

## Attention Flint Township Residents with Ground Wells:

Per- and polyfluoroalkyl substances, known as PFAS, are a group of man-made chemicals that are commonly found in polishes, waxes, paints and cleaning products. Municipal water systems are annually tested for a number of contaminants and many are proactively testing for PFOA and PFOS. PFAS chemicals are particularly harmful due to their persistent nature in the environment and the human body, which can lead to adverse health effects like an increased risk of cancer, kidney disease, thyroid conditions, autoimmune disorders and low infant birth weights. More information on PFAS can be found here: <https://www.michigan.gov/pfasresponse/0,9038,7-365-86509--,00.html> or here: <https://www.epa.gov/pfas>

The DEQ has released the news that PFAS contamination has been found for the first time during water testing near Bishop International Airport in Flint. Flint Coldwater Road Landfill is also a site which reflects known PFAS levels. There is concern with any high levels of this contaminant, regardless of if residents have a private drinking water well or are on a municipal water system. The DEQ has collected six groundwater samples from monitoring wells, showing the highest level of PFOS and PFOA at 176 ppt PFOS+PFOA, and 1,236.3 ppt total PFAS. Information on the testing sites and results indicating the PFAS contamination can be found here:

[https://www.michigan.gov/pfasresponse/0,9038,7-365-86511\\_82704-487728--,00.html](https://www.michigan.gov/pfasresponse/0,9038,7-365-86511_82704-487728--,00.html) and here: [https://www.michigan.gov/pfasresponse/0,9038,7-365-86511\\_82704-452819--,00.html](https://www.michigan.gov/pfasresponse/0,9038,7-365-86511_82704-452819--,00.html)

More details about these locations will be made available as soon as possible.

If residents would like to have their own well tested, they can contact the DEQ Environmental Assistance Center at 800-662-9278. If they are not part of an official investigation area and want to sample their own residential well or pay a technician to sample the well, the MDEQ provides information on laboratories located within the state and guidance on how to take a sample of your drinking water. A private sample and test may run anywhere from a few hundred dollars and up. You can find that information here as well as lists of potential laboratories to use:

[https://www.michigan.gov/pfasresponse/0,9038,7-365-86510\\_87154-469832--,00.html](https://www.michigan.gov/pfasresponse/0,9038,7-365-86510_87154-469832--,00.html)

There are some filters available to lower PFAS contamination in the water. You can find information here: [https://www.michigan.gov/documents/deq/deq-dwmad-eh-swpu-FilterFactSheet\\_610096\\_7.pdf](https://www.michigan.gov/documents/deq/deq-dwmad-eh-swpu-FilterFactSheet_610096_7.pdf) If residents have been notified that there is PFAS contamination in their water, they may be eligible to receive a free filter system.

If residents have more questions about PFAS, they can reach out to the State of Michigan Environmental Assistance Center (800-662-9278) or visit the State of Michigan PFAS informational page. They can also contact the Genesee County Health Department.