



Fall is upon us, leaves are beginning to change, and maybe most importantly for many Ann Arbor residents, the college football season has commenced.

While many exciting things are happening in Ann Arbor, so too are things moving quickly in the water world. On Sept. 10, the Michigan Department of the Environment, Great Lakes and Energy (EGLE) issued a preliminary draft rule to regulate PFAS. As a critical stakeholder, the city was invited to comment on the draft before it was finalized by the end of September. I attended a stakeholder meeting on Sept. 19 to share the city's comments. Much of the proposed rule was anticipated and regulatory levels matched the Michigan Science Advisory Workgroup's report on Health-Based Drinking Water Value Recommendations for PFAS in Michigan. The report can be found online at: https://www.michigan.gov/documents/pfasresponse/Health-Based_Drinking_Water_Value_Recommendations_for_PFAS_in_Michigan_Report_659258_7.pdf.

The rule proposes maximum contaminant levels for seven PFAS chemicals. In all seven cases, the city's drinking water is below the proposed regulatory levels.

Specific PFAS	Proposed Regulatory Level	Ann Arbor's Drinking Water*
PFNA	6 ppt	Non Detect
PFOA	8 ppt	Non Detect
PFHxA	400,000 ppt	3.4 ppt
PFOS	16 ppt	Non Detect
PFHxS	51 ppt	Non Detect
PFBS	420 ppt	Non Detect
GenX	370 ppt	Non Detect **

*Results from Aug. 6, 2019.

**Results from April to December 2018. Currently, GenX is not part of the 24 PFAS that the city samples for bi-monthly.

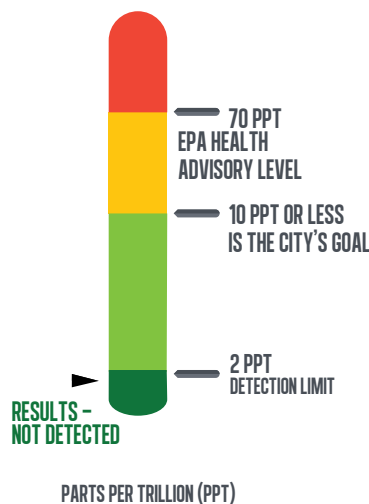
While the city's water quality staff are engaged in the regulatory process, the city is also actively participating in research to evaluate different technologies that can effectively remove PFAS from drinking water. Using a grant from The Water Research Foundation, the city is partnering with North Carolina State University to study up to ten different types of filter media and determine how they would perform at removing different PFAS chemicals from the city's water supply. This project

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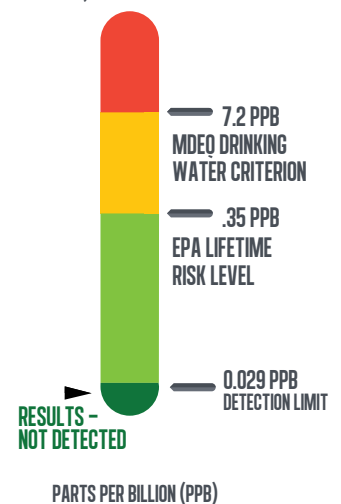
MONTHLY WATER QUALITY DASHBOARD



PFOS/PFOA



1,4-DIOXANE



Congresswoman Debbie Dingell, State Representative Donna Lasinksi, Yousef Rabhi, Ronnie Peterson and State Senator Jeff Irwin held a town hall event to discuss PFAS contamination and federal, state and local efforts to clean up the hazardous substances and set one standard. The elected officials were joined by Brian Steglitz, City of Ann Arbor Water Treatment Plant Manager.

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is expected to take two years, and will be led locally by Ariana Wade, a University of Michigan Master's student in the Department of Civil and Environmental Engineering. The city will be featuring a demonstration of the research and preliminary results as part of its annual open house in May 2020, and we will invite all interested city water customers to participate.

Stay tuned for next month's topic which will feature the pros and cons of home treatment devices.

Brian Steglitz, P.E., Drinking Water License F-1, Water Treatment Plant Manager, Ann Arbor resident

OCTOBER WATER CHAMPION

Ariana Wade is the Water Champion of the month. Since 2017, Arianna has worked at the Ann Arbor Water Treatment Plant analyzing source water data and learning the treatment process. Currently, she leads the city's PFAS research. She is excited to contribute to developing the city's PFAS removal plan as well as helping other cities to deliver safe water to their citizens. She plans to spend her career improving water quality and working towards sustainable treatment processes.



Thank you Ariana for your commitment to quality drinking water!

Fall Fire Hydrant Maintenance Begins

The city's annual fire hydrant inspections and system maintenance began in September. This annual process is necessary to prepare for approaching cold temperatures and is conducted to eliminate the potential for frozen hydrants. Once winter weather does arrive, residents can also play a role when it comes to fire hydrants. If able, residents should keep fire hydrants adjacent to their property or in their neighborhoods free from snow and ice. Leaving a 3-foot clearing around hydrants can provide easy access to firefighters in the event of fire. Visit www.a2gov.org/hydrantflushing for more information.



Stormwater Matters

Stormwater drains are designed to handle rain runoff, and because of that, they discharge untreated water into our waterways. Most know the dangers of pouring oil, pesticides and other products into our storm drains, but now that fall is here, remember: Stormwater drains are no place for leaves, either. When leaves collect in the drain system, it blocks pipes, resulting in flooding that can damage local waterways, not to mention private property. Protecting storm drains from contaminants and debris, also protects our watershed which serves as our source of drinking water.



The city conducts residential street cleaning four times per year to assist in removing leaves and other debris from stormwater drains. In the downtown and on roads with bike lanes, street sweeping is conducted more frequently. However, streets do accumulate leaves that are blown from yards between sweeping cycles.

Unfortunately, the city does not have the resources to remove debris from all of the city's 23,000 storm drains, so we must rely on the assistance of home and property owners, who, if physically able, assist us in trying to keep storm drains nearby their residences clear. It is illegal to sweep leaves from private property into the street.

Other ways to keep stormwater drains clear from leaves include: using a mulching lawn mower, composting or bagging. More tips and information are available at <http://www.a2gov.org/leaves>.