



City of Loveland



# PFAS Fact Sheet

A Resource Guide for PFAS and Water Updates

## PFAS & DRINKING WATER

The City owns and operates its own water system, which provides treated drinking water drawn from a groundwater aquifer to residents of the City of Loveland, as well as limited areas of Symmes Township and Miami Township. The City's source water is supplied by three groundwater wells.

In 2019, the Ohio Environmental Protection Agency (Ohio EPA) and the Ohio Department of Health initiated a statewide program to test public water systems for a group of chemicals known as per- and polyfluoroalkyl substances (PFAS) to better understand its prevalence. Testing occurred the state throughout 2020 and included Loveland's water system. As a result, certain PFAS compounds were detected in the City's water supply.

## WHAT ARE PFAS?

PFAS are a group of manufactured chemicals that have been widely used in industrial processes and consumer products since the 1940s. They can be found in a variety of everyday items, including nonstick cookware, waterproof clothing, cleaning products, shampoos, and cosmetics.

During the manufacturing and disposal of some PFAS-containing products, these chemicals can enter water resources. PFAS concentrations in drinking water are measured in parts per trillion (ppt), an extremely small unit of measurement equivalent to one gallon of water in one trillion gallons.

## WHAT ARE THE POSSIBLE HEALTH EFFECTS OF PFAS EXPOSURE?

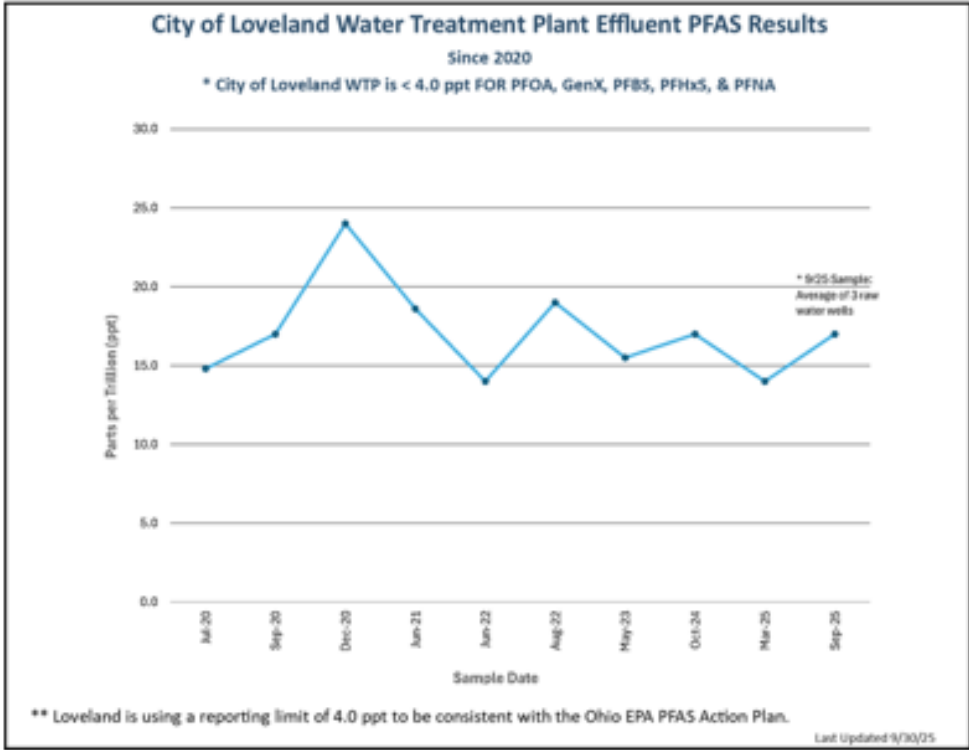
Exposure to PFAS chemicals, including those found in Loveland's water system, may have effects on a person's health. The United States Environmental Protection Agency provides detailed information regarding the possible effects of exposure to PFAS. For more information on PFAS and its potential effects please reference the US EPA website at [PFAS Explained](https://www.epa.gov/pfas/pfas-explained) | US EPA (<https://www.epa.gov/pfas/pfas-explained>)



## WHAT LEVEL OF PFAS EXISTS IN LOVELAND'S WATER SYSTEM?

Testing of Loveland's water to detect the presence of PFAS began in 2020. Since testing began, PFAS has been detected in finished water at levels ranging between 14 parts per trillion and 24 parts per trillion. The chart below illustrates the testing that has taken place and the levels of PFAS in our water system that have been detected.





