

# PFAS FACTS

## WHAT IS PFAS?

Per- and polyfluoroalkyl substances (PFAS) are compounds used in manufacturing carpet, clothing, furniture fabrics and paper food packaging. They make items water- and stain-resistant. PFAS is also found in firefighting foams, cleaners, cosmetics, paints, adhesives and insecticides. PFAS is known as a “forever chemical” because it does not break down in the environment.

## GREAT LAKES WATER AUTHORITY

The Great Lakes Water Authority (GLWA) has been testing for PFAS since 2009 and is pleased to assure the public that **these chemicals were not detected**.

Test results from GLWA’s five water treatment plants are online at GLWA’s website, [glwater.org](http://glwater.org). Search the term “PFAS.”

## MICHIGAN’S DRINKING WATER STANDARDS

The Michigan Department of Environment, Great Lakes and Energy’s (EGLE) PFAS rule, which went into effect in August 2020, includes drinking water standards that establish maximum contaminant levels (MCL) for seven types of PFAS.

## RESOURCES

For more information on PFAS in Michigan, including Fact Sheets, FAQs and testing results, visit the State’s website.

<https://www.michigan.gov/pfasresponse>



**GLWA**  
Great Lakes Water Authority

Member Outreach

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## PFAS DRINKING WATER RULE QUICK REFERENCE GUIDE

CONTAMINANT	MCL (ng/L)*
Perfluorononanoic acid (PFNA)	6
Perfluorooctanoic Acid (PFOA)	8
Perfluorooctane Sulfonic Acid (PFOS)	16
Perfluorohexane Sulfonic Acid (PFHxS)	51
Hexafluoropropylene Oxide Dimer Acid (HFPO-DA)	370
Perfluorobutane Sulfonic Acid (PFBS)	420
Perfluorohexanoic Acid (PFHxA)	400,000

\* ng/L = Nanogram/liter



A nanogram-per-liter is equal to a grain of sand in an Olympic-size swimming pool.