

Class B Firefighting Foam - Municipal Well Investigative Sampling Results

Introduction

In February 2009, the Minnesota Department of Health (MDH) began sampling selected municipal water supplies for an expanded list of perfluorochemicals (PFCs) related to Class B firefighting foams. These systems were chosen based on the volume of reported use of Class B firefighting foams in training centers and the vulnerability of the wells.

Results

City	Wells Results	Public Health Action
Apple Valley	Trace amounts noted	PFCs below health based exposure limits
Bemidji	Trace amounts noted	PFCs below health based exposure limits
Brooklyn Center	No detection	PFCs below health based exposure limits
Burnsville	Trace amounts noted	PFCs below health based exposure limits
Cloquet	No detection	PFCs below health based exposure limits
Cottage Grove*	Trace amounts noted	PFCs below health based exposure limits
Goodview	No detection	PFCs below health based exposure limits
Luverne	Trace amounts noted	PFCs below health based exposure limits
North Mankato	No detection	PFCs below health based exposure limits

CLASS B FIREFIGHTING FOAM- MUNICIPAL WELL INVESTIGATIVE SAMPLING
RESULTS

City	Wells Results	Public Health Action
North St. Paul*	No detection	PFCs below health based exposure limits
Perham	No detection	PFCs below health based exposure limits
Pierz	No detection	PFCs below health based exposure limits
Pine River	No detection	PFCs below health based exposure limits
Randall	No detection	PFCs below health based exposure limits
Richfield	Trace amounts noted	PFCs below health based exposure limits
Rochester	No detection	PFCs below health based exposure limits
Winona	Trace amounts noted	PFCs below health based exposure limits and the well was scheduled for replacement

Descriptors for Results

No detection – There was no indication of PFCs in the laboratory analysis.

Trace amounts noted – The laboratory analysis was able to detect a minute amount of PFCs.

PFCs detected above health based exposure limits – The laboratory was able to detect PFCs and the level(s) exceeded the health based exposure limit. MDH is working with the local municipal water system to prevent or reduce exposure.

Laboratory Analysis

The MDH laboratory currently analyzes water samples for two lists of PFCs, List 555 and List 551.

List 555 was developed earlier. It includes PFCs that are primarily of concern due to disposal sites in south Washington County.

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List 551 While most of the PFCs of concern in Class B firefighting foams are included in List 555 (PFOA, PFOS, and PFHxS), one - 6:2 Fluorotelomer Sulfonate (6:2 FtS) – was not. The methodology used to analyze for 6:2 FtS also finds the other five additional chemicals included in List 551.

List 555

Perfluorobutanoic acid (PFBA)
Perfluoropentanoic acid (PFPeA)
Perfluorohexanoic acid (PFHxA)
Perfluorooctanoic acid (PFOA)
Perfluorobutane Sulfonate (PFBS)
Perfluorohexane Sulfonate (PFHxS)
Perfluorooctane Sulfonate (PFOS)

List 551

Perfluorobutanoic acid (PFBA)
Perfluoropentanoic acid (PFPeA)
Perfluorohexanoic acid (PFHxA)
Perfluoroheptanoic acid (PFHpA)**
Perfluorooctanoic acid (PFOA)
Perfluorononanoic acid (PFNA)**
Perfluorodecanoic acid (PFDA)**
Perfluoroundecanoic acid (PFUnDA)**
Perfluorododecanoic acid (PFDoDA)**
Perfluorobutane Sulfonate (PFBS)
Perfluorohexane Sulfonate (PFHxS)
Perfluorooctane Sulfonate (PFOS)
6:2 Fluorotelomer Sulfonate (6:2 FtS)**

**Indicates new chemical added to List 551

Minnesota Department of Health
Site Assessment and Consultation Unit
Phone: 651-201-4897
email: health.hazard@state.mn.us
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To obtain this information in a different format, call: 651-201-4897.