

Per- and Polyfluoroalkyl Substances (PFAS)

Drinking Water Regulations Quick Reference Guide

Overview of the Rule

Title	Per- and Polyfluoroalkyl Substances (PFAS) Monitoring and Analytical Requirements - 310 CMR 22.07(G)
Purpose	Increase public health protection through the reduction of chemicals that have been linked to a variety of health risks, particularly for sensitive subgroups including pregnant women, nursing mothers and infants.
General Description	The PFAS requirements establish a Maximum Contaminant Level (MCL) of 20 parts per trillion (ppt) for the sum of six PFAS compounds (PFOS, PFOA, PFHxS, PFNA, PFHpA and PFDA), known as PFAS6. The regulations detail the sampling requirements and corrective actions that public water supplies must take when the MCL is exceeded, as well as the provisions for public education and notice of exceedances so that communities can be educated and proactive in protecting their drinking water quality.
Utilities Covered	The PFAS6 MCL applies to Community Public Water Systems (PWS) and Non-transient, Non-community PWSs. Transient Non-community PWSs must collect a PFAS6 sample under the regulations and would be subject to a site-specific health assessment for elevated levels.

* This document provides a summary of MassDEP drinking water requirements; to ensure full compliance, please consult the regulations at 310 CMR 22.07(G).

Public Health Benefits

Implementation of the PFAS regulations will result in:

- Monitoring for and identifying any elevated PFAS levels in public drinking water.
- Corrective actions that reduce drinking water exposures to PFAS6 to below the levels that may cause a variety of health effects to sensitive subgroups, including developmental effects in fetuses and infants, effects on the thyroid, liver, kidneys, certain hormones and the immune system.

