

Dear Neighbors,

Some of you may have seen a report on the local CBS station regarding PFAS contamination identified in the course of a recent study of 400 Colorado communities' drinking water. PFAS are a group of manmade chemicals that have been used in a variety of industries around the globe since the 1940s. They can be found in food, household products, nonstick cookware, bottled water and elsewhere. The EPA set safety standards based on the best available peer-reviewed studies of the effects of PFAS on laboratory animals, and were also informed by epidemiological studies of human populations that have been exposed to PFASs. One can learn more about PFAS in Colorado by proceeding to this link:

<https://cdphe.colorado.gov/pfcs/Colorado>

FHMD/Riva Chase was cited in the story as one example of a Colorado community with levels that are somewhat higher than others. To provide additional data to this end for one's understanding, please know it was found that the levels of PFOA & PFOS in our community (the two compounds with current EPA guidance established) were measured at 12.3 ppt; whereas, the EPA health advisory threshold for these compounds is notably higher at 70 ppt. For those not familiar, ppt stands for parts per trillion which is equal to one drop of detergent in enough dishwater to fill a string of railroad tank cars ten miles long.

The EPA, CDPHE and FHMD board suggest that if one is concerned about the levels of PFAS in their drinking water, there are options for reducing them by utilizing activated carbon filters, ion exchange resin filters, a reverse osmosis filtration system, or having water delivered from a reliable source.

Nevertheless, please know the Board is taking this matter seriously and has already taken steps to gain a better insight into the PFAS contamination. As we have a better appreciation of the situation, we will determine the most appropriate action(s) to reduce PFAS in our water and provide updates to the community in-turn.

We will place this topic on the agenda for our next board meeting, scheduled for March 17, 2021. Please attend to hear the discussion and to present your concerns.

Sincerely,

Your FHMD Board