



HARPER CREEK COMMUNITY SCHOOLS

www.harpercreek.net

Dear Harper Creek Families,

The Michigan Department of Environmental Quality (MDEQ) has conducted a statewide initiative to test drinking water from all schools that use well water and community water supplies. The test is looking for a group of manmade chemicals called per-and polyfluoroalkyl substances (PFAS). MDEQ is taking this precautionary step of testing these drinking water sources to determine if public health actions are needed.

It is not uncommon to find low levels of PFAS in drinking water supplies, as PFAS can be found in fire-fighting foams, stain repellants, nonstick cookware, waterproof clothing, food wrappers, and many other household products. They do not break down in the environment and move easily into water.

The EPA set a Lifetime Health Advisory (LHA) level for two PFAS in drinking water, perfluorooctanoic acid (PFOA) and perfluorooctane sulfonate (PFOS). The LHA level is 70 parts per trillion (ppt, equal to 70 ng/L) for PFOA and PFOS combined, or individually if only one is present. A part per trillion is equal to one drop of water in 20 Olympic-size swimming pools. The EPA has not set health advisory levels for other PFAS compounds. The State of Michigan is using 70 ppt for decision making purposes.

Beadle Lake, Sonoma and Wattles Park Elementary Schools, as well as the Harper Creek Administration Building have been tested. The results of all well water is well below the acceptable levels, and PFOA and PFOS Lifetime Health Advisory levels were 70ppt. and are not expected to result in adverse health effects as long as the concentrations are shown to remain below the LHA over time. These test results, as well as additional information on PFAS can be found on the Michigan PFAS Action Response Team website, www.michigan.gov/pfasresponse. For more information on PFAS visit www.michigan.gov/pfasresponse.

Harper Creek Community Schools is committed to providing our students and staff with quality drinking water. We will continue to work closely with MDEQ to maintain the quality of your water and keep you updated as we continue to monitoring our water wells.

Sincerely,

Robert Ridgeway,
Superintendents

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Students for Life

Administration Offices

7454 B Drive North
Battle Creek, MI 49014
T: 269-441-6550
F: 269-962-6034

High School

12677 Beadle Lake Road
Battle Creek, MI 49014
T: 269-441-8450
F: 269-441-2206

Middle School

7290 B Drive North
Battle Creek, MI 49014
T: 269-441-4750
F: 269-979-4613

Beadle Lake Elementary

8175 C Drive North
Battle Creek, MI 49014
T: 269-441-3250
F: 269-962-4748

Sonoma Elementary

4640 B Drive South
Battle Creek, MI 49015
T: 269-441-7800
F: 269-979-6246

Wattles Park Elementary

132 South Wattles Road
Battle Creek, MI 49014
T: 269-441-5850
F: 269-963-1174

