

What is Peoples Water Service Doing to Manage PFAS?

Drinking water being provided by Peoples Water Service Company of Florida, Inc. (Peoples) currently meets all relevant Florida and federal regulations relating to drinking water.

Your health and the health of your household are our first priority. That's why we look for potentially concerning contaminants like PFAS long before they are regulated. Water quality is regulated to protect public health and drinking water quality is public information.

Knowing that the United States Environmental Protection Agency (EPA) was studying PFAS, Peoples engaged a consulting engineering firm to prepare a study to address PFAS concentrations within the water system. This study will develop a treatment concept and cost opinion to comply with future regulations.

On April 10, 2024, the EPA issued final regulations on restricting harmful "forever chemicals" in the nation's drinking water measured in parts per trillion (PPT). Water and wastewater systems will have five (5) years to comply with the new regulations.

Peoples has detected levels of PFAS above the proposed MCL and is taking the appropriate steps to comply with the proposed regulation. One step may be to install the proper filtration system(s) to remove the PFAS.

In addition to the costs to design and install additional treatment systems, Peoples will continue to sample, analyze, and report detections of PFAS in its drinking water supplies to regulatory agencies.

In response to the presence of PFAS in its drinking water supplies and the costs associated with filtration and testing, Peoples has filed a lawsuit against the manufacturers of PFAS to ensure that any costs associated with removing PFAS from its water supplies are borne by 3M, DuPont, and the other companies that sold and profited from their PFAS containing products.

Through its lawsuit, Peoples claims that, as the manufacturers and sellers of PFAS containing products, 3M, DuPont, and other defendants knew that these products would pollute drinking water supplies throughout the country yet failed to take reasonable and available steps to avoid the use of PFAS in products and failed to provide warnings that using these products would result in the contamination of drinking water supplies. As a result, Peoples seeks to hold the defendants liable for the damages to their drinking water supply under the legal doctrines of strict products liability, nuisance, trespass, and negligence.

Peoples filed its lawsuit on November 17, 2022, in the federal District Court of Charleston, South Carolina, which is where PFAS related suits from around the country are being litigated, requesting a trial by jury. Peoples is represented by a consortium of firms with national expertise in PFAS litigation, including Levin, Papantonio, Rafferty, Proctor, Buchanan, O'Brien, Barr, Mougey, P.A.; Taft, Stettinius & Hollister, LLP; Douglas & London, P.C.; Kennedy & Madonna, LLP; and SL Environmental Law Group; PC.

Get Involved

Contact your state and Federal representatives to express your concern about PFAS and encourage them to hold the chemical manufacturers and others responsible for PFAS being in watersheds and groundwater accountable for their actions.

State:

[Representatives for 2022 - 2024 \(Speaker Renner \) | Florida House of Representatives \(myfloridahouse.gov\)](#)

Federal

[Florida's 1st Congressional District - FL-01 Representatives & District Map - GovTrack.us](#)