# Per- and Polyfluoroalkyl Substances in West Virginia's Public Source Water

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# What are Per- and Polyfluoroalkyl substances (PFAS)?

- Family of synthetic organic compounds first developed by 3M in the 1940's
- Used in industry as surfactants and in friction reduction applications
- Used in consumer products
  - Nonstick cookware, food packaging, water resistant applications, and many others
- Used in aqueous film forming foam (AFFF)
- Persistent in the environment
- Some PFAS have been shown to be bioaccumulative and toxic
- PFOA and PFOS are the most widely studied and the subject of ongoing regulation by the EPA





# Why study PFAS in West Virginia's Public Source Water?



#### **Known PFAS Contamination sites**

- Dupont Washington Works Facility near Parkersburg WV
- Air Guard Base near Martinsburg WV

#### **EPA** Actions and Regulations

- 2016 EPA set combine **PFOA+PFOS** lifetime Health Advisory level of 70 ng/l
- EPA analytical methods developed
- 2019 EPA issued a PFAS action plan to begin the regulation process and creation of MCLs for certain PFAS

#### USGS sampling: NAWQA and Ohio **River Alluvium**

- USGS sampled 23 groundwater sites in the Ohio river alluvium in 2019
- Resulted in several detections for PFAS in PWS's
- Showed that PFAS is present in the Ohio **River Valley and** demonstrated the need for further investigation throughout the state

#### **Protect Public Health**

- 2019 Creation of the WV PFAS Work Group
- Coordinated effort to understand PFAS contamination in WV
- WV legislature passed Senate Concurrent Resolution 46 (SCR46) which directed the WVDEP and WVDHHR to do a statewide PFAS study

SCR 46: https://www.wvlegislature.gov/bill\_status/bills\_text.cfm?billdoc=SCR46%20ORG.htm&yr=2020&sesstype=RS&i=46&houseorig=s&billtype=cr



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# **Project Objectives**

#### Meet the Requirements of SCR46

- 1. Identify drinking water sources with measurable amounts of PFAS
- 2. Determine processes or land use factors affecting PFAS concentrations
- 3. Inform state agencies of any need for additional PFAS investigation
- 4. Assist state regulatory agencies in protecting public health by providing information on statewide PFAS distribution in source water





# Approach

- Sample all community public water systems including schools and daycares using USGS personnel and standard methods across the state
- Communicate with cooperators and notify state regulatory agencies of exceedances as results come back from the lab
- Publish a USGS Data Release to release data from proprietary PWS sites in a timely manner
- Publish a peer reviewed USGS report that summarizes the results and addresses the study objectives





### Analytes

- Field Parameters (6)
- Major Inorganics (9)
- Nutrients (5)
- Trace Metals (23)
- PFAS (28)

Analyte	Unit	
рН	рН	
Dissolved Oxygen	mg/l	
Conductivity	μS/cm	
Turbidity	NTU	
Water Temp	°C	
Alkalinity	mg/l	
Calcium	mg/l	
Magnesium	mg/l	
Potassium	mg/l	
Silica	mg/l	
Sodium	mg/l	
Bromide	mg/l	
Chloride	mg/l	
Fluoride	mg/l	
Sulfate	mg/l	

Analyte	Unit	Ana
Ammonia	mg/L	Iron
Nitrite	mg/L	Lead
Nitrate	mg/L	Lithi
Orthophosphate	mg/L	Man
Total Nitrogen	mg/L	Moly
Aluminum	ug/L	Nick
Antimony	ug/L	Sele
Arsenic	ug/L	Silve
Barium	ug/L	Stroi
Beryllium	ug/L	Thal
Boron	ug/L	Urar
Cadmium	ug/L	Vana
Chromium	ug/L	Zinc
Cobalt	ug/L	
Copper	ug/L	

Analyte	Unit
Iron	μg/l
Lead	ug/L
Lithium	ug/L
Manganese	μg/l
Molybdenum	ug/L
Nickel	ug/L
Selenium	ug/L
Silver	ug/L
Strontium	ug/L
Thallium	ug/L
Uranium	ug/L
Vanadium	ug/L
Zinc	ug/L

PFAS Analytes	Abbreviation	Unit
Perfluorobutanoate	PFBA	ng/l
Perfluoropentanoate	PFPeA	ng/l
Perfluorohexanoate	PFHxA	ng/l
Perfluoroheptanoate	PFHpA	ng/l
Perfluorooctanoate	PFOA	ng/l
Perfluorononanoate	PFNA	ng/l
Perfluorodecanoate	PFDA	ng/l
Perfluoroundecanoate	PFUnA	ng/l
Perfluorododecanoate	PFDoA	ng/l
Perfluorotridecanoate	PFTrDA	ng/l
Perfluorotetradecanoate	PFTeDA	ng/l
Perfluorobutanesulfonate	PFBS	ng/l
Perfluoropentanesulfonate	PFPeS	ng/l
Perfluorohexanesulfonate	PFHxS	ng/l
Perfluoroheptanesulfonate	PFHpS	ng/l
Perfluorooctanesulfonate	PFOS	ng/l
Perfluorononanesulfonate	PFNS	ng/l
Perfluorodecanesulfonate	PFDS	ng/l
Perfluorooctanesulfonamide	PFOSA	ng/l
N-Methylperfluorooctanesulfonamidoacetate	N-MeFOSAA	ng/l
N-Ethylperfluorooctanesulfonamidoacetate	N-EtFOSAA	ng/l
4:2 Fluorotelomersulfonate	4:2 FTS	ng/l
5:2 Fluorotelomersulfonate	6:2 FTS	ng/l
3:2 Fluorotelomersulfonate	8:2 FTS	ng/l
Perfluoro-2-propoxypropanoate (GEN X)	HFPO-DA	ng/l
4-Dioxa-3H-perfluorononanoate	ADONA	ng/l



# Timeline

• Project started on July 1, 2020

	Year 1	Year 2
TaskQTR	1234	1234
Develop sampling plan	Х	
Site access and coordination	XXXX	
Sampling	XXXX	
QA/QC data as analyses are completed	XXX	
Data analysis	XX	Х
Prepare and Publish Data Release	Х	Х
Prepare initial draft of investigative report	Х	XX
Report review and approval		XX
Publish investigative report		Х





### Progress

- 277sites have been sampled
- 101 Surface Water
- 168 Groundwater





### **Potomac Watershed**

- 77 sites in counties specific to the Potomac Watershed
- 55 sites from groundwater sources
- 22 sites from surface water sources
- Majority of GW sites located in carbonate aquifers





### **Potomac Watershed**

- 62 Samples were from Community Water Systems (CWS)
- 15 Sites were at Non-transient Noncommunity Water Systems (NTNCWS)





### **Future Project Plans**

- QAQC results and discuss preliminary data with cooperators and PWS's
- Analyze data
- Publish USGS Data Release (Estimated Sep 2021)
- Publish interpretive report (Estimated June 2022)







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# **Questions?**

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