HEALTH PRECAUTIONS

Some people may be more vulnerable to contaminants in drinking water than the general population. Immuno-compromised persons such as cancer patients under-going chemotherapy, persons who have undergone organ transplants, people with HIV/AIDS or other immune system disorders, some elderly and infants can be particularly at risk from infections. These people should seek advice about drinking water from their health care providers. EPA/CDC guidelines on appropriate means to lessen the risk of infection by Cryptosporidium and other microbial contaminants are available from the Safe Drinking Water Hotline at 1-800-426-4791.

If present, elevated levels of lead can cause serious health problems, especially for pregnant women and young children. Lead in drinking water is primarily from materials and components associated with service lines and home plumbing. The U.S. Navy Water System is responsible for providing high quality drinking water, but cannot control the variety of materials used in plumbing components. When water has been sitting for several hours, you can minimize the potential for lead exposure by flushing your tap for 30 seconds to 2 minutes before using water for drinking or cooking. If you are concerned about lead in your water, you may wish to have your water tested. Information on lead in drinking water, testing methods, and steps you can take to minimize exposure is available from the Safe Drinking Water Hotline at 1-800-426-4791.

How Can You Obtain Additional Information?

Please contact Naval Hospital Preventative Medicine at (671) 344-9787 for health concerns related to this report. For information about the U.S. Navy Water System, please contact the Naval Facilities Engineering Systems Command Marianas Utilities Department at (671) 333-1231. Additionally, Guam EPA Safe Drinking Water Program may be reached at (671) 300-9026.

How Can You Report a Water Quality Complaint?

Should you notice that your water is discolored, or if you have any concerns about your drinking water, you are encouraged to contact our Service Center at (671) 333-1231. Arrangements can be made to have your water sampled and analyzed to ensure that it is safe to drink.

MONITORING, REPORTING, and VIOLATIONS

We are required to monitor your drinking water for contaminants (both tap water and bottled water) include rivers, lakes, streams, ponds, and reservoirs, springs and wells. As water travels over the surface of the land or through the ground, it dissolves various naturally occurring contaminants. Inorganic contaminants are non-living chemical substances such as synthetic organic compounds and metals. Some inorganic contaminants occur naturally or result from natural processes such as the weathering process or the decay of vegetation. Others are the result of human activities, such as agriculture (fertilizers, pesticides), oil and gas production (drilling and production), mining (mining operations), and municipal and industrial processes.

The sources of drinking water (both tap water and bottled water) include rivers, lakes, streams, ponds, and reservoirs, springs and wells. As water travels over the surface of the land or through the ground, it dissolves various naturally occurring contaminants. Inorganic contaminants are non-living chemical substances such as synthetic organic compounds and metals. Some inorganic contaminants occur naturally or result from natural processes such as the weathering process or the decay of vegetation. Others are the result of human activities, such as agriculture (fertilizers, pesticides), oil and gas production (drilling and production), mining (mining operations), and municipal and industrial processes.

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Perfluorooctanoic acid (PFOA) and Perfluorooctanesulfonic acid (PFOS) are both types of PFAS. Out of an abundance of caution for your safety, the Department of Defense’s (DoD) PFAS testing and response actions go beyond EPA Safe Drinking Water Act requirements. In 2020 the DoD promulgated a policy to monitor drinking water for PFAS at all service-owned and operated water systems at a minimum every three years. The EPA’s health advisory states that if water sampling results confirm that drinking water contains PFOA and PFOS at individual or combined concentrations greater than 70 parts per trillion, water systems should quickly undertake additional sampling to assess the level, scope, and localized source of contamination to inform next steps.

Is there a regulation for PFAS in drinking water? There is currently no established federal water quality regulation for any PFAS compounds. In May 2016, the EPA released a health advisory (HA) level at 70 parts per trillion (ppt) for individual or combined concentrations of Perfluorooctanoic acid (PFOA) and Perfluorooctanesulfonic acid (PFOS). Both chemicals are types of PFAS. Out of an abundance of caution for your safety, the Department of Defense’s (DoD) PFAS testing and response actions go beyond EPA Safe Drinking Water Act requirements. In 2020 the DoD promulgated a policy to monitor drinking water for PFAS at all service-owned and operated water systems at a minimum every three years. The EPA’s health advisory states that if water sampling results confirm that drinking water contains PFOA and PFOS at individual or combined concentrations greater than 70 parts per trillion, water systems should quickly undertake additional sampling to assess the level, scope, and localized source of contamination to inform next steps.

Has NRB tested its water for PFAS? Yes. In July 20, 2020, samples were collected from NWTP Clearedwell and Wells NCS-83-B1, NCS-83-B4, NCS-83-B10, NCS-83-11, NCS-12, NRMC-1, and NRMC-2. Based on the sampling results, the total PFOA and PFOS concentration was less than 1 ppt (parts per trillion). According to the established federal water quality regulation and the DoD promulgated policy, the NRB sampling results for these water sources did not exceed the DoD’s health advisory level of 70 ppt (parts per trillion) as established by the DoD’s policy.

**Summary of Perfluorooctanoic acid (PFOA) and Perfluorooctanesulfonic acid (PFOS) Monitoring Results**

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Sample Date</th>
<th>PFOS</th>
<th>PFOS Detected Level (ppt)</th>
<th>PFOA</th>
<th>PFOA Detected Level (ppt)</th>
<th>Total</th>
<th>Health Advisory (HA) Level (ppt)</th>
<th>Above HA Levels?</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Wells NRMC-1</td>
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<td>7.3</td>
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<tr>
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<td>6.2</td>
<td>2.8</td>
<td>9.0</td>
<td>70</td>
<td>No</td>
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<tr>
<td>NWTP Clearedwell</td>
<td>07/29/2020</td>
<td>2.3</td>
<td>0</td>
<td>2.3</td>
<td>70</td>
<td>No</td>
<td>No</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

**DEFINITIONS:**

1. Maximum Contaminant Level (MCL) - The highest level of a contaminant allowed in drinking water; MCLs are set as close as possible to the MCLGs as feasible using the best available treatment technology.
2. Maximum Contaminant Level Goal (MCLG) - The level of a contaminant in drinking water below which there is no known or expected risk to health.
3. National Primary Disinfectant Limit (NPDL) - The level of a disinfectant that may not be exceeded at the consumer’s tap without an unacceptable possibility of adverse health effects.
4. Treatment Technique (TT) - A required process intended to reduce the level of a contaminant in drinking water.

**ABBRVIATIONS:**

ARA - annual running average
HA - health advisory
HAAs - haloacetic acids
MCL - maximum contaminant level
MCLG - maximum contaminant level goal
NTU - nephelometric turbidity unit
RDL - residual disinfectant level
SOC - synthetic organic compound
TTHM - trihalomethanes

**REFERENCES:**

U.S. NAVY WATER SYSTEM Water Quality Data 2020