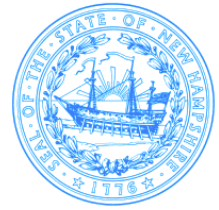




The State of New Hampshire
Department of Environmental Services



Robert R. Scott, Commissioner

October 2, 2017

Subject: Recommended Sampling of Drinking Water Wells at Fire Stations for PFAS Compounds

Dear Fire Departments:

The New Hampshire Department of Environmental Services (NHDES) is recommending fire departments that obtain drinking water from an on-site water supply well, voluntarily test their water for poly and perfluoroalkyl substances (PFAS) to ensure the drinking water used at these facilities is safe for fire department personnel and others that use these facilities.

Elevated levels of PFAS have been detected in drinking water obtained from water supply wells at six out of seven fire departments sampled to date. The discovery of contamination in drinking water wells at fire stations has prompted additional sampling off-site and the detection of elevated PFAS concentrations in nearby private and public drinking water supply wells.

If the recommended sampling is completed, please provide the results to NHDES so the data can be incorporated into the state's PFAS database. If the testing results show that the water is contaminated with combined concentration of perfluorooctanoic acid (PFOA) and perfluorooctanesulfonic acid (PFOS) above 70 nanograms per liter (ng/L) or parts-per-trillion, then this information must be reported to NHDES within 60 days and a site investigation and implementation of corrective action measures may be required. NHDES has adopted an Ambient Groundwater Quality Standard of 70 ng/L for the combined concentration of PFOA and PFOS. NHDES requests that the information be reported immediately, opposed to within sixty days as allowed by rule, so that the assessment of potential impacts to other nearby drinking water wells can be expedited.

A list of laboratories that can complete the testing and analytical guidelines is attached and can be found at <https://www.des.nh.gov/organization/commissioner/documents/pfoa-testing-labs.pdf>. Please request that the laboratory provide you sampling instructions. Typical sampling requirements include washing hands, wearing nitrile gloves, not wearing water/weatherproof or stain resistant clothing, and wearing natural fiber (such as cotton) well laundered clothing to avoid contaminating the samples during the collection process.

www.des.nh.gov

29 Hazen Drive • PO Box 95 • Concord, NH 03302-0095
(603) 271-3503 • Fax: 271-2867 TDD Access: Relay NH 1-800-735-2964

Please report sample results and direct any questions regarding this letter to:

Brandon Kernen
New Hampshire Department of Environmental Services
PO Box 95
Concord, New Hampshire 03302
Brandon.Kernen@des.nh.gov | phone 271-0660 | fax 271-0656

Additional recommendations on private well water quality testing for other contaminants can be found at

https://www.des.nh.gov/organization/divisions/water/dwgb/well_testing/index.htm.

Lastly, as a follow-up to previous fire departments/PFAS/Class B initiatives, online forms to: 1) Report past and recent uses of Class B Foam; and 2) Provide information/interest on a potential state-wide initiative to dispose of older Class B foam that contains PFOS can be found online at https://www4.des.state.nh.us/nh-pfas-investigation/?page_id=148.

Sincerely,



Brandon Kernen
Drinking Water and Groundwater Bureau

cc: Municipal Health Officer
Municipal Governing Body (Selectmen/Council)



Laboratory Testing Guidelines for Per- and Polyfluoroalkyl Substances (PFAS)

Recommended guidelines for testing for Per- and Polyfluoroalkyl Substances (PFAS) in water are provided below in two sections. The first section summarizes the recommended analytical requirements for testing water samples obtained from a private well or public water system.

The second section summarizes the recommended analytical requirements for testing water samples obtained as part of sampling at a site that will be submitted to NHDES' Waste Division programs.

A list of laboratories that provide PFAS testing services is on the back of this document. Please ensure the laboratory you utilize can meet the recommendations provided below prior to contracting with the laboratory.

PFAS Sampling Recommendations for Public Water Systems and Private Well Owners

- 1) Reporting Limits:** Analytical methods with reporting limits of at least 5 nanograms per liter should be utilized.
- 2) Analytical Methods:** 1) Analytical methods that use isotope dilution conducted by laboratories accredited by the Department of Defense or the National Environmental Laboratory Accreditation Program (NELAP); or 2) EPA Method 537 Rev 1.1 following the provisions of EPA Technical Advisory 815-B-16-021 issued in September 2016 for PFOA by laboratories with NELAP accreditation from NH or another state.
- 3) Analytes:** The following PFAS were included on the United States Environmental Protection Agency's Unregulated Contaminant Monitoring Rule (UCMR) Round 3 list and as a minimum, ***should be included*** in the requested analysis:

Perfluorooctanesulfonic acid (PFOS)	Perfluorooctanoic acid (PFOA)	Perfluorononanoic acid (PFNA)
Perfluorohexanesulfonic acid (PFHxS)	Perfluoroheptanoic acid (PFHpA)	Perfluorobutanesulfonic acid (PFBS)

The following additional PFAS have been regularly detected in groundwater samples in New Hampshire Drinking Water PFOA Investigation and are also recommended target analytes to include in the PFAS analysis.

