

## Notice of Hearing

The Department of Natural Resources announces that it will hold a public hearing on a permanent rule to revise ch. NR 140 related to setting numeric standards to minimize the concentration of polluting substances for certain Per- and Polyfluoroalkyl Substances (PFAS) in groundwater based on the 2025 DHS recommendations, at the time and place shown below.

### Hearing Information

Date: July 23, 2026

Time: 10:00 a.m.

Virtual Location Zoom Link: <https://us02web.zoom.us/j/84588322038>

Meeting ID: 845 8832 2038

Join by phone: 1-301-715-8592

### Rule Information

The proposed rule will add public health groundwater standards for six PFAS, using Department of Health Services' (DHS) January 2025 recommendations. The six PFAS include the contaminant compounds perfluorooctanoic acid (PFOA), perfluorooctane sulfonic acid (PFOS), perfluorohexane sulfonic acid (PFHxS), perfluorononanoic acid (PFNA), perfluorobutane sulfonic acid (PFBS), and hexafluoropropylene oxide dimer acid (HFPO-DA, commonly known as GenX Chemicals). Setting standards will allow for consistent use in state regulatory programs to minimize the concentration of these polluting substances in the groundwater resources of the state.

The objective of the proposed rule is to protect public health, given that groundwater is the primary source of drinking water throughout the state. PFAS breaks down very slowly and can accumulate in people. PFAS may cause reproductive effects such as decreased fertility and pregnancy-induced hypertension; developmental effects or delays in children including birth defects and low birth weight; increased risk of some cancers including prostate, kidney, and testicular cancers; decreased antibody response to vaccines; and increased cholesterol.

### Accessibility

For the hearing or visually impaired, non-English speakers, or those with other personal circumstances which might make communication at the meeting/hearing difficult, DNR will, to the maximum extent possible and with reasonable advance notice, provide aids including an interpreter, or a non-English, large-print, or recorded version of hearing documents. To access these resources, please contact the email address or phone number listed below as soon as possible.

### Appearances at the Hearing and Submittal of Written Comments

The public has the opportunity to testify at the hearing. To join via Zoom, please register or pre-register using the Zoom link above, which will prompt you to enter information required on the

Hearing Appearance form. Pre-registration is strongly encouraged if you plan to provide spoken comments during the hearing. To pre-register if you plan to attend via phone instead of Zoom, please download and complete the fillable [Hearing Appearance form \(https://apps.dnr.wi.gov/doclink/forms/8300-014.pdf\)](https://apps.dnr.wi.gov/doclink/forms/8300-014.pdf) and send it to Carla.Romano1@wisconsin.gov.

Comments on the proposed rule must be received on or before July 29, 2026. Written comments may be submitted by U.S. mail, E-mail, or through the internet and will have the same weight and effect as oral statements presented at the public hearing.

Written comments and any questions on the proposed rules should be submitted to:

Department of Natural Resources  
Attn: Carla Romano  
P.O. Box 7921  
Madison, WI 53707-7921  
[DNR140GroundwaterQualityStandards@wisconsin.gov](mailto:DNR140GroundwaterQualityStandards@wisconsin.gov)

The rule may be viewed under NRB Order number DG-02-25 at:  
<https://dnr.wisconsin.gov/news/input/ProposedPermanent.html>

The rule may also be reviewed, and comments made at:  
<http://docs.legis.wisconsin.gov/code/chr/hearings>.

### **Initial Regulatory Flexibility Analysis**

The Department of Natural Resources anticipates that the highest two-year cost will be \$9,917,838 as a result of the establishment of groundwater standards for perfluorooctanoic acid (PFOA), perfluorooctane sulfonic acid (PFOS), perfluorohexane sulfonic acid (PFHxS), perfluorononanoic acid (PFNA), perfluorobutane sulfonic acid (PFBS), and hexafluoropropylene oxide dimer acid (HFPO-DA, commonly known as “GenX Chemicals”). The department does not anticipate any impact on small businesses.

### **Agency Small Business Regulatory Coordinator**

Emma Esch (608) 266-1959  
[emma.esch@wisconsin.gov](mailto:emma.esch@wisconsin.gov)