CITY WATER TESTING RESULTS ARE SHARED ANNUALLY THROUGH THE CONSUMER CONFIDENCE REPORT (CCR) found on the City’s website.

IS THERE A NATIONAL OR STATE STANDARD FOR THE LEVEL OF PFAS IN WATER?

Prior to 2020, there were no national or state standards regulating PFAS levels in public water systems. Beginning in 2020, the U.S. Environmental Protection Agency (EPA) established a health advisory level of 70 parts per trillion (ppt), meaning PFAS concentrations below this threshold were considered acceptable. This advisory remained in effect until April 2024, during which time PFAS levels in the Loveland water system consistently remained well below the advisory level.

In June 2022, the U.S. EPA initiated a rulemaking process to establish enforceable drinking water standards for PFAS. In April 2024, the EPA finalized the first-ever national standards, known as the National Primary Drinking Water Regulation Maximum Contaminant Levels (MCLs), for regulating certain PFAS compounds in drinking water which can be found on the following table.

EPA National Primary Drinking Water Standards			
PFAS		Maximum Contaminant Level Goal	Maximum Contaminant Level
PFOA		0	4.0 ppt
PFOS		0	4.0 ppt
PFNA		10 ppt	10 ppt
PFHxS		10 ppt	10 ppt
GenX		10 ppt	10 ppt
Mixture of 2 or more	PFNA	1 (unitless) Hazard Index	1 (unitless) Hazard Index
	PFHxS		
	GenX		
	PFBS		

Although the regulation was finalized in 2024, enforcement of this new standard will not begin until 2029, allowing water systems time to implement necessary treatment and achieve compliance. The City of Loveland will continue to coordinate with the Ohio EPA and the U.S. EPA to stay informed of any other PFAS regulatory updates.

## WHAT IS THE CITY OF LOVELAND DOING TO ADDRESS THE EXISTENCE OF PFAS IN ITS WATER SYSTEM?

Following completion of the EPA required PFAS evaluation and remediation plan, the City commenced the design and engineering of needed modifications to its water treatment facility that will eliminate PFAS from the City's drinking water supply. This design work is being fully funded through a \$1,300,000 principal forgiveness loan awarded to the City by the Ohio Environmental Protection Agency (Ohio EPA).

With design efforts already underway, the City is well positioned to complete the necessary treatment upgrades and achieve compliance within the EPA's regulatory deadline.

In addition, in 2023 the City of Loveland joined class action lawsuits with other local governments across the country against 3M, DuPont, BASF, and Tyco related to the discharge of PFAS into groundwater. The City is currently in the process of receiving settlement funds that have resulted from these cases. All funds received through these settlements will be used exclusively to support the City's efforts to remove PFAS from the water system.

Although the current deadline for compliance is not until 2029, City Council and the City's administration remain fully committed to addressing this issue as quickly as possible and ensuring that Loveland's water system meets the new EPA standards at the earliest achievable date.

## WHAT CAN CUSTOMERS DO IN THE MEANTIME?

While the City is working diligently to remediate PFAS, some customers may wish to take additional steps on their own if they have concerns about PFAS. According to the U.S. EPA, certain home water filtration systems may be effective in reducing PFAS levels. A variety of filter types are available at different price points. Customers are encouraged to review the EPA's PFAS fact sheet (<https://www.epa.gov/system/files/documents/2024-04/water-filter-fact-sheet.pdf>) to better understand available options and filtration effectiveness.

For continued updates on PFAS, please visit the **PFAS Information** link in the Popular Resources section on the homepage of the City's website at [www.lovelandoh.gov](http://www.lovelandoh.gov).

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