



***PRESS***

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***March 26, 2019***

**UPDATE:**

**Navy Completes Private Drinking Water Well testing  
near NAS Pensacola installations**

PENSACOLA, Fla. – The following update is provided as part of the Navy’s ongoing community drinking water well testing for the emerging, national environmental issue of PFAS (per- and polyfluoroalkyl substances).

The Navy has completed private drinking water well testing at Naval Air Station (NAS) Pensacola and Corry Station, and will finish later this month at Saufley Field. The testing is being done as part of our commitment to ensuring our neighbors have safe and clean drinking water.

- NAS Pensacola status: As of March 15, 2019, the Navy has received preliminary lab results from all 10 private drinking water wells sampled in the designated sampling area. All have come back either non-detect or below the U.S. Environmental Protection Agency (EPA) lifetime health advisory (LHA).
- Corry Station status: As of March 15, 2019, the Navy identified 1,196 parcels in the designated sampling area. None of the parcels are on a private drinking water well and thus no samples needed to be collected.
- Saufley Field status: As of March 15, 2019, the Navy has received 50 preliminary lab results from drinking water well sampling at private residences in the designated sampling area surrounding Saufley Field. Thirteen of the 50 results came back above the lifetime health advisory, the remainder were non-detect or below the LHA for PFAS.

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The Navy will hold an Open House on April 9, 2019 from 4:00 p.m. to 7:00 p.m. at St. Anne Catholic Church, 5200 Saufley Field Road, to discuss results for residents surrounding Saufley Field.

The event will include informational displays specific to the Saufley Field private drinking water well investigation and will have representatives present from the Navy and Florida Department of Health along with other representatives.

The Navy has provided alternate drinking water (bottled water) for residents whose private drinking water well concentrations exceeded the EPA LHA levels for PFOA and/or PFOS. This will continue until a permanent solution is implemented.

Out of respect to residents' privacy, to the extent legally permitted, parcel-specific results will only be released by the Navy to the residents whom had their wells sampled.

The Navy continues to work directly with residents, community leaders and other federal, state and local agencies on this important national issue and will keep the community informed while respecting the privacy of individual residents.

## **PROJECT BACKGROUND**

PFAS are man-made chemicals persistent in the environment that are not absorbed well in soil and could migrate to groundwater. PFAS have been used for many years to make products that resist heat, stains, grease and water, and have been used in a variety of products and substances, such as non-stick pans; water resistant textiles and sprays with water resistant properties.

The most common historical Navy use of these chemicals has been as firefighting foam used on Navy installations.

In May 2016, the EPA issued lifetime health advisory levels for two PFAS, specifically perfluorooctane sulfonate (PFOS) and perfluorooctanoic acid (PFOA), at 70 parts per trillion, individually and combined if both are present.

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While there are no EPA regulations for these compounds, the EPA established these LHA levels to offer a margin of protection for all Americans throughout their life from potential adverse health effects resulting from exposure to PFOA and PFOS in drinking water.

In June 2016, the Navy issued a policy to identify areas of potential release of these materials to the environment. As part of this policy, the Navy is testing for PFOS and PFOA that may be affecting drinking water wells on and around NAS Pensacola, Corry Station and Saufley Field.

More information about the Navy's PFAS initiative and drinking water well testing program may be found at: <http://www.secnav.navy.mil/eie/pages/pfc-pfas.aspx>.

For more information:

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