



Salt Lake City Department of Public Utilities

PFAS Information Sheet

November 22, 2019

What is PFAS?

PFAS is an acronym for Per- and polyfluoroalkyl substances. These man-made chemicals have been in use since the 1940s and are (or have been) found in many consumer products.

Where is PFAS found?

PFAS are used in many consumer products such as cookware, food packaging, and stain repellants. PFAS manufacturing and processing facilities, airports, and military installations that use firefighting foams are some of the main sources of PFAS.

Do we have PFAS in our drinking water sources?

PFAS has not been detected in our drinking water sources. Industries that are most likely to be sources of PFAS substances are not present in our source water areas. Numerous water quality protections exist for our sources of drinking water. Protection of our drinking water sources and risk prevention is our primary line of defense against dangerous pollutants that threaten public health. Salt Lake City has a robust watershed protection program for surface water emanating from the Wasatch Mountain watersheds that has been in place for many decades. This program is supported by City ordinances as well as a team of Salt Lake City watershed rangers and water quality professionals. In addition, we protect our groundwater sources, which is also supported by City and County ordinances. We work collaboratively and in partnership with other agencies, including the US Forest Service, Salt Lake County, and state agencies to protect these sources and public health.

Have our drinking water sources been tested for PFAS?

Yes, the drinking water sources collected and treated by Salt Lake City were tested in 2013 for PFAS. This testing was conducted pursuant to the Environmental Protection Agency (EPA) [Third Unregulated Contaminant Monitoring Rule \(UCMR3\)](#). EPA collected data, including from Salt Lake City, for chemicals that are suspected contaminants in drinking water but do not have health-based standards set under the Safe Drinking Water Act (SDWA). In the UCMR3, there were six (6) PFAS included for monitoring including:

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|-------------------------------------|--------------------------------------|
| perfluorooctanesulfonic acid (PFOS) | perfluorohexanesulfonic acid (PFHxS) |
| perfluorooctanoic acid (PFOA) | perfluoroheptanoic acid (PFHpA) |
| perfluorononanoic acid (PFNA) | perfluorobutanesulfonic acid (PFBS) |



There were no detections of any of the UCMR3 PFAS chemicals in our drinking water sources.

In 2019, the Metropolitan Water District of Salt Lake and Sandy, a wholesale water supplier to Salt Lake City, tested for PFAS in the sources of drinking water it treats and conveys to our system. PFAS has not been detected in the sources of drinking water it treats.

Will we continue to sample our drinking water sources for PFAS?

We take public health and protection of our drinking water sources very seriously. As such, we will collaborate with our partners at the Utah Division of Drinking Water (DDW) to determine the best path for ongoing PFAS monitoring efforts for our sources of drinking water.

More Information

For general information regarding PFAS, please visit:

- [Environmental Protection Agency PFAS Information](#)
- [Center for Disease Control PFAS Information](#)

To contact Salt Lake City Department of Public Utilities regarding PFAS, please contact Marian Rice, Water Quality and Treatment Administrator at 801.483.6765; marian.rice@slcgov.com