PFAS compounds.

The City of Tomah is scheduled to participate in the EPA Unregulated Contaminates Monitoring Rule program in March and September of 2023. The City will test each of our five source wells for a list of contaminants that will include 29 PFAS compounds and Lithium. Results will be made available to the EPA, Wisconsin DNR and to the public, and will serve as a starting point should further action be required. We are closely following the many changes concerning PFAS in drinking water and realize that there are still many unknowns. We will continue to provide safe, quality water, comply as advisories and regulations evolve and keep our customers informed.

We drink the same water you drink - as do our families, friends, and neighbors.

Water quality and public safety is and will always be our main focus.

UPDATE 6-8-2023: [DNR mandated PFAS sample results reported on 5-3-2023 for 18 separate PFAS compounds taken from each of Tomah’s five source wells are available at https://apps.dnr.wi.gov/dwsportalpub/DS/View/146085](https://apps.dnr.wi.gov/dwsportalpub/DS/View/146085)

***For information regarding PFAS samples, please [copy and paste](https://apps.dnr.wi.gov/dwsportalpub/DS/View/146085) this link and click on "other chemical samples"**

Unit of measure for these samples is Nanograms per Liter (ng/l) which is equal to parts per trillion.

*** A link to the EPA mandated sample results, which were received on 6-7-2023 is not available at this time but results from the 145 samples tested showed only miniscule amounts for three compounds.**

Additional information is available online from sources such as EPA or Wisconsin DNR. -

<https://www.epa.gov/sdwa/questions-and-answers-drinking-water-health-advisories-pfoa-pfos-genx-chemicals-and-pfbs#q1> <https://dnr.wisconsin.gov/topic/PFAS>