



## **PFAS / PFOS / PFOA CONTAMINATION**

Perfluorinated Chemicals (PFAS) including Perfluorooctane Sulfonate (PFOS) and Perfluorooctanoic Acid (PFOA), or Perfluorooctanesulfonic Acid refers to a group of synthetic compounds containing thousands of chemicals formed from fluorinated PFOA and PFOS are fluorinated organic chemicals that are a larger group of chemicals referred to as perfluoroalkyl substances (PFASs).

PFOA and PFOS have been the most extensively produced and studied of these chemicals. They have been used to make carpets, clothing, fabrics for furniture, paper packaging for food and other materials (e. g. cookware) that are resistant to water, grease or stains.

They are also used for firefighting at airfields and in a number of industrial processes. Scientists have found PFOA and PFOS in the blood of nearly all of the people that they tested. Drinking water is a source in the small percentage of communities where these chemicals have contaminated water supplies close to airfields at which they were used for firefighting.

To provide Americans, including the most sensitive populations, with a margin of protection from a lifetime of exposure to PFOA and PFOS from drinking water, EPA established the health advisory levels at 70 parts per trillion.

**(See other side)**

When both PFOA and PFOS are found in drinking water, the combined concentrations PFOA and PFOS should be compared with the 70 parts per trillion health advisory level.

This health advisory level offers a margin of protection for all Americans throughout their life from adverse health effects resulting from exposure to PFOA and PFOS in drinking water.

### **SUSPECTED EFFECTS OF LONG-TERM EXPOSURE**

- Affects the developing fetus and child, including possible changes growth, learning and behavior
- Decrease fertility and interfere with the body's natural hormones
- Increase cholesterol
- Affect the immune system
- Increase cancer risks