



PFAS Fact Sheet – Gustavus Airport

March 2024

Per- and polyfluoroalkyl substances (PFAS) are a group of manmade chemicals used for a wide variety of residential, commercial, and industrial uses. PFAS are considered emerging environmental contaminants and the health effects are not well known.

The presumed source of PFAS in groundwater in your community is the use of a fire-fighting foam called aqueous film forming foam (AFFF). Airport firefighters used the foam to extinguish petroleum fires during training exercises and emergency events.

The Alaska Department of Transportation & Public Facilities (DOT&PF) has tested approximately 120 private water-supply wells starting in August 2018. Private wells on airport property and wells along and off the southern portion of Wilson Road were found to be impacted.

The DOT&PF has hired Shannon & Wilson to test private wells for perfluorooctanesulfonic acid (PFOS), perfluorooctanoic acid (PFOA), and other PFAS compounds.

The Department of Environmental Conservation (DEC) adopted the Environmental Protection Agency's former lifetime health advisory (LHA) level for drinking water of **70 parts per trillion** for the sum of PFOS and PFOA. On June 15, 2022, the EPA adopted a revised interim LHA level. DOT&PF will continue to work with our state and federal partners to determine what this means for Alaska and will adjust as more information becomes available.

We advise residents with test results above this level not to use their water for drinking or cooking. If your well is considered affected, you can continue to shower, clean, and do laundry.

For results and sampling area map:
www.dot.alaska.gov/airportwater/gustavus

For questions about well testing:

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For regulatory questions:

Dept. of Environmental Conservation
Alyssa Wood, Contaminated Sites
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For questions about PFAS and health:

Alaska Dept. of Health
Allison Natcher, Env. Public Health
Program Manager
Phone: 907-269-8054
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To arrange your next water delivery:

Jarred Mitrea
Phone: 559-515-3680

To file an insurance claim:

Dept. of Admin., Risk Management
Marie Lam, Claims Administrator
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For questions about fire training and other inquiries:

DOT&PF - Statewide Aviation
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