THE MICHIGAN PFAS ACTION RESPONSE TEAM (MPART)

The Michigan PFAS Action Response Team (MPART) formally brings together several state agencies to investigate and remediate contamination by per- and polyfluoroalkyl substances (PFAS); develop and maintain cooperative relationships among local, state, and federal agencies; understand the science, and inform and empower the public to make educated decisions.

MPART was established in November 2017, when Governor Rick Snyder signed Executive Directive No. 2017-4, and in December 2017, state legislation provided $23.2 million to investigate and respond to PFAS contamination. Within MPART there are 15 different formal workgroups dedicated to PFAS topics, such as drinking water, human health, wildlife, and animal health/food safety, among others. MPART also has two advisory panels.

Michigan is conducting a comprehensive, statewide study of PFAS in public water supplies and schools with their own wells. The Michigan Department of Environment, Great Lakes, and Energy (EGLE) launched this initiative in May 2018, and will test 1,380 public water supplies and 461 schools, accounting for roughly 75 percent of Michigan residents’ drinking water. The other 25 percent of the population rely on their own private wells. All Native American tribes in Michigan were offered the opportunity to participate in the study. EGLE publishes a regularly-updated progress map that reports on sampling completion (as a percentage of water supplies tested) for each county. In addition, all sample results are posted in an online database for the public on the MPART website within 48 hours of the result notification letter going out to the supply. Guidance on how to interpret the resulting water quality data is also available on the MPART website.

MPART has also made progress in investigating PFAS in other parts of the environment such as landfill leachate, wastewater treatment, biosolids, fish, and Michigan’s lakes and streams.

TYPE
Investment

ISSUE
Source Water