

Providing excellent water quality to our customers is the top priority of Parkland Light & Water. As part of that commitment, we have been voluntarily testing our wells for perfluoroalkyl substances, referred to as PFAS.

What are PFASs?

PFOA and PFOS are fluorinated organic chemicals that are part of a larger group of chemicals referred to as PFASs. PFOA and PFOS have been the most extensively produced and studied of these chemicals. They have been used to make carpets, clothing, and fabrics for furniture, paper packaging for food and other materials such as cookware that are resistant to water, grease or stains. They are also used for firefighting at airfields and in a number of industrial processes. PFCs have been found at very low levels both in the environment and in the blood samples of the general U.S. population

Parkland Light and Water Company

Parkland Light and Water Company tested its drinking water wells as part of the UCMR3 monitoring, and no PFASs were detected at that time. Because of detections in late 2016 at JBLM-McChord Field just west of Parkland, Parkland began proactively monitoring for PFAS starting in early 2017. The likely source is PFAS-based firefighting foam that was used at the base for decades, until the early 1990s. Levels of PFOS and PFOA well below EPA’s Lifetime Health Advisory Levels (LHAL) have been detected in two of Parkland’s wells located about ¾ of a mile east of the middle of the runway at McCord Field. These two wells draw from a very shallow but extremely productive aquifer apparently flowing mostly from the southeast. Parkland continues to monitor these wells.

What levels of PFOS and PFOA are safe for humans?

A part per trillion is equivalent to one grain of sugar in an Olympic size swimming pool. There are five (5) PFAS analytes that are currently regulated by the Washington State Department of Health whom also implemented regulations that would require treatment if exceeding the State DOH State Action Level (SAL). To date, all levels found in the Parkland system have been at or below State DOH SAL.

P-Compounds	Minimum Result	Maximum Result	SAL
Perfluorohexanesulfonic acid (PFHxS)	ND*	7.6 ppt**	65ppt
Perfluorononanoic acid (PFNA)	ND	ND	9ppt
Perfluorooctanesulfonic acid (PFOS)	ND	15 ppt	15ppt
Perfluorooctanoic acid (PFOA)	ND	10ppt	10ppt
Perfluorobutanesulfonic acid (PFBS)	ND	7.11ppt	345ppt
Perfluorohexanoic acid (PFHxA)	ND	3.08ppt	N/A
Perfluorobutanoic acid (PFBA)	ND	2.11ppt	N/A
Perfluoropentanoic acid (PFPeA)	ND	4.25ppt	N/A

* ND = Non-Detect

** ppt = parts per trillion or ng/L