



# PFOA Contamination Southern New Hampshire Weekly Update

June 3, 2016

NHDES is issuing these weekly email updates during our ongoing investigation into perfluorooctanoic acid (PFOA) and other PFCs in southern New Hampshire drinking water. These updates will also be posted on our website at <http://des.nh.gov/organization/commissioner/pfoa.htm>

## Press Releases

### **June 3, 2016** - Elevated Levels of PFCs Found Near Former Salem Landfill

Concord, NH - The New Hampshire Department of Environmental Services (NHDES) announced today that groundwater monitoring well results collected at the former L.L.&S. Construction and Demolition Debris Landfill in Salem, NH, showed elevated concentrations of perfluorooctanoic acid (PFOA) and perfluorooctane sulfonate (PFOS). In response to a request from NHDES, the U.S. Environmental Protection Agency (USEPA) collected and analyzed water samples from 10 monitoring wells adjacent to the landfill. The test results showed that the groundwater samples contained PFOA concentrations ranging from 2.5 parts per trillion (ppt) to 560 ppt, and PFOS concentrations ranging from 1.3 ppt to 260 ppt. New Hampshire's Ambient Groundwater Quality Standard was recently set at 70 ppt for PFOA, PFOS, and for PFOA and PFOS combined. To further evaluate the extent of the impact, NHDES will be sampling nearby water supply wells in the vicinity of the landfill.

The 16 acre former landfill is unlined, operated from 1978 to 1984, and received construction and demolition debris. The landfill was capped with soil and loam in 1986. The site is currently operating as L.L. & S. Inc. Lowell Road Wood Processing Facility. Portions of the site were reportedly utilized as an auto salvage yard as early as the 1950s. Historically several fires have been associated with the landfill property dating back to the mid-1980s. It is suspected that aqueous film forming foam (AFFF), a fire fighting agent containing PFCS, may have been used to fight some of those fires. NHDES began monitoring groundwater at the site in 1984; monitoring has continued to be conducted by the site owner under a Groundwater Management Permit issued by NHDES.

For more information, please call Jim Martin, NHDES at (603) 271-3710.

### **May 31, 2016** - NHDES Establishes Ambient Groundwater Quality Standard for Perfluorooctanoic Acid (PFOA) and Perfluorooctane Sulfonate (PFOS)

Concord, NH - The New Hampshire Department of Environmental Services (NHDES) announced today that it has filed an emergency rule to establish ambient groundwater quality standards (AGQS) for perfluorooctanoic acid (PFOA) and perfluorooctane sulfonate (PFOS). NHDES has set three groundwater standards: 70 parts per trillion (ppt) for PFOA, 70 ppt for PFOS and 70 ppt for PFOA and PFOS combined, where the chemicals are found together. These standards give NHDES the authority to direct site remediation activities related to these contaminants, and also require public water systems to comply with these standards if these contaminants are found in their sources of drinking water. The emergency rule is effective immediately for 180 days, during which time NHDES will be undertaking a regular rulemaking process to adopt rules on a long-term basis. The regular rulemaking process will include opportunities for public input.

To read the entire release, please visit <http://des.nh.gov/media/pr/2016/20160531-pfoa-standard.htm>

### **Private Well Sampling**

On May 31, 2016, NHDES established an Ambient Groundwater Quality Standard of 70 parts per trillion (ppt) for PFOA, 70 ppt for PFOS and 70 ppt for PFOA and PFOS combined.

	<b>SAINT-GOBAIN Area</b>	<b>TCI AMHERST Area</b>	<b>MERRIMACK LANDFILL</b>
WELLS SAMPLED	507	115	52
RESULTS RECEIVED	403	11	0
≥ 70 PPT	136	4	0
APPOINTMENTS SCHEDULED	18	17	5

To view the current maps for all of these locations, please visit:

<http://des.nh.gov/organization/commissioner/pfoa.htm>

### **Public Water System Test Results**

Updated Results are available here (note results include both PFOA and PFOS):

<http://des.nh.gov/organization/commissioner/documents/pfoa-public-water-results-20160603.pdf>

### **Bottled Water Delivery/Availability**

If you are eligible and have not received delivery of bottled water or have questions about receiving bottled water, please contact Andy Fulton, NHDES at (603) 271-7376 (for Bottled Water Inquiries Only).

### **Public Meeting Presentations**

A copy of the NHDES presentation at the June 2, public information meeting in Bedford has been posted here:

<http://des.nh.gov/organization/commissioner/documents/pfoa-bedford-publicmtg-20160602.pdf>

### **Public Inquiries**

If you have questions regarding the NHDES investigation into PFOA found in Southern NH drinking water, please call the Public Inquiry Line at (603) 271-9461 or visit <http://des.nh.gov/organization/commissioner/pfoa.htm>

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