



Testing For Pease Portsmouth PFAS Tap Sampling Program

Overview:

Ongoing sampling of the Portsmouth municipal water sources confirm the presence of PFAS in the city's water sources. While monthly sampling is done at each of our water sources, there is no current sampling done at any taps in the city of Portsmouth.

We feel it is important to gather data directly from taps throughout the city, enabling us to compare which PFAS compounds are detected and in what concentrations. We plan to do this by sampling four taps in different locations of the city once a quarter over the course of twelve months. The total number of tap samples collected will be 16.

Goal:

The goal of the Testing For Pease Portsmouth Community Tap Sampling Program is to gather accurate data about the presence and concentration of PFAS coming out of city taps, enabling us to understand the precise nature of the PFAS load the public is being exposed to via the public water supply.

Project Economics:

We plan to have Maxxam laboratories (now BV) conduct the sample analysis. Costs for the tap sample analysis are projected to be \$4800. We plan to test samples from four different city taps quarterly for twelve months, yielding 16 total samples. Maxxam/BV has agreed to process each sample, screening for 28 different PFAS compounds with detection limits at 2ppt, for \$300/sample.

We currently have \$2500 secured in private funds. We submitted a Grow grant application to the New England Grass Roots Environment Fund in September for an additional \$3000. Unfortunately we learned in December 2019 that we were not awarded the Grass Roots grant.

With respect to timing, we have immediate access to the \$2500 in private funds and that will cover the costs of our first two rounds of sampling in October 2019 and January 2020. Since learning we were not awarded the additional grant in December 2019, we are actively seeking additional resources to fund the third and fourth rounds of sampling in April 2020 and July 2020 to complete the project as planned.

Project Logistics:

Dr. Fernandez, a civil and environmental engineering professor at Northeastern University, has been gathered Pease water samples as part of the Pease Non Target Analysis Project that Testing for Pease coordinated with Dr Chris Higgins at the Colorado School of Mines. She is familiar with how to properly collect PFAS samples and is interested in participating in this project to both assist in the sample collection to simultaneously collect duplicate samples to further validate her own laboratory's PFAS analysis techniques.

Andrea Amico, Lindsey Carmichael, and Dr Fernandez met with Brian Goetz and Al Pratt from the City of Portsmouth on August 30, 2019, to discuss the project and the prospective tap sampling sites. The city provided a map of their wells and water distribution at the meeting. The group collaborated on 4 geographically diverse areas within the city (in regards to water distribution) and agreed to sample the taps at the following four city locations:

- Portsmouth Public Library
- Dondero Elementary School
- Private residence on Banfield Road
- Spinnaker Point Recreation Center

The city also agreed to sample their source wells on the same day as the tap samples. And all of the samples (source samples and tap samples) will be sent to the same lab (Maxxam/BV lab) together for processing.

Project Timing:

We agreed to collect our first round of tap samples for this project on October 25, 2019. And will then repeat tap sampling at the same above four city locations 3 additional times (quarterly) over the following year. Our plan is to collect samples in October 2019, January 2020, April 2020, and July 2020. The tap sampling scheduling will be coordinated through email with the city of Portsmouth, Testing for Pease, and Dr Loretta Fernandez. Dr Loretta Fernandez, Al Pratt, and/or Lindsey Carmichael and Andrea Amico will be present for the tap sample collections.

Results:

The quarterly sample results will be posted on the Testing for Pease website and Facebook page. A final report will be written by Testing for Pease at the end of the sampling project and when all results are back. The final report will be posted on the Testing for Pease website and Facebook page.