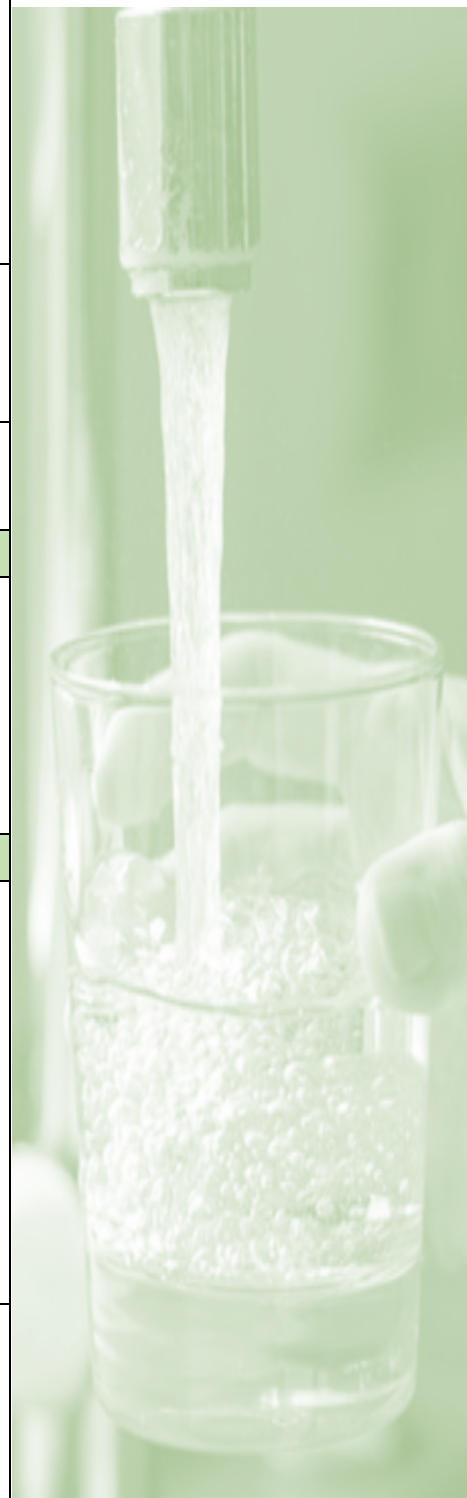
Critical Deadlines and Requirements

Before	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • In June 2018, MassDEP issued an Office of Research and Standards Guideline (ORSG) for drinking water of 70 ng/L to address five PFAS compounds (PFOA, PFOS, PFNA, PFHxS and PFHpA). • On December 27, 2019 MassDEP proposed revisions to the Massachusetts drinking water regulations, proposing an MMCL of 20 ng/L for the sum of the concentrations of six specific PFAS (PFOA, PFOS, PFNA, PFHxS, PFHpA and PFDA). • On January 24, 2020, MassDEP issued an updated ORSG for drinking water of 20 ng/L for these six PFAS compounds. • On October 2, 2020, MassDEP published its PFAS regulations with the MCL of 20 ng/L for the sum of PFAS6.
Beginning January 1, 2021	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Large Community (COM) and Non-transient Non-community PWS (NTNC) (schools, workplaces, etc.) serving more than 50,000 people will start regulatory compliance monitoring beginning January 1, 2021. • COM and NTNC PWS serving between 10,000 and 50,000 people begin regulatory compliance monitoring starting April 1, 2021.

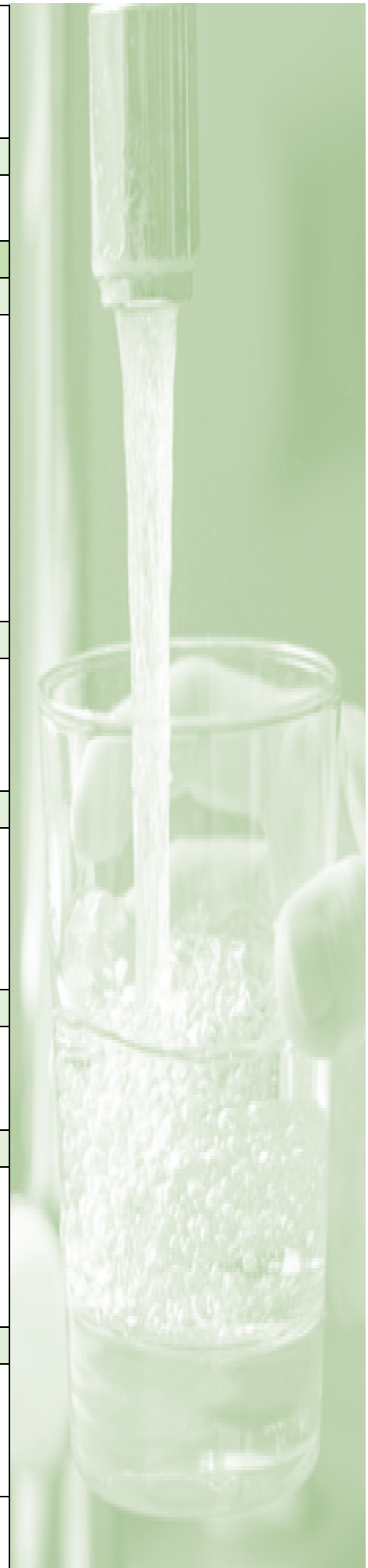


MassDEP

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	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Small COM and NTNC PWS serving 10,000 or fewer people will need to begin regulatory compliance starting October 1, 2021. • Transient Non-community PWS (such as hotels and restaurants) must collect a PFAS water sample by September 20, 2022.
Federal Drinking Water Standards	
There are currently no federal PFAS drinking water standards. However, USEPA has a health advisory of 70 ppt for PFOA and PFOS.	
What are the Major Provisions?	
Sampling Locations	
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • PWSs that draw water from a single source shall take a minimum of one sample at every entry point to the distribution system which is representative of each of its sources after treatment. • PWSs that draw water from more than one source, where the sources are combined before distribution, shall sample at every entry point to the distribution system which is representative of all such combined sources after treatment during periods of normal operating conditions. • Consecutive PWSs shall be exempt from conducting compliance monitoring for PFAS for their purchased portion of water when the PWS from which the water is obtained has conducted the monitoring required under 310 CMR 22.07G. 	
Initial Monitoring	
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Four consecutive quarterly samples shall be collected, and each such sample shall be analyzed for PFAS. • Each sample shall be collected in the first month of every quarter during initial monitoring. 	
Routine Monitoring	
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • If initial monitoring does not identify any PFAS a PWS may monitor during one year of each subsequent three-year Compliance Period. • PWSs serving more than 3,300 individuals must collect two quarterly samples in that year. • PWSs serving fewer than or equal to 3,300 individuals must collect one sample in that year. 	
Monitoring Waivers	
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • A PWS on routine monitoring may request a monitoring waiver from the routine monitoring requirements from MassDEP. Sampling shall occur at least once during the first Compliance Period of each successive nine-year Compliance Cycle. 	
Confirmatory Sampling Requirements	
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • During initial monitoring the first PFAS detection and any subsequent PFAS6 detection greater than 10 ppt triggers confirmation sampling. • The confirmatory sample shall be collected as soon as possible after receipt of such result and no later than two weeks from receipt of such result (unless granted a MassDEP extension). 	
Increased Monitoring if PFAS Detected	
Monthly monitoring	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • If the average of a PFAS6 result and its associated confirmatory sample is greater than 10 ppt, the sampling location must be sampled monthly. • Monthly sampling continues until the source is shown to be Reliably and Consistently Below the MCL.
Quarterly monitoring	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • A PWS that has installed PFAS treatment and is thereby Reliably and Consistently Below the MCL may be put on quarterly monitoring.



