



PFHxS

(Perfluorohexanesulfonic acid)

What is PFHxS?

PFHxS is a chemical in a group of contaminants called per- and polyfluoroalkyl substances (PFAS).

- ▶ PFHxS can be found in stain repellants in carpet and fabric, food and other packaging, and fire-fighting foam.
- ▶ People can be exposed to PFHxS by drinking water, eating food, and breathing in or accidentally swallowing soil or dust containing PFAS.

If the level of PFHxS in your drinking water is over **40 ng/L**, you should find a different source of water.

Can PFHxS affect our health?

Studies have shown that PFHxS can affect the health of people and research animals.

- ▶ Studies among people found that high levels of PFHxS can decrease immune response to vaccines and may increase the risk of osteoarthritis and asthma.
- ▶ Studies in research animals have found that high levels of PFHxS can damage the liver, alter cholesterol levels, and may impact fertility and neurological function.

What can you do to protect your health?

Wisconsin's recommended groundwater standard for PFHxS is 40 ng/L.

Find a different source of drinking water if the level of PFHxS in your municipal or private well water is over 40 ng/L. Sources of water can include:

- ▶ Water from a public water system or private well that has been tested for PFAS and has levels below Wisconsin's recommended groundwater standards.
- ▶ Bottled water that has been tested for PFAS and has levels below Wisconsin's recommended groundwater standards.

ng/L = nanograms per liter equivalent to parts per trillion (ppt)



Looking for more information?

- ▶ See the [Agency for Toxic Substances and Disease Registry website](#) for more information on the health effects.
- ▶ Visit the [DHS website](#) to learn more about Wisconsin's recommended groundwater standards.

