

What are PFAS?

Per- and polyfluoroalkyl substances (PFAS) are a series of man-made chemicals that can be found in a variety of consumer products and water.

Products that may contain PFAS:



fast food packaging/wrappers



water



non-stick cookware



firefighting foam



stain-resistant carpet and fabric

Health concerns with PFAS

PFAS remain in the environment and the human body for long periods of time. Reducing exposure to PFAS will lower your risk for health problems. Talk to your healthcare provider about the recommended screening guidelines for these effects, especially if you have high levels of PFAS in your drinking water.

Based on current research, higher exposure to PFAS increases the risk of:



infertility and low birth weight



certain types of cancers



developmental delays



thyroid and heart issues



reduced vaccine response

Those at greater risk

- infants and young children whose brains and bodies are developing rapidly
- pregnant or breastfeeding women, or those planning pregnancy

Reduce exposure to PFAS

PFAS do not have any taste, color, or odor. The best way to prevent exposure to PFAS is to avoid products and sources that may contain them.



use home water treatment systems or specific water filters that remove PFAS



limit the use of waterproof and stain-resistant products



choose non-stick, PFAS-free cookware

do not drink water with PFAS if you are at greater risk



get water from PFAS-free sources

LEARN MORE ABOUT PFAS:



Will County Health Department & Community Health Center