

PFAS Exposure Assessment:

Lubbock County, Texas

Near the Reese Technology Center

INFORMATION TO PROTECT OUR COMMUNITIES



The Centers for Disease Control and Prevention (CDC) and the Agency for Toxic Substances and Disease Registry (ATSDR) **will begin an exposure assessment of per- and polyfluoroalkyl substances (PFAS) in drinking water near the Reese Technology Center.** The assessment will start in January 2020 and will focus on an area where many private wells were found to have PFAS levels above federal or state guidelines.

As a part of this assessment, we will recruit participants and conduct blood and urine testing. You may be invited to participate in this exposure assessment. This fact sheet explains the exposure assessment process, including how we recruit, test, and provide results.

Goal of this Exposure Assessment

The results of this exposure assessment will help individual participants and their communities better understand their exposure to PFAS and provide information that the communities can use to reduce PFAS exposure.

CDC/ATSDR wants people to participate because without sufficient participation, our ability to answer questions and provide useful information about PFAS exposure is limited. The exposure assessment will produce information that can be used by public health professionals across the nation to help communities impacted by PFAS.

Recruiting Participants for this Assessment

CDC/ATSDR has identified an area where many private wells had PFAS levels above state or federal guidelines. A map of the sampling area is available at: <http://www.atsdr.cdc.gov/pfas/communities/Lubbock-County-TX.html> All households served by private wells in this area will be invited to participate, even if their previous well

testing results were below the federal guidelines and even if they have never tested their private wells. The exposure assessment will only consider households served by private wells. Residences served by the Lubbock Water Department will not be included because they have a different source of drinking water.

Eligibility Criteria

Individuals in selected households will be eligible to participate if they:



- Are 3 years of age or older (Children will be included in the exposure assessment only if we have consent from a parent or legal guardian)



- Do not have a bleeding disorder and are not anemic



- Have lived in the sampling area for at least one year before **September 30, 2019**



National Center
for Environmental Health
Agency for Toxic Substances
and Disease Registry



Recruitment Process

If your household is located within the sampling area and served by a private well:

- We will send you a letter explaining the exposure assessment and registration process.
- A CDC/ATSDR representative may visit your home to share information with you about the exposure assessment process. A CDC/ATSDR representative will call you to answer your questions and register you and other members of your household who will be participating.

— You may call CDC/ATSDR at the number on the letter to let us know whether or not you would like to participate

- If you choose to participate, we will help you schedule an appointment for sampling.

We will begin the exposure assessment in Lubbock in January 2020. Recruitment lasts about five weeks, then we will be in Lubbock for approximately two weeks for sampling.



Sampling, Analyzing, and Reporting Results

If you participate in the exposure assessment:

- You will go to a testing site in Lubbock where we will take a blood and urine sample.
- At the testing site, you will fill out a questionnaire about yourself, and your possible exposure to PFAS through water, food, and your environment.

- CDC laboratories will analyze the blood and urine samples for PFAS only, according to guidelines established by CDC/ATSDR.
- We will mail you the test results; this may take several months.

We will also collect drinking water and indoor dust samples from the homes of some participants.



CDC/ATSDR will review all the results and write a report describing the findings. We will then host a community event to discuss results.

For More Information

Lubbock Exposure Assessment:

- Visit <http://www.atsdr.cdc.gov/pfas/communities/Lubbock-County-TX.html>
- Contact Captain Patrick Young, ATSDR Region 6 at pay9@cdc.gov or 214-665-8562

PFAS at the former Reese Air Force Base:

- Contact Paul Carroll, USAF, at 806-885-5010 or by email at paul.carroll.1@us.af.mil

City of Lubbock Health Department:

- Contact Katherine Wells, Health Department, at kwells@mylubbock.us or 806-775-2941

Other CDC/ATSDR PFAS Exposure Assessments:

<http://www.atsdr.cdc.gov/pfas/index.html>

PFAS Blood Testing:

www.atsdr.cdc.gov/pfas/pfas-blood-testing.html



Background: PFAS near the Reese Technology Center (former Reese AFB)

The Air Force used Aqueous Film Forming Foam (AFFF) at the former Reese AFB, which led to PFAS within the foam seeping into the groundwater. The Air Force discontinued use of AFFF following base closure in 1997. The base has since been converted into a business and research park, the Reese Technology Center.

The Air Force first measured PFAS in drinking water from private wells in the area in September 2017 and began sampling wells downgradient from the former base in November 2017. The Air Force installed whole-house treatment systems in affected homes and supplied bottled water. Based on information available to ATSDR, all households tested by the Air Force now have a drinking water supply that meets federal and state PFAS guidelines.

