



Media Release

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Yakima Health District to Conduct PFAS Well Water Testing in East Selah

Yakima, WA- The Yakima Health District is offering free well water testing for per- and polyfluoroalkyl substances (PFAS) to eligible households located in East Selah. The goal of this initiative is to get a better understanding of PFAS contamination in private drinking water wells near the Yakima Training Center and provide additional resources to impacted households. This effort is funded by the Washington State Department of Health's Alternative Drinking Water Program, which aims to ensure safe drinking water for people using private wells and small water systems impacted by contamination.

Per- and Polyfluoroalkyl Substances (PFAS)

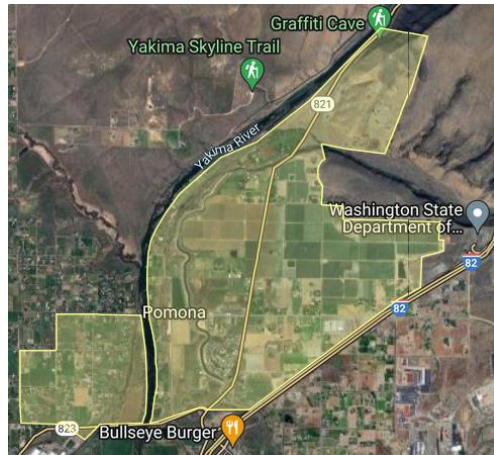
PFAS are synthetic chemicals commonly found in various industrial and consumer products and may pose health risks when present in drinking water above [recommended safety limits](#).

Exposure to high PFAS levels over time can lead to health problems, such as:

- Increased cholesterol levels
- Decreased birth weights
- Decreased immune response to vaccines
- Changes in liver enzymes that indicate liver damage
- Increased risk of blood pressure problems during pregnancy
- Increased risk of thyroid disease
- Increased risk of testicular and kidney cancer.

How to Enroll

To be eligible, households must reside in the East Selah sampling area and have a private or shared drinking water well. Eligible households will receive a postcard in the mail with information on how to sign-up for a free water test. Individuals can also visit www.YakimaHealthDistrict.org/PFAS or call (509) 249-6555 to determine their eligibility.



Yakima Health District PFAS Sampling Area in East Selah

Water Sampling Process

The Yakima Health District (YHD) will work with an environmental firm to obtain water samples from households. A certified laboratory will analyze these samples, and residents and homeowners will be notified of their results within two to three weeks. If PFAS levels exceed recommended safety limits, households may be eligible for a free PFAS treatment system.

Quote

"As we begin this important PFAS testing initiative, we are steadfast in our commitment to supporting households in East Selah. Through proactive testing and community engagement, we aim to empower residents with the knowledge and resources they need to safeguard their health and well-being and ensure every resident has access to clean, safe drinking water." -Shawn Magee, Environmental Health Director, Yakima Health District

Additional Information

[Yakima Health District: PFAS](http://YakimaHealthDistrict.org/PFAS)

[Washington State Department of Health: PFAS](http://WashingtonStateDepartmentofHealth.org/PFAS)

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