

Fairfax Water's Statement on EPA's Proposed PFAS Standards

March 14, 2023

EPA has announced proposed national drinking water standards for 6 types of poly- and perfluoroalkyl substances (PFAS). Fairfax Water will evaluate the ability of our existing treatment processes to meet EPA's proposed regulations and remains committed to providing our customers with water of exceptional quality.

Fairfax, Virginia – March 14, 2023 – On March 14, 2023, the EPA announced its proposed national drinking water standards for 6 types of poly- and perfluoroalkyl substances (PFAS) including proposed Maximum Contaminant Limits (MCLs) for perfluorooctanoic acid (PFOA) and perfluorooctanesulfonic acid (PFOS). The proposed standard also includes establishing a hazard index for a combination of four other PFAS compounds. For more information about the proposed standards, please visit: <https://www.epa.gov/sdwa/and-polyfluoroalkyl-substances-pfas>.

The EPA will now take the next steps in the regulatory development process before the proposed standards are finalized. This includes a public comment period and review process that will take place over the next several months. After these processes are complete, the EPA's final drinking water standards may differ from the proposed standards.

Fairfax Water will evaluate the ability of our existing treatment processes to meet EPA's proposed regulations. Fairfax Water remains committed to providing our customers with water of exceptional quality.

To learn more about Fairfax Water's actions to address PFAS visit <https://www.fairfaxwater.org/water-quality/facts-about-pfas>. Fairfax Water will continue to voluntarily test its water for PFAS compounds. Results will be posted online and in our Annual Water Quality Report.

Fairfax Water will be participating in sampling for EPA's Fifth Unregulated Contaminant Monitoring Rule (UCMR5). UCMR 5 testing is intended to give the EPA and water providers a greater understanding of the occurrence of PFAS in the nation's drinking water.

It is important to note that the proposed PFAS MCLs are not enforceable drinking water standards at this time. When EPA issues the final MCLs later this year, it will also announce the date by which water providers must comply with the new standards. The compliance date for the PFAS drinking water standard is expected to be sometime in late 2026 or early 2027.

Additional Information:

- For more information about EPA's proposed standards, please visit <https://www.epa.gov/sdwa/and-polyfluoroalkyl-substances-pfas>.
- To learn more about Fairfax Water's PFAS monitoring, please visit <https://www.fairfaxwater.org/water-quality/facts-about-pfas>

About Fairfax Water: *Fairfax Water is Virginia's largest drinking water utility, serving one out of every four Virginians. Over two million people in the Northern Virginia communities of Fairfax County, Loudoun County, Prince William County, Herndon, Vienna, Alexandria, Falls Church, Fairfax City, Fort Belvoir, and Dulles International Airport depend on Fairfax Water for reliable drinking water.*