



PFHxA

(Perfluorohexanoic acid)

What is PFHxA?

PFHxA is a chemical in a group of contaminants called **per- and polyfluoroalkyl substances (PFAS)**.

- ▶ PFHxA can be found in stain repellants in carpet and fabric, food and other packaging, and fire-fighting foam.
- ▶ People can be exposed to PFHxA by drinking water, eating food, and breathing in or accidentally swallowing soil or dust containing PFAS.

If the level of **PFHxA** in your drinking water is over **150 µg/L**, you should find a different source of water.

Can PFHxA affect our health?

Studies have shown that PFHxA can affect the health of people and research animals.

- ▶ At this time, very few studies have looked at the effects of PFHxA among people. These studies have found that high levels of PFHxA may be associated with lower testosterone levels and decreased immune response.
- ▶ Studies in research animals have shown that high levels of PFHxA can impact development, alter thyroid hormone levels, affect the blood, and cause kidney and liver damage.

What can you do to protect your health?

Wisconsin's recommended groundwater standard for PFHxA is 150 µg/L.

Find a different source of drinking water if the level of PFHxA in your municipal or private well water is over 150 µg/L. Sources of water can include:

- ▶ Water from a public water system or private well that has been tested for PFAS and has levels below Wisconsin's [recommended groundwater standards](#).
- ▶ Bottled water that has been tested for PFAS and has levels below Wisconsin's recommended groundwater standards.

µg/L = micrograms per liter equivalent to parts per billion (ppb)



Looking for more information?

- ▶ See the [Agency for Toxic Substances and Disease Registry website](#) for more information on the health effects.
- ▶ Visit the [DHS website](#) to learn more about Wisconsin's recommended groundwater standards.