Perfluorobutanoic acid (PFBA)	Perfluoropentanoic acid (PFPeA)	Perfluorohexanoic acid (PFHxA)
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Per and Poly Perfluoroalkyl (PFAS) Sampling Recommendations for sampling data that will be submitted to NHDES' Waste Division

- 1) Reporting Limits:** Analytical methods with reporting limits of at least 5 nanograms per liter should be utilized.
- 2) Analytical Methods:** Analytical methods that use isotope dilution conducted by laboratories accredited by the Department of Defense or the National Environmental Laboratory Accreditation Program (NELAP).
- 3) Analytes:** The following PFAS should be included the requested analysis at a minimum:

Perfluorooctanesulfonic acid (PFOS)	Perfluorooctanoic acid (PFOA)	Perfluorononanoic acid (PFNA)
Perfluorohexanesulfonic acid (PFHxS)	Perfluoroheptanoic acid (PFHpA)	Perfluorobutanesulfonic acid (PFBS)
Perfluorobutanoic acid (PFBA)	Perfluoropentanoic acid (PFPeA)	Perfluorohexanoic acid (PFHxA)

Addressing Contaminants Other than PFAS

Water from your private well is likely to contain other contaminants that have health-based drinking water standards or advisory levels such as arsenic, uranium, radon, manganese, nitrate and bacteria, which are naturally occurring or originate from other nearby land uses. It is important for all private well users to test for these contaminants and ensure that the water treatment technology that is utilized is also appropriate for these contaminants if they are present in your drinking water at elevated concentrations. For more information and technical assistance about testing and treating your drinking water these contaminants, go to <http://xml2.des.state.nh.us/DWITool/>.

Labs Providing PFAS Analytical Services

(This list is not a complete list and does not constitute an endorsement of those firms on the list, nor is it a statement against any firm not on the list. Additionally, the capacity of the labs to provide services consistent with NHDES' recommendations above has not been verified and these details should be addressed prior to contracting with the laboratories below.)

Absolute Resource Associates 124 Heritage Ave, Unit 16 Portsmouth, NH 03801 (603) 436-2001 info@absoluteresourceassociates.com Absoluteresourceassociates.com	Eurofins Eaton Analytical 110 S Hill Street South Bend, IN 46617 (215) 499-4578 RonaldMilke@eurofinsUS.com eurofinsus.com/eaton	RWA Lab Services 90 Sargent Drive New Haven CT 06511 (203) 401-2700 tburns@rwater.com rwalab.com
ALS Global 1317 South 13th Ave Kelso, WA 98626 (360) 577-7222 Chris.Leaf@alsglobal.com alsglobal.com	Eurofins Lancaster Laboratories 2425 New Holland Pike Lancaster, PA 17601 (717) 656-2300 LancLabsEnv@eurofinsUS.com EurofinsUS.com/LancLabsEnv	Seacoast Analytical Laboratory 72 Pinkham Road Lee, NH 03861 (603) 868-1457 customerservice@seacoastanalytical.com seacoastanalytical.com
Aquarian Analytical Lab 153 West Road Canterbury, NH 03224 (603) 783-9097 jsherburne@aquarianlabs.com aquarianlabs.com	Granite State Analytical 22 Manchester Rd Derry, NH 03038 (603) 432-3044 info@granitestateanalytical.com granitestateanalytical.com	SGS Accutest – Orlando 4405 Vineland Rd, Ste C-15, Orlando FL 32811 (407) 425-6700 norman.farmer@sgs.com sgs.com
Eastern Analytical, Inc. 25 Chenell Drive Concord, NH 03301 (603)228-0525 / (800)287-0525 CustomerService@easternanalytical.com easternanalytical.com	Nelson Analytical Lab 120 York St., Kennebunk, ME 04043 (207) 467-3478 lmaling@nelsonanalytical.com nelsonanalytical.com	TestAmerica Laboratories, Inc. 880 Riverside Parkway, West Sacramento, CA 95864 (916) 373-5600 crm-west@testamericainc.com testamericainc.com
EnviroSystems, Incorporated 1 Lafayette Road Hampton, NH (603) 926-3345 ksimon@envirosystems.com envirosystems.com	Nelson Analytical Lab 490 E. Industrial Park Dr. Manchester, NH 03109 (603) 622-0200 info@nelsonanalytical.com nelsonanalytical.com	Vista Analytical Laboratory 1104 Windfield Way El Dorado Hills, CA 95762 (916) 673-1520 mmaier@vista-analytical.com vista-analytical.com
Eurofins Eaton Analytical Inc. 750 Royal Oaks Drive, Suite 100. Monrovia, CA 91016 (626) 386-1100 AndoraNguyen@EurofinsUS.com eurofinsus.com	Pace Analytical Services – Florida 8 East Tower Circle Ormond Beach, FL 32174 (386) 672-5668 Paul.Jackson@pacelabs.com pacelabs.com	Con-Test Analytical Laboratory 39 Spruce Street East Longmeadow, Massachusetts 01028 (413) 525-2332 kallen@contestlabs.com www.contestlabs.com
Alpha Analytical 320 Forbes Boulevard Mansfield, MA 02048 800-624-9220 cs@alphalab.com www.alphalab.com		