

Perfluoroalkyl substances (PFAS):

PFAS have been in the news recently regarding drinking water. In 2016 the Environmental Protection Agency (EPA) released a health advisory for drinking water pertaining to two of the compounds found in the PFAS group: Perfluorooctanoic acid (PFOA) and Perfluorooctanesulfonic acid (PFOS). Health advisory levels are non-enforceable guidelines that are intended to protect human health. The health advisory level is 0.07 parts per billion (ppb) for PFOA and PFOS combined.

PFAS are commonly found in things like firefighting foam agents, the manufacture of non-stick materials for cooking (such as teflon), and fabric protectants. Between 2000-2015 industry use of these compounds have been phased out voluntarily.

The City of Everett participated in monitoring for these compounds in its drinking water under the Unregulated Contaminant Monitoring Rule 3 (UCMR 3) in 2014. PFAS compounds were not detected in Everett's drinking water:

PARAMETER	UNIT	MAXIMUM CONTAMINANT LEVEL	2014 RANGE OF RESULTS	2014 AVERAGE RESULT
Perfluorinated Compounds				
Perfluoro octanesulfonic acid	ppb	No Standard	-	<0.04
Perfluorooctanoic acid	ppb	No Standard	-	<0.02
Perfluoro-n-nonanoic acid	ppb	No Standard	-	<0.02
Perfluoro-1-hexanesulfonic acid	ppb	No Standard	-	<0.03
Perfluoroheptanoic acid	ppb	No Standard	-	<0.01
Perfluoro-1-butanesulfonic acid	ppb	No Standard	-	<0.09

Because of the protected nature of the City of Everett's drinking water, there are no sources of PFAS in Everett's watershed. Activities like fire fighting training, manufacturing, and agriculture are prohibited within its watershed.

Other useful information regarding PFAS:

<https://www.epa.gov/pfas>

<https://www.doh.wa.gov/CommunityandEnvironment/Contaminants/PFAS>