

# Drinking Water Advisory

Este informe contiene información importante acerca de su agua potable. Haga que alguien lo traduzca para usted, o hable con alguien que lo entienda.

Dlaim ntawv tshaabzu nuav muaj lug tseemceeb heev nyob rua huv kws has txug cov dlej mej haus. Kuas ib tug paab txhais rua koj, los nrug ib tug kws paub lug thaam.

On September 6, 2023, May 23, 2024, and September 11, 2024 Green Lake Waterworks collected samples of our drinking water and tested them for perfluoroalkyl and polyfluoroalkyl substances (PFAS). PFAS are a group of man-made chemicals that have been used in many products since the 1950s. PFAS compounds in Well 2 were present at levels above health-based standards recommended by the WI Department of Health Services (DHS). No detections have been found in samples from Well 1 to date.

Sample results are available: [Hazard Index Calculator \(cityofgreenlake.com\)](https://cityofgreenlake.com/hazard-index-calculator)

## Potential Health Risks of PFAS and Consumption Advisory

Long term exposure to high levels of the PFAS may increase cholesterol levels, reduce antibody levels, and reduce a woman's fertility. Wisconsin Department of Health Services (DHS) recommends people limit their intake of PFAS compounds. People can reduce exposure to PFAS by limiting their consumption of Green Lake drinking water.

People can consider alternative water sources such as:

- Other sources of water that have been tested for PFAS and do not have levels above recommended standards.
- Filtered water from a pitcher, sink, or whole-house filter system with a certified filter technology. A granular activated carbon (GAC) filter that meets ANSI/NSF Standard 53 or a reverse osmosis (RO) filter with an included GAC component can filter out PFAS. These numbers will be printed on the filter and/or packaging. More information about filtering out PFAS from drinking water is available here: [Reducing PFAS in Your Drinking Water](#). **Boiling water does not remove PFAS.**

## What is being done to correct the problem?

The City of Green Lake is not in violation of current state PFAS drinking water standards. New federal PFAS drinking water standards have been released and Green Lake will need to meet these standards at the time they become enforceable. More information can be found here: [Federal PFAS Maximum Contaminant Levels | NR 809 SAFE DRINKING WATER STANDARDS UPDATE | Wisconsin DNR](#)

The City of Green Lake has taken actions proactively to inform and protect the health of its customers by regularly providing information on the PFAS issue in Well 2. The City is running Well 2 less frequently to limit and dilute the PFAS levels in the water supply and sampling Well 1 annually and Well 2 quarterly. The City has also hired an engineering firm to help find a long-term solution to this issue. We ask people to do their own research on this issue and to do what is best for their own needs.

## What are per- and polyfluoroalkyl substances (PFAS)?

Per- and polyfluoroalkyl substances (PFAS) are a large group of human-made chemicals that are resistant to heat, water, and oil. These chemicals have been used for decades in many industrial applications and consumer products such as carpeting, waterproof clothing, upholstery, food paper wrappings, personal care products, fire-fighting foams, and metal plating. PFAS have been found at low levels both in the environment and in blood samples of the general U.S. population.

## How are people exposed to PFAS and why are they harmful?

The main way that people are exposed to PFAS is by drinking water or eating food containing them. PFAS chemicals do not easily absorb into the skin so contact with water that contains PFAS poses a very low health risk.

A large number of studies have examined possible relationships between levels of PFAS in blood and harmful health effects in people. However, most of these studies analyzed only a small number of chemicals, and not all PFAS have the same health effects. This research suggests that high levels of certain PFAS may increase cholesterol levels, decrease how well the body responds to vaccines, and reduce fertility in women. Some other studies have indicated that high levels of certain PFAS may increase the risk of thyroid disease, increase the risk of serious conditions like high blood pressure or pre-eclampsia in pregnant women, and lower infant birth weights.

**How do PFAS get into drinking water?**

PFAS can get into drinking water when products containing them are used or spilled onto the ground or into lakes and rivers as well as from manufacturing and disposal. PFAS move easily through the ground, getting into groundwater that is used for some water supplies or for private drinking water wells. When spilled into lakes or rivers used as sources of drinking water, they can get into drinking water supplies. PFAS in the air can also end up in rivers and lakes used for drinking water.

**Answers to general PFAS questions from Wisconsin Department of Natural Resources can be found:** <https://dnr.wi.gov/topic/Contaminants/PFAS.html>

**Answers to health-related questions from Wisconsin Department of Health Services can be found:** Bureau of Environmental and Occupational Health at [dhsenvhealth@wi.gov](mailto:dhsenvhealth@wi.gov) or 608-266-1120. More information about PFAS and health risk can be found at <https://www.dhs.wisconsin.gov/chemical/pfas.htm>

**If you have questions regarding the safety of our drinking water or this notice, please contact:**

Jason Carley  
534 Mill Street, Green Lake, WI 54941  
(920) 294-6912

Please share this information with all the other people who drink this water, especially those who may not have received this notice directly (for example, people in apartments, nursing homes, schools, and businesses). You can do this by posting this notice in a public place or distributing copies by hand or mail.

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*I certify that the information and statements contained in this public notice are true and correct and have been provided to consumers in accordance with the delivery, content, format, and deadline requirements in Subchapter VII of ch. NR 809, Wis. Adm. Code.*

**X Jason Carley**

Signature

01-2-2025

Date

The statements at the top of this notice translate as, "This report contains important information about your drinking water. Have someone translate it for you or talk to someone who understands it."