Annual monitoring	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • A PWS that is Reliably and Consistently Below the MCL without having to install PFAS treatment may be put on annual monitoring.
Public Education	
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Any PWS where there has been a PFAS Detection, and the average of such detection and an associated confirmatory sample exceeds the PFAS6 MCL, shall provide public education materials regarding the exceedance, as described by MassDEP. These should be provided as soon as possible, but within 30 days. • Until the PWS obtains a monitoring result at or below the PFAS6 MCL at such locations, public education should be updated quarterly. 	
Compliance and Violations	
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • MCL compliance is calculated using the average of the monthly samples over a quarter. • If any one sampling point location is in violation, then the PWS shall be considered in violation. • If any sample result would cause the quarterly average to exceed the PFAS6 MCL, the PWS is immediately in violation and begins compliance actions. 	
Public Notice	
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • A violation of the MCL requires a Tier 2 Public Notice. • Monitoring & testing procedure violations require Tier 3 Public Notice. 	
Seasonal System Provisions	
If a PWS reactivates an existing source or opens a seasonal system after the applicable commencement date of this regulation, it shall commence initial monitoring of such locations within the first month of delivering water to the public.	
MassDEP Technical Assistance and Grants	
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Free testing is available until June 30, 2021 for PWSs to sample drinking water sources for PFAS. • The Commonwealth provided one round of funding for assistance to water suppliers for the necessary planning, studies, pump tests, engineering, and design necessary to remove PFAS contamination from water systems. Another round of grants is anticipated. • MassDEP has made PFAS-reducing drinking water projects a priority in the 2021 State Revolving Fund (SRF) Loan Program. PFAS mitigation projects may be eligible to receive an additional subsidy in the form of a 0% interest rate loan. The additional subsidy is contingent on the availability of funds and approval of the Massachusetts Clean Water Trust Board of Trustees. For more information: https://www.mass.gov/doc/drinking-water-program-updates-2-13-2020/download 	
Key Points for PWSs to Remember	
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • All confirmed detections of PFAS6 > 20 ppt require public education. • Prompt sampling will give PWS time to address any PFAS6 detections. 	

For additional information on the PFAS6: Visit the MassDEP website at <https://www.mass.gov/info-details/per-and-polyfluoroalkyl-substances-pfas>; email the MassDEP Drinking Water Program at program.director-dwp@mass.gov; or call the MassDEP Drinking Water Program at 617-292-5770.

THIS DOCUMENT CONTAINS IMPORTANT INFORMATION FOR YOUR SYSTEM. HAVE SOMEONE TRANSLATE IT FOR YOU OR SPEAK WITH SOMEONE WHO UNDERSTANDS IT.

If you need this document translated, please contact MassDEP's Diversity Director, Michelle Waters-Ekanem, Diversity Director/Civil Rights: 617-292-5751 TTY# MassRelay Service 1-800-439-2370. You may also contact the Drinking Water Program at program.director-dwp@mass.gov.

