SWAG Meeting

June 7th, 2023 | 6:30-8:30pm

Hybrid Meeting: Portsmouth City Hall Conference A and Zoom

Agenda

1. Water Supply Update & Master Plan
2. Water Sampling Overview
3. SWAG Membership
4. Lead update
5. EPA PFAS regulation update
6. PFPrA update
7. Public Comment

Water Supply Update & Master Plan

Space holder for Brian

Water Sampling Overview

Space holder for Mason

SWAG Membership

- SWAG was created to include a diverse group of perspectives in the City

- Current opening for a community member on the SWAG - resident recommended and await Mayor's approval

https://www.cityofportsmouth.com/sites/default/files/2021-04/SWAG_overview_final_04062021.pdf

SWAG Overview Document from 2021

Portsmouth Safe Water Advisory Group (SWAG):

Overview Document

SWAG Mission

To review and communicate the latest science on the health and environmental effects of drinking water contaminants (with a heavy focus on PFAS), to monitor federal and state level legislative changes, and to anticipate policy changes that could impact the city of Portsmouth.

SWAG Members

Portsmouth Safe Water Advisory Group (SWAG) Participants

Role	Name
City Councilors	Cliff Lazenby Deaglan McEachern
Community Members	Andrea Amico Lindsey Carmichael Katrie Hillman Rich DiPentima
City of Portsmouth - Fire Department City of Portsmouth - Water Department City of Portsmouth - Health Department City of Portsmouth - School Board	Russ Osgood Brian Goetz Kim McNamara Hope Van Epps
Environmental Scientist	Dr. Laurel Schaider
State Legislators from Portsmouth	Rep. David Meuse District 21 Senator Rebecca Perkins Kwoka

Lead update

- Small working group meeting to discuss lead initiatives in the City - Kim, Andrea, Rich, & Hope
- Efforts since our last meeting:
  - Met with lead leaders at NH DHHS
  - Presented to the Portsmouth School Board
  - Authored a two part op-ed on lead issues re: need for attention and action
  - Radio interview on Seacoast Currents
- HB 342 (requiring proof of lead blood test to enroll in school) passed the NH House and NH Senate
- $2500 put in the City budget to offer free tap water sampling for lead

EPA PFAS regulation update

Space holder for Dr Bline

PFPrA Update

Brief History:

- NRDC community led pilot study with Eurofins lab to test tap samples for 70 PFAS in communities across the nation in 2021
- Portsmouth tap sample collected in June 2021 and revealed 35 ppt of PFPrA.
- At the request of the community, additional tap samples collected by NH DES to test for PFPrA in March 2022. Split samples sent to Eurofins and EPA Office of Research & Development (ORD).
- Repeat sampling for PFPrA in Portsmouth tap water showed: Eurofins results at 2.1 ppt for PFPrA and EPA results at non detect for same sample.


NRDC

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NRDC Analysis: Peer-Reviewed Study Finds EPA Misses PFAS Chemicals Already Present in Drinking Water

EPA Testing Limitations Underreport Widespread PFAS Contamination, Likelihood of Overlooking Polluted Communities

April 12, 2023

Portsmouth Tap Water PFPrA Data

June 2021	PFPrA = 35 ppt	Eurofins lab - CA
March 2022	PFPrA = 2.1 ppt	Eurofins lab - PA
March 2022	PFPrA non detect	EPA ORD - NC

PFPrA Update

Current update:

- NRDC has published the results of the project in a peer reviewed scientific paper.
- Wall Street Journal covered the results.
- PFPrA, an ultrashort chain PFAS, was the most common PFAS present and was often found at the highest concentration, but EPA does not monitor this chemical and little is known about its health impacts.
- The study predicts that ongoing national monitoring programs will significantly underreport the presence of the toxic chemicals in drinking water.

Science of the Total Environment 876 (2023) 162978

Contents lists available at ScienceDirect

Science of the Total Environment

journal homepage: www.elsevier.com/locate/scitotenv

Short Communication

70 analyte PFAS test method highlights need for expanded testing of PFAS in drinking water

Katherine E. Pelch [a], Taryn McKnight [b], Anna Reade [a,*]

[a] Natural Resources Defense Council, 111 Sutter St. Floor 20, San Francisco, CA 94104, USA
[b] Eurofins Environment Testing, 880 Riverside Parkway, West Sacramento, CA 95605, USA

https://www.sciencedirect.com/science/article/pii/S0048969723015966?via%3Dihub

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EPA Standards Miss Many Chemicals in Drinking Water, Study Says

