

Special Notice for Availability of Unregulated Contaminant Monitoring Data

IMPORTANT INFORMATION ABOUT YOUR DRINKING WATER

Availability of Monitoring Data for Unregulated Contaminants (PFAS) for the City of Gray System I.D GA169000

Our water system has sampled a series of unregulated contaminants. Unregulated contaminants are those that don't yet have a drinking water standard set by EPA. The purpose of monitoring for these contaminants is to help EPA decide whether the contaminants should have a standard. As our customers, you have a right to know that this data is available. If you are interested in examining the results, please contact Cheyenne Morgan at (478) 986-5433.

This notice is being made available to you by the City of Gray Water Department. State Water System ID#: GA1690000.

Date distributed: September 6, 2023

Short Term Goals:

- **Continue sampling for a period of six months to analyze data collection for the development of long-term goals.**

What is a lifetime health advisory?

EPA's lifetime health advisories are non-enforceable and non-regulatory and identify levels to protect all people, including sensitive populations and life stages, from adverse health effects resulting from exposure throughout their lives to a contaminant in drinking water. States may have advisory levels or regulations for PFAS that public water systems should be aware of. Some PFAS lifetime health advisory levels are below UCMR 5 MRLs.



If your drinking water results show that an unregulated PFAS contaminant was found, EPA has resources available to help consumers understand health impacts and risk levels. [Click here](#) to read the 2022 Drinking Water Health Advisories for PFAS.

What are the UCMR 5 requirements for notifying customers?

Public water systems are required to [notify](#) customers about the availability of all UCMR results no later than 12 months after they are known. Community water systems (CWSs) are also required to report UCMR results in their annual [Consumer Confidence Report \(CCR\)](#) when unregulated contaminants are found. CWSs must report the average and range of the year's monitoring results. CWSs may include their public notice within CCRs, also known as annual drinking water quality reports, which are to be delivered to all billing customers each year by July 1.

How do I access my UCMR 5 results?

Public water systems participating in UCMR 5 should register for a [CDX/SDWARS](#) account to receive automated notices when their results are ready to view in SDWARS. The analytical results from UCMR are also publicly available in the [National Contaminant Occurrence Database \(NCOD\)](#) for drinking water. For a summary of the UCMR results, tips for querying NCOD, and health effects information, please refer to the [UCMR Occurrence Data web page](#).

What can consumers do to reduce exposure to PFAS?

To learn more about steps to reduce your exposure to PFAS, [click here](#). Individuals who are concerned about PFAS in their drinking water may consider in-home water treatment filters that are certified to lower the levels of PFAS in water. You can find more about these filters [here](#).

Where can I find more information about PFAS in drinking water?

Use the links below to learn more.

- [Health-Based Reference Values for UCMR 5](#)
- [Drinking Water Health Advisories for PFAS Fact Sheet for Public Water Systems](#)
- [Questions and Answers: Drinking Water Health Advisories for PFOA, PFOS, GenX Chemicals and PFBS](#)



The Fifth Unregulated Contaminant Monitoring Rule (UCMR 5) Early Notification for Preliminary Small PWS PFAS Results Above a U.S. EPA Health Advisory Level

Re: **GRAY** (PWS ID **GA1690000**, Sample Kit ID **103881P**)

109 JAMES STREET, GRAY, GA 31032 (EPA Region 4)

PWS Contact (if registered in SDWARS): **Michael Rawlings** m.rawlings@grayga.us

PFAS Above HA

PFOA

PFOS

As detailed below, one or more per- and polyfluoroalkyl substances (PFAS) from UCMR 5 sampling at the subject small PWS were reported above a U.S. EPA lifetime health advisory (HA) level in preliminary results (*i.e.*, laboratory-approved but not yet reviewed by EPA). EPA established HA levels for 4 of the 29 PFAS being monitored under UCMR 5; an early notification such as this is initiated only by results above an HA level. EPA's HAs are non-enforceable and non-regulatory.

Small PWSs that participate in UCMR 5 with an active CDX/SDWARS account, as recommended by EPA, will receive an automated notice when their results are posted to SDWARS (*i.e.*, next month). **The preliminary results in this report should be compared to the results in SDWARS**, when available, that will ultimately be released to the public (approximately quarterly) via EPA's UCMR web page and [National Contaminant Occurrence Database \(NCOD\)](#).

This notification is intended to give additional time for consultation and consideration of the results to determine whether communication with PWS customers (including "consecutive" PWSs that purchase water from a "parent" PWS) or any other action (*e.g.*, meeting State requirements) is warranted prior to the public release of the data by EPA, in addition to the established Tier 3 Public Notification (PN) [40 CFR 141.207] and Consumer Confidence Report (CCR) [40 CFR 141.153(d)(7)] requirements.

When considering notification options for their customers, PWSs should be aware that the PN Rule requires PWSs to notify their customers about the availability of all UCMR results no later than 12 months after they are known. Community water systems are also required to report UCMR results in their annual CCR when unregulated contaminants are found (*i.e.*, measured at or above the UCMR 5 Minimum Reporting Levels [MRLs]). PWSs are responsible for being aware of and complying with their State's requirements, if any.

The Agency is currently using the 2022 EPA lifetime HA levels for PFOA, PFOS, GenX chemicals, and PFBS as "reference concentrations" and as the threshold for initiating UCMR 5 early notification. Where the HA level is lower than the UCMR 5 MRL (*i.e.*, PFOA, PFOS), EPA is providing notification for results equal to or greater than the MRL. EPA's HAs, along with fact sheets, are available at <https://www.epa.gov/sdwa/drinking-water-health-advisories-genx-chemicals-and-pfbs>.

On March 14, 2023, EPA announced a proposed National Primary Drinking Water Regulation (NPDWR) for 6 PFAS included in UCMR 5 monitoring (PFOA, PFOS, GenX chemicals, PFBS, PFHxS, and PFNA). EPA will update the notification process, as appropriate, when the final NPDWR is promulgated. The proposed PFAS NPDWR does not require any actions until it is finalized. For more information, visit <https://www.epa.gov/sdwa/and-polyfluoroalkyl-substances-pfas>.

The sample was collected on **5/17/2023** from **Facility 202 GRAY / Sample Point 302 FINISHED WATER TAP** location for sample event **SE1**. EPA's UCMR 5 small PWS contract laboratory identified the following concentrations for the 4 PFAS with EPA HAs:

PFAS (EPA Method 533)	Preliminary Sample Result		EPA Lifetime Health Advisory Level (ppt)*	UCMR 5 MRL (ppt)
	(µg/L, ppb)	(ng/L, ppt)*		
PFOA	0.0044	4.4	0.004 (interim)	4
PFOS	0.0045	4.5	0.02 (interim)	4
HFPO-DA (GenX)	< MRL	< MRL	10 (final)	5
PFBS	< MRL	< MRL	2,000 (final)	3
µg/L = parts per billion (ppb) ng/L = parts per trillion (ppt)			To convert µg/L to ng/L, multiply value by 1,000 UCMR 5 MRL = Minimum Reporting Level	

*EPA HA levels are published with one significant digit; comparison of UCMR results to HA levels is therefore based on one significant digit. EPA is initiating notification for GenX and PFBS results that are at or above 15 and 2,500 ppt, respectively, which round to 20 and 3,000 ppt.

Information from prior UCMR 5 sample events for this PWS that yielded PFAS results above an EPA HA is provided below, as appropriate. An additional 25 PFAS (*i.e.*, PFAS without EPA HAs) are being monitored under UCMR 5; available preliminary PFAS results are provided in the following report.

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