



# Important Information About Your Drinking Water

## Lynnfield Center Water District has Levels of PFAS6 Above the Drinking Water Standard

This notice provides important information about your drinking water. Please translate it, speak with someone who understands it, or ask the contact listed below for a translation.

### What Happened?

Our water system had PFAS6 results that exceeded the PFAS6 MCL drinking water standard for the period of July through September 2022. We have installed a treatment system and it will go online November 2022 to ensure the safety of our water supply.

Lynnfield Center Water District routinely posts results of all PFAS6 compliance testing and general information on our website, but recognizes that this Public Education and Public Notification (PEPN) is being issued later than required. We have discussed this with the Massachusetts Department of Environmental Protection (MassDEP) and will provide all future PEPNs in accordance with MassDEP regulations.

### What Does This Mean?

**This is not an emergency. If it had been, you would have been notified within 24 hours.** Although this is not an emergency, as our customer, you have a right to know what happened, what you should do, and what we did and are doing to correct this situation.

On October 2, 2020, the MassDEP promulgated a drinking water regulation and maximum contaminant level (MCL) of 20 nanograms per liter (ng/L) for the sum of six per- and polyfluoroalkyl substances (called PFAS6). A nanogram per liter (abbreviated as "ng/L") is equivalent to a part per trillion (abbreviated as "ppt"). For reference, a ppt is a microscopic measurement for substances in the water and is equivalent to a single drop of water in the combined water volume of 20 Olympic size swimming pools. A summary of our latest results is provided below:

PFAS6 Results for LCWD Station 2					
Sample Location	Quarterly Compliance Period	Sample Collection Dates	PFAS6 Result (ppt)*	Quarterly Average (ppt)*	PFAS6 MCL (ppt)
Station 2 (Main Street Well)	Quarter 3 2022	July 18	22.4	21	20
		August 16	19.3		
		September 13	19.9		

\* If any sample result would cause the quarterly average to exceed the MCL, the PFAS6 MCL has been violated.

This location where elevated levels of PFAS6 were reported is 1 of 4 entrance points (or sources) that supplies drinking water to our system. PFAS6 levels were reported below the 20 ppt MCL at these other locations or the source is inactive. Station 2 had results above the MCL for PFAS6. The average of the three samples collected for Station 2 in the 3<sup>rd</sup> Quarter of 2022 is 21 ppt, which is above the MassDEP Drinking Water MCL of 20 ppt. Even though we have been notifying you of our results since we began collecting samples, to comply with the new drinking water regulation, we must provide you with this public notice. An MCL is the maximum permissible level of a contaminant in water which is delivered to any user of a public water system.

**Some people who drink water containing these PFAS in excess of the MCL may experience certain adverse effects. These could include effects on the liver, blood, immune system, thyroid, and fetal development. These PFAS may also elevate the risk of certain cancers.** More information on PFAS, see the links on the back of this sheet.

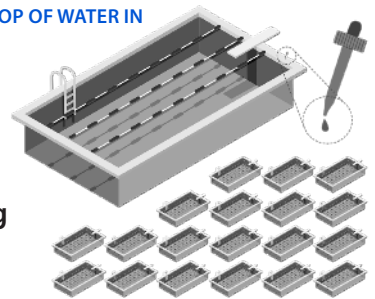
### What is PFAS6?

PFAS6 includes perfluorooctanoic acid (PFOA), perfluorooctane sulfonic acid (PFOS), perfluorononanoic acid (PFNA), perfluorohexanesulfonic acid (PFHxS), perfluorodecanoic acid (PFDA) and perfluoroheptanoic acid (PFHpA). PFAS are human-made chemicals that have been used in the manufacturing of certain fire-fighting foams, moisture and stain resistant products, and other industrial processes.

