

SANFORD WATER DISTRICT

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October 26, 2023

DRINKING WATER NOTICE

SANFORD WATER DISTRICT, TREAT PT 3 (COBB 2 WELL) (PWSID# ME0091410)
LEVEL OF PER- & POLY-FLUOROALKYL SUBSTANCES (PFAS)
EXCEEDS STATE DRINKING WATER STANDARD

The Sanford Water District would like to inform its customers that one of its sources of water supply recently showed an elevated level of Per- and Poly-Fluoroalkyl Substances (PFAS). At 24.7 parts per trillion (ppt), this is above the state drinking water standard of 20 ppt for PFAS. The district immediately stopped using the contaminated well.

PFAS refers to a family of chemicals that have been used for a long time in many household and industrial products. PFAS in drinking water comes from industrial or agricultural sources. State rules require us to inform you of these levels, any related health risks, and action we are taking to address the issue.

What Happened?

We recently collected samples from the Sanford Water District TREAT PT 3 (Cobb 2 Well) for regular water quality testing. Results showed PFAS levels above the state drinking water standard for PFAS. We immediately discontinued service of TREAT PT 3 (Cobb 2 Well) on September 21, the same day we received the results.

TREAT PT 3 (Cobb 2 Well) is no longer supplying water to the Sanford Water District system. The Sanford Water District has 5 other active sources of supply, as well as 3 other emergency sources, that it will be utilizing while we plan and install treatment technology for TREAT PT 3 (Cobb 2 Well).

Possible Health Effects:

PFAS can build up and stay in the body for long periods of time. Scientists are still learning about the possible health effects of PFAS in drinking water. Most people have low amounts of these chemicals in their blood because the chemicals were used for several decades in many household and industrial products. Drinking water with high levels of PFAS can increase the level of these chemicals in the blood. Studies of populations with high levels of PFAS in their drinking water have reported an increased risk of kidney and testicular cancer, decreased immune system response, pregnancy-related complications, increased cholesterol levels, and changes in liver enzymes.

What You Should Do:

There is nothing you need to do. The well that showed PFAS levels above the state drinking water standard is offline and is no longer supplying water to the water system.

If we had been unable to discontinue the use of TREAT PT 3 (Cobb 2 Well), Maine's Drinking Water Program suggests these options to consumers: Consider actions that may reduce your exposure to PFAS by using either bottled water or another alternative water sources that have been verified as PFAS-free, or water that has been filtered through a device capable of reducing PFAS to non-detectable levels for drinking and cooking purposes, including food preparation and making ice. Use bottled water to prepare

water, juice, and formula for children. Boiling, filtering, or letting the water stand does not reduce PFAS levels. You may continue to use water for bathing, washing clothes and dishes, etc. If you are concerned about a specific health issue, consult with your doctor and take any precautions your doctor advises.

Fortunately, we were able to immediately take offline TREAT PT 3 (Cobb 2 Well).

What is being Done:

TREAT PT 3 (Cobb 2 Well) has been taken offline. The district has 5 other active sources of supply that can provide sufficient capacity to meet the community's drinking water needs. The Sanford Water District has engaged Wright-Peirce Engineering, an award-winning engineering firm in Topsham Maine, to evaluate options, including treatment of the well. The district will be seeking both state and federal funding to reduce the cost impacts on customers. If treatment can be installed and funding acquired, we anticipate resolving the problem by December of 2025. Hopefully earlier. We will inform you when this problem has been corrected.

The district may still utilize TREAT PT 3 (Cobb 2 Well) if it needs additional capacity, but it is the lowest priority for use. Situations when TREAT PT 3 (Cobb 2 Well) may be needed include the district's semiannual flushing program, water main breaks, large fires, and taking other sources offline for repairs or maintenance. If it needs to use TREAT PT 3 (Cobb 2 Well), the district will run other stations at the same time, which will dilute the PFAS levels in the distribution system.

For more information about PFAS and our water system, please contact:

Sanford Water District
PHONE # (207) 324-2312
PO Box 650
243 River Street
Sanford, ME 04073
<https://www.sanfordwater.org/>

For general information on PFAS and the state requirements, visit the Maine Drinking Water Program's website at: <https://www.maine.gov/dhhs/mecdc/environmental-health/dwp/pws/pfas.shtml>

*If you receive this notice, please share this information/notice with other people who drink this water, especially if they may not have received this notice directly. You can do this by posting this notice in a public place or distributing copies by hand or mail.