



City continues monitoring, advocacy for public water supply

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The City of Dayton has tested and identified elevated levels of PFAS in the groundwater near the vicinity of its Fire Training Center, located on McFadden Street.

In 2015, the USEPA listed Per and polyfluroalkyl substance (PFAS) in its third Unregulated Contaminant Monitoring Rule. After its listing, the City of Dayton began testing the drinking water delivered to the distribution system for these compounds. The results did not detect PFAS in any of the samples taken.

Since then, the City has researched the potential use of these substances in other City operations and learned that foam containing PFAS was used at the Dayton Fire Training Center in very limited training exercises for a number of years. Based on this knowledge, in 2016 the City turned off the wells in the nearby Tait's Hill wellfield as a precautionary measure. These wells have not been used to produce drinking water for approximately two years. The results of the testing have been shared with Ohio EPA and other stakeholders in the region.

Earlier this month, the City of Dayton alerted its stakeholders about the elevated levels of PFAS contaminants migrating toward its Huffman Dam wells from Wright-Patterson Air Force Base, following earlier indicators of such contaminants at early warning monitoring wells nearby.

The City confirmed elevated PFAS levels in its Huffman Dam area monitoring wells in April of 2017 and has continued to investigate and manage the source it found. However, the elevated PFAS levels in the Tait's Hill Wellfield area are a separate and distinct source from the elevated PFAS levels found near the Huffman Dam Wellfield area.

Because the Tait's Hill and Huffman Dam wells are approximately three miles apart and because the underlying geology differs, the City is confident that the Tait's Hill wells are not contributing to the contamination threat near Wright-Patterson.

It is important to note that, while the PFAS contaminants found at both areas are the same, the sources of contamination are distinctly separate and must be managed as such.

It is also imperative that the City of Dayton, WPAFB and the Ohio EPA work collaboratively to return the full Mad River Wellfield (which contains the Tait's Hill, Rhorer's Island, Eastwood and Huffman Wellfields) back to its full capacity as one of Dayton's water supply sources.

The City is continuing to work closely with Ohio EPA, WPAFB and other partners to protect the Huffman Wellfield and to persuade the U.S. Air Force to take action on the issue to preserve and protect our water supply.

Dayton's drinking water has been and remains safe for consumption. At no point has the City found PFAS in the water provided to residents and customers.

For additional information, go to <http://daytonohio.gov/PFAS>.

About PFAS

PFAS (per- and polyfluoroalkyl substances) are chemicals used in industrial and consumer products since the 1950s and are often found in the environment because of their widespread use in products such as coatings for textiles, paper products and cookware. They also are used to formulate some firefighting foams and in the aerospace and aviation industries, such as at military installations nationwide. More information about PFAS can be found at <https://www.epa.gov/pfas> and <https://www.atsdr.cdc.gov/pfas/index.html>.

The U.S. Environmental Protection Agency (U.S. EPA) has established a limit for PFAS as it relates to health impacts at 70 parts per trillion (ppt). The City's monitoring network samples indicated low levels of PFAS – less than 10 ppt, significantly below the level the U.S. EPA considers to be a health issue.

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