

City of Adams
Department of Public Works
101 N. Juneau Street
Adams, WI 53910
Jason Kirslenohr, Street Superintendent
Office (608) 472-6515

RE: City of Adams Public Works Department Drinking Water Advisory

Dear Water Customer:

On November 13, 2023, the City of Adams collected water samples of the Adams Waterworks drinking water and tested them for perfluoroalkyl and polyfluoroalkyl substances (PFAS). PFAS compounds in Well 4 were present at levels above health-based standards recommended by the WI Department of Health Services (DHS) but are still below the NR 809 Wis. Adm. Code, *Safe Drinking Water*. Well 5 samples have no PFAS detections. Sample results are available upon request.

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 Adams Waterworks 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 Adams is not in violation of any federal or state drinking water standards or regulations at this time and has taken actions proactively to inform and protect the health of its customers. Based on the water sampling results the utility consulted with the Department of Natural Resources (DNR) to discuss the test results. The City has decided to continue to operate Well 4 in a reduced capacity while Well #5 that has had NO PFAS detection will operate in an increased capacity. The City is currently working with an engineering firm designing a treatment facility for a more permanent solution.

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 people be 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 among people have examined possible relationships between levels of PFAS in blood and 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 does 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. PFAS can also get into the environment from manufacturing and disposal. PFAS move easily through the ground getting into groundwater that is used for some water supplies. When spilled into waterbodies used as sources of drinking water, they can get into drinking water supplies. PFAS in the air can also end up in waterbodies used for drinking water.

If you have questions regarding Adams Waterworks drinking water or the testing:

The City of Adams Public Works Department is committed to providing our consumers with quality drinking water. As your water supplier, we will continue to work closely with the DNR to maintain the quality of your water. If you have questions about this notice, please contact the City of Adams at 608-472-6515.

GENERAL PFAS QUESTIONS --- PLEASE SEE THE DEPARTMENT OF NATURAL RESOURCES WEBSITE: <https://dnr.wi.gov/topic/Contaminants/PFAS.html>

HEALTH RELATED QUESTIONS---DEPARTMENT OF HEALTH SERVICES: More information about PFAS and health risk can be found on the Wisconsin DHS website at <https://www.dhs.wisconsin.gov/chemical/pfas.htm>. For specific health questions, individuals can contact DHS staff at dhsenvhealth@wi.gov or 608-266-1120.

OPERATION OF THE CITY WATER UTILITY---

Jason Kirslenohr

608-472-6515

101 N Main Street PO Box 1009

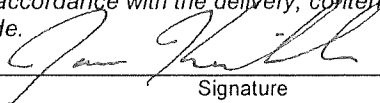
Adams

WI

53910

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



Signature

12/12/23

Date

** 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

*** If 5% or more of the population served by your water system consists of non-English speaking consumers, the public notice must contain information in the appropriate language(s).