**1 part per trillion (ppt)**

IS EQUIVALENT TO  
A SINGLE DROP OF WATER IN

**20**  
Olympic-sized swimming pools



**Please share this information with all the other people who drink this water, especially those who may not have received this notice directly (for example, people in apartments, nursing homes, schools, and businesses).**

## What is Lynnfield Center Water District Doing About PFAS?

LCWD has submitted a short-term corrective action plan to MassDEP, which has been reviewed and approved. LCWD is also committed to submitting a long-term corrective action plan to MassDEP for review and approval. LCWD has taken the following actions to address PFAS in its drinking water:

- ▶ Installed PFAS6 treatment at Station No. 2, scheduled to go online November 2022.
- ▶ Implementation of a bottled water rebate program for residents in sensitive subgroups (pregnant or nursing women, infants and people diagnosed by their health care provider to have a compromised immune system). Please visit <https://lcmd.us/pfas/> for more information.
- ▶ Continued routine sampling of our treated water and our individual source wells for PFAS6.
- ▶ Increased the use of our water sources that have PFAS6 levels below the MCL to reduce the use of Station No. 2.
- ▶ Investigation of long-term treatment and mitigation options to minimize PFAS6 levels.
- ▶ Providing regular updates on the levels detected in our water supply through our website, see <https://lcmd.us/pfas-testing-results/> for more details.

## What Should I Do?

### Consumers in a sensitive subgroup

**(pregnant or nursing women, infants, and people diagnosed by their health care provider to have a compromised immune system):**

- ▶ **Are advised not to consume, drink, or cook with water when the level of PFAS6 is above 20 ppt.**
- ▶ Are advised to use bottled water for drinking and cooking of foods that absorb water (like pasta).
- ▶ **For infant formula**, use bottled water or use formula that does not require adding water.
- ▶ **Bottled water should only be used if it has been tested.** The Massachusetts Department of Public Health requires companies licensed to sell or distribute bottled water or carbonated non-alcoholic beverages to test for PFAS. See <https://www.mass.gov/info-details/water-quality-standards-for-bottled-water-in-massachusetts#list-of-bottlers->

### For all other consumers not in a sensitive subgroup:

- ▶ **If you are not in a sensitive subgroup**, you may continue to consume the water because the 20 ppt value is applicable to a lifetime consuming the water and shorter duration exposures present less risk.
- ▶ **If you have specific health concerns regarding your past exposure**, you should see the Centers for Disease Control and Prevention's (CDC) link below and consult a health professional, such as your doctor.

## Steps you can take to reduce your intake:

Consider taking the following steps while actions are being implemented to address this issue:

- ▶ **For older children and adults (not in a sensitive subgroup)**, the 20 ppt value is applicable to a lifetime of consuming the water. For these groups, shorter duration exposures present less risk. However, if you are concerned about your exposure while steps are being taken to assess and lower the PFAS6 concentration in the drinking water, use of bottled water will reduce your exposure.
- ▶ **Home water treatment systems** that are certified to remove PFAS by an independent testing group such as NSF, UL, or the Water Quality Association may be effective in treating the water. These may include point of entry systems, which treat all the water entering a home, or point of use devices, which treat water where it is used, such as at a faucet. For information on selecting home treatment devices that are effective in treating the water for PFAS6 see weblinks listed below.
- ▶ **In most situations, the water can be safely used for washing foods, brushing teeth, bathing, and showering.**

**Please note: Boiling the water will not destroy PFAS6 and will somewhat increase its level due to evaporation of some of the water.**

This public education material is being sent to you by:

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## Where Can You Get More Information?

Contact LCWD or find more information on PFAS from the following sources:

- ▶ LCWD PFAS Information - <https://lcmd.us/pfas/>
- ▶ MassDEP Fact Sheet - Questions and Answers for Consumers (<https://www.mass.gov/media/1854351>)
- ▶ CDC ATSDR Information on PFAS for consumers and health professionals (<https://www.atsdr.cdc.gov/pfas/index.html>)
- ▶ Massachusetts Department of Public Health information about PFAS in Drinking Water - <https://www.mass.gov/service-details/per-and-polyfluoroalkyl-substances-pfas-in-drinking-water>



**Lynnfield Center Water District**

83 Phillips Road  
Lynnfield, MA 01940

781-334-3901



LCWD@lcmd.us