Authors say communities could still be at risk despite proposed limits on PFAS

By Kris Maher Follow

Updated April 12, 2023 10:56 am ET

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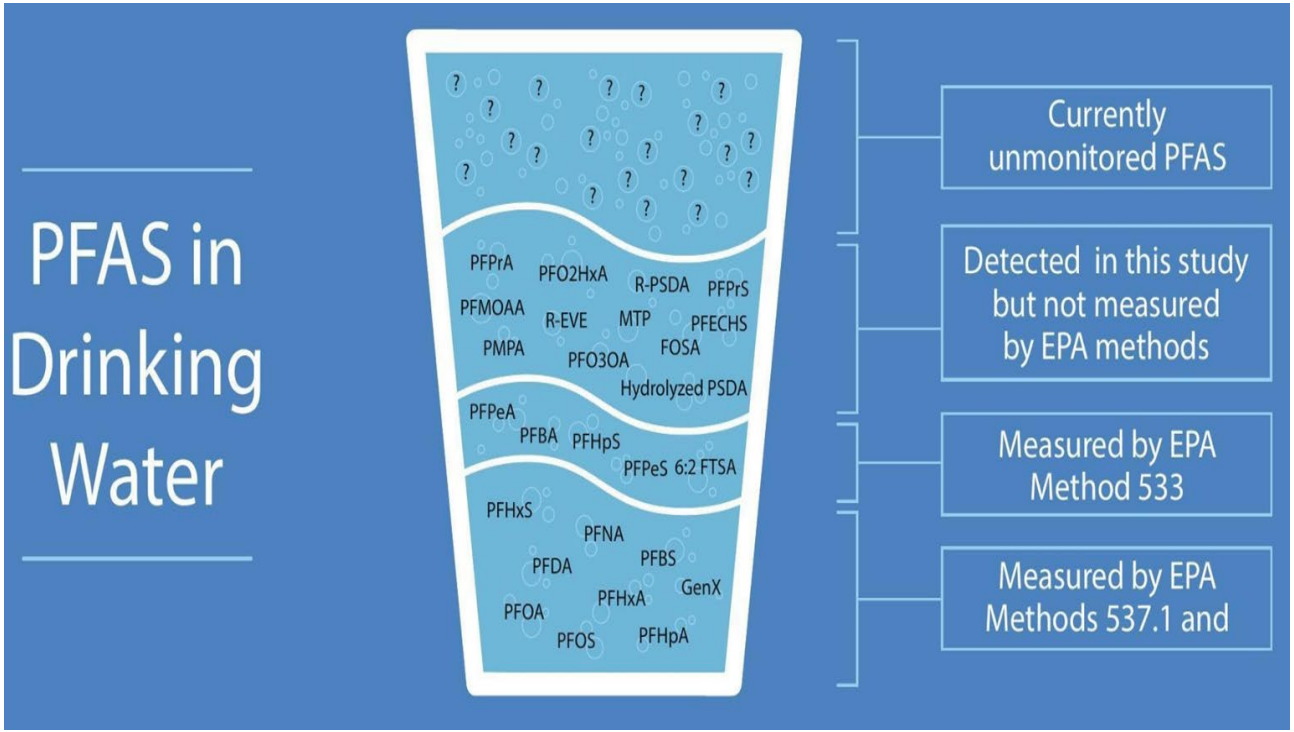
Some PFAS in drinking water have been linked to cancer and other health problems. PHOTO: STEVE PFOST/NEWSDAY/GETTY IMAGES

https://www.wsj.com/articles/epa-standards-miss-many-chemicals-in-drinking-water-study-says-eb748826

PFPrA Update

Study Highlights

- Detected PFAS in 30 of 44 drinking water samples
- Found 26 unique PFAS, including 12 not covered by EPA Methods 537.1 or 533
- Ultrashort chain PFPrA detected in most samples with PFAS
- UCMR5 reporting requirements predicted to underreport PFAS
- Samples collected from Alaska, Alabama, Arizona, California, Colorado, Florida, Louisiana, Massachusetts, Maine, Michigan, Minnesota, North Carolina, New Hampshire, Oregon, South Carolina, and Texas.



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Source: https://www.sciencedirect.com/science/article/pii/S0048969723015966?via%3Dihub#ab0015

PFPrA Update

Next steps:

- NRDC has secured funding for 2 additional tap samples to be done in Portsmouth and Merrimack, NH
  - First repeat sampling results showed 13 ppt of PFPrA in Portsmouth tap water from early April 2023
  - Next sample to be collected later this month (June 2023)

Date	PFPrA Results	Lab
June 2021	PFPrA = 35 ppt	Eurofins lab - CA
March 2022	PFPrA = 2.1 ppt	Eurofins lab - PA
March 2022	PFPrA non detect	EPA ORD - NC
April 2023	PFPrA = 13 ppt	Eurofins lab - CA
June 2023	Coming soon	Eurofins lab - CA

Public Comment