

Insights

**PFAS STATE SNAPSHOT: RHODE ISLAND PFAS
REGULATION**

Feb 28, 2020

Rhode Island is one of several states that has started regulating per- and polyfluoroalkyl substances (“PFAS”) in drinking water and groundwater. This client alert reflects the status of PFAS regulations in Rhode Island as of February 25, 2020.



DRINKING WATER

Proposed:
PFHpA + PFHxS + PFNA
+ PFOS + PFOA = 20 ppt
Monitoring

GROUNDWATER

PFOA + PFOS = 70 ppt
Notification

DRINKING WATER

All public water supply systems shall conduct monitoring for the presence of five PFAS chemicals: PFHpA, PFHxS, PFNA, PFOS, and PFOA. A public water system is defined as having at least 15 service connections or one which serves a minimum of 25 individuals daily for 60 days out of the year. If there are concentrations detected above the limit, the public water supply system shall immediately provide potable water through other means, conduct quarterly monitoring, and ask the Rhode Island Department of Health to implement treatment strategies. If there are concentrations detected below the limit, the public water system shall conduct monitoring every two years. The original compliance date was December 1, 2019, but the bill has not yet been enacted, so the new compliance date is unknown.

GROUNDWATER

Rhode Island has enacted a Groundwater Quality Standard for certain classifications of groundwater, which make up 91% of the state's groundwater. If PFOA and PFOS (individually or collectively) are detected in either public or private wells at over 70 ppt, the property owner must notify his or her state drinking water safety agency and provide consumer notification to those people who use drinking water wells from this particular groundwater source.

For additional information regarding the groundwater standard:

<http://www.dem.ri.gov/programs/benviron/water/quality/pdf/pfoa.pdf>

For more information on PFAS chemicals, and the regulatory and litigation risks that they pose, please visit our [PFAS webpage](#). If you have a question about how to manage PFAS risk in Rhode Island, or any other jurisdiction, please contact Tom Lee, Susan Brice, John Kindschuh, or any other member of our PFAS team at Bryan Cave Leighton Paisner LLP.

RELATED PRACTICE AREAS

- PFAS Team
- Environment

- Real Estate

MEET THE TEAM



John R. Kindschuh

St. Louis

john.kindschuh@bcplaw.com

[+1 314 259 2313](tel:+13142592313)



Thomas S. Lee

San Francisco

tom.lee@bcplaw.com

[+1 415 675 3447](tel:+14156753447)

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