



CITY  
of

**HARRISON**  
MI

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### Public Statement

The Michigan Department of Environmental, Great Lakes and Energy (EGLE), formerly known as MDEQ, has completed a statewide initiative to test drinking water from all community water supplies in Michigan for a group of manmade chemicals called per-and polyfluoroalkyl substances (PFAS). The PFAS sample collected from the City of Harrison municipal water supply was **Non Detect** (i.e. PFAS was not found in the water supply). The most recent Water Quality Report for the City of Harrison (from 2019), which includes the PFAS results, can be found here: <https://cityofharrisonmi.org/sites/default/files/2019%20Water%20Report.pdf>. EGLE has determined that the City's municipal water supply is safe.

PFAS are a large group of man-made chemicals used globally during the past century in manufacturing, firefighting and thousands of common household and other consumer products. These chemicals are persistent in the environment and in the human body – meaning they don't break down and they can accumulate over time. In recent years, experts have become increasingly concerned by the potential effects of high concentrations of PFAS on human health.

To further evaluate the safety of the City of Harrison's water supply, the City voluntarily tested the groundwater at the old closed landfill (located at 915 W Spruce St.) for PFAS from six monitoring wells. One of the tested wells, monitoring well #3, tested above the detection criteria. Based on groundwater flow direction, there is little to no danger of the municipal water wells being contaminated by the PFAS from the old closed landfill. This is based on the landfill and the identified area of contamination being outside of Wellhead Protection Area for our municipal supply wells. Additionally, groundwater in the area is flowing in a southern direction, which is away from our municipal wells.

However, as a precautionary measure, the State of Michigan Health Department will be testing five private drinking water wells which are located within a mile of the old closed landfill and in the path of the groundwater flow direction. Other residences in that path are on the City's



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municipal water supply and do not require testing. If any of the five homes are found to have PFAS, they will be connected to the City's water supply.

The City of Harrison remains committed to providing our customers with quality drinking water. As your water supplier, we are working closely with EGLE to maintain the quality of your water.

The public is invited the Monday, March 16, 2020 council meeting at 6:00 pm. At this meeting, EGLE, the Michigan Department of Health and Human Services and our engineers will be present to discuss the findings and address questions from residents.

If you have health-related questions, contact the Michigan Department of Health and Human Services (MDHHS) at 1-800-648-6942 or visit the websites below.

If you would like information on PFAS including possible health outcomes, visit these websites:

- State of Michigan PFAS Action Response Team (MPART) website serving as the main resource for public information on PFAS contamination in Michigan [www.michigan.gov/pfasresponse](http://www.michigan.gov/pfasresponse)
- Agency for Toxic Substances and Disease Registry (ASTDR) website including health information, exposure, and links to additional resources [www.atsdr.cdc.gov/pfas](http://www.atsdr.cdc.gov/pfas)
- United States Environmental Protection Agency (U.S. EPA) website including basic information, U.S. EPA actions, and links to informational resources [www.epa.gov/pfas](http://www.epa.gov/pfas)