



FOSA

(Perfluorooctane sulfonamide)

What is FOSA?

FOSA is a chemical in a group of contaminants called per- and polyfluoroalkyl substances (PFAS).

- ▶ FOSA is one of several PFAS that can turn into perfluorooctane sulfonate (PFOS) in the body and environment.
- ▶ FOSA can be found in stain repellants in carpet and fabric, food and other packaging, and fire-fighting foam.

If the combined level of FOSA, NEtFOSA, NEtFOSE, NEtFOSAA, PFOS, and PFOA in your drinking water is over 20 ng/L, you should find a different source of water.

Can FOSA affect our health?

FOSA can turn into PFOS in the body and PFOS can cause a number of health effects.

- ▶ There is little information on how FOSA may affect health, but many studies have shown that PFOS can cause health effects.
- ▶ Studies among people and research animals have shown that high levels of PFOS may affect reproduction, development, cholesterol levels, liver and thyroid function, and immune response.

What can you do to protect your health?

Wisconsin recommends a groundwater standard of 20 ng/L for FOSA, NEtFOSE, NEtFOSA, NEtFOSAA, PFOS, and PFOA combined. Because FOSA and similar PFAS can turn into PFOS, one number is used for all of them to protect health.

Find a different source of drinking water if the level of these PFAS in your water is over 20 ng/L. Sources of water can include:

- ▶ Water from a public water system or private well that has been tested for PFAS and has levels below Wisconsin's [recommended groundwater standards](#)
- ▶ Bottled water that has been tested for PFAS and has levels below the recommended groundwater standards.

ng/L = nanograms per liter equivalent to parts per trillion (ppt)



Looking for more information?

- ▶ See the [Agency for Toxic Substances and Disease Registry website](#) for more information on the health effects.
- ▶ Visit the [DHS website](#) to learn more about Wisconsin's recommended groundwater standards.

