

# WISCONSIN DEPARTMENT OF NATURAL RESOURCES PFAS FISH CONSUMPTION ADVISORIES

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## WHERE

Wisconsin River at Lake Mohawksin in Lincoln County, beginning at the Lake Alice Kings Dam, the Jersey City Flowage Dam and the confluence of the Little Somo River and the Somo River.

## WHAT

New consumption advisories for everyone for bluegill and yellow perch of one meal per week and for black crappie, rock bass and pumpkinseed of one meal per month.

## WHY

Recent sampling shows elevated levels of perfluorooctane sulfonate (PFOS) in the fish tissue of bluegill, black crappie, pumpkinseed, rock bass and yellow perch taken from Lake Mohawksin. As a result, the Wisconsin Department of Natural Resources (DNR) and the Department of Health Services (DHS) are recommending new consumption advisories for each of these species.

## PFAS DEFINITION

PFOS is one of many per- and polyfluoroalkyl substances (PFAS). PFOS detection is the driving force behind establishing fish consumption advisories. PFAS are a group of human-made chemicals used for decades in numerous products, including non-stick cookware, fast food wrappers, stain-resistant sprays and certain types of firefighting foam. These contaminants have made their way into the environment in a variety of ways, including spills of PFAS-containing materials, discharges of PFAS-containing wastewater to treatment plants and certain types of firefighting foams. PFAS are very resistant to breaking down. **PFOS, in particular, builds up in fish tissue, but how it builds up is hard to predict.**

## HEALTH RISKS

PFAS can be stored in your body for years. Health risks may increase as you eat more fish that are high in PFAS. Following these consumption advisories will help protect you from excess PFAS exposure and other contaminants found in fish, including mercury and polychlorinated biphenyls (PCBs).

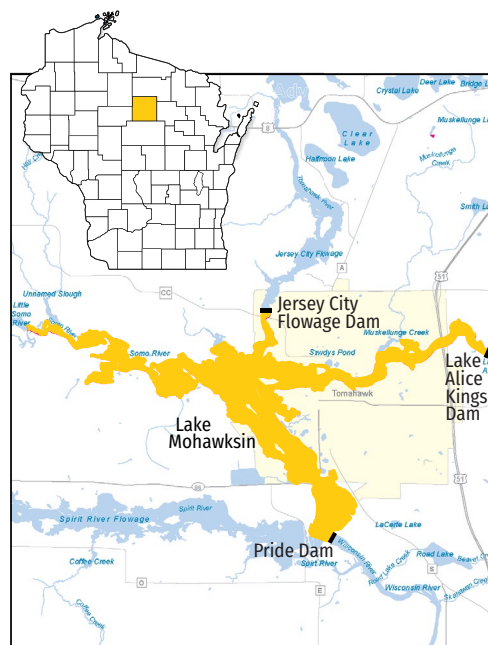
Exposure to high levels of certain PFAS may:

- Increase cholesterol levels
- Decrease how well the body responds to vaccines
- Increase the risk of thyroid disease
- Decrease fertility in women
- Increase the risk of serious conditions like high blood pressure or pre-eclampsia in pregnant women
- Lower infant birth weights

## SITE SPECIFIC ADVISORY FOR Wisconsin River at Lake Mohawksin

### GUIDELINES FOR EVERYONE (PFOS)

Species	Up to 1 meal per week	Up to 1 meal per month
Black crappie		All sizes
Bluegill	All sizes	
Pumpkinseed		All sizes
Rock bass		All sizes
Yellow perch	All sizes	



Find consumption advice in the DNR's [Choose Wisely: A Health Guide For Eating Fish In Wisconsin booklet](#).