

Subject: Upcoming PFAS Drinking Water Sampling

Dear Customer:

Wisconsin and states nationwide are faced with challenges related to Per- and Polyfluoroalkyl substances (PFAS), which have been manufactured and used for years in everyday items such as nonstick cookware, water-resistant clothing and personal care products. PFAS have also been widely used in firefighting foams, at military installations and in other industries. A large number of studies in people have examined possible relationships between levels of PFAS in blood and harmful health effects in people.

The Wisconsin Department of Natural Resources (WI DNR) is conducting a voluntary statewide investigation into the occurrence of Per- and Polyfluoroalkyl Substances (PFAS) in drinking water at municipal drinking water suppliers in WI during 2022. City of Mauston has decided to sample for PFAS to proactively assess the potential impacts of PFAS in the drinking water and to quickly take steps to protect the health of our customers if needed.

WI DNR will be working closely with WI State Lab of Hygiene throughout the entire process to ensure our system is provided with results in a timely manner. WI DNR will be posting sample results as they become available at <https://dnr.wi.gov/dwsviewer/>. The Agency will also be actively working with any public water systems that identify levels of PFAS in drinking water to ensure the validity of data and identify appropriate response measures, including outreach and communication with customers.

If you have any questions about the sampling that will occur at our public water system, please contact Shawn Dutton (608-547-6667)

WI DNR and City of Mauston are also closely coordinating on outreach and educational materials for residents on PFAS, including health-related information and steps to reduce potential exposures. A state website has been set up to provide stakeholders with information about PFAS at dnr.wisconsin.gov/topic/PFAS. We encourage you to visit this website for helpful information about PFAS and reducing your exposure risks.