

- 1947 3M invented PFOA (called it C8 at the time)
- 1951 DuPont begins using C8 for Teflon products
- 1961 DuPont finds that PFAS can increase liver size (a sign of liver disease) in rats and rabbits
- 1981 3M found that PFOA ingested by rats caused birth defects
- Early 1990s Company studies completed that showed PFOA cause cancer in liver, pancreas and testicles of rats.
- 1998 3M Alerts EPA that PFOS builds up in human blood and studies on rats found that PFOS damages the liver
- 1999 West Virginia farmer files first lawsuit against DuPont for PFOA contamination of water supply. Over 100 cattle were killed on his farm downstream from a landfill where DuPont dumped over 7000 tons of PFOA sludge in the 1980s
- 5/2000 The New York Times publishes article “E.P.A. Says It Pressed 3M for Action on Scotchgard Chemical” by David Barboza
- 2000 Voluntary Agreement between 3M and EPA for phase-out of the production of PFOS/PFOA
- 2001 First Class Action filed over contaminated water drinking water (DuPont settled in 2004 for \$300m)

- 2002 Minnesota Department of Health develops first health based values for PFOS and PFAS (today they have such values for 6 categories of PFAS)
- 2005 EPA fines DuPont \$10.25 million for a failure to report “substantial risk of injury to human health”
- 2006 EPA Science Advisory Board finds PFOA to be a likely human carcinogen
- DuPont and EPA enter into in a Consent Agreement whereby the company agreed to phase out further manufacture or use of PFOA, nationwide, by 2015.
- DuPont started developing replacement chemicals that have varying carbons like Gen X, which is a C6. There is no indication that these new generation PFAS are any safer than those they have replaced.
- 5/14/2008 Politico publishes article “White House, EPA headed off chemical pollution study” by Annie Snider
- 2009 PFOS added to UN Stockholm Convention list of Persistent Organic Pollutants
- 2016 EPA health advisory set at 70ppt (cumulative of all PFOS/PFAS)
- Wausau Water Works RFP for treatment facility plan**
- 2017 DuPont settles 3,550 person injury claims for \$671m cash

- 2/2018 3m settles with MN for \$850m
- MN AG released documents showing 3M knew since the 1970s that PFAS a danger to human health
- 5/14/2018 Politico publishes article “White House, EPA headed off chemical pollution study”
- 11/2/2018 Article “Cancer-Linked Chemicals Created by 3M Could Be In Your Groundwater” published at [bloomberg.com](https://www.bloomberg.com)
- 5/2019 NH sues PFAS manufacturers
- June 2019 WI DHS develops groundwater standards for 18 PFAS recommending to DNR a 20ppt combined PFAS standard
- 2019 5 of 6 Wausau water works wells exceed DNR’s proposed limit of 20ppt (data not provided to DNR until Dec. 2021)
- Dark Waters film released telling the story of the West Virginia farmer who first sued DuPont in 1999.
- 3/1/2019 Bipartisan bill introduced in US Senate seeking to designate PFAS a hazardous substance sponsored by such tree hugging environmentalists like Marco Rubio and Joe Manchin among others
- 4/25/2019 Detroit Free Press publishes article “PFAS Contamination is Michigan’s biggest environment crisis in 40 years” Keith Matheny

- 10/3/2019 Quartz published article “DuPont and 3M knowingly contaminated drinking water across the US lawsuit alleges”
- Oct. 2019 Wikipedia entry “Timeline of events related to per- and polyfluoroalkyl substances” first published
- January 2020 House passes PFAS Action Act in 247-159 vote  
Yes Votes included 24 Republicans and WI Reps  
Gwen Moore and Ron Kind
- March 2020 Public Service Commission authorized construction of Wausau’s new treatment facility (with no provision for PFAS removal)
- July 2020 MI enacts PFAS regulations more rigorous than EPA
- 12/27/2021 EPA publishes regulations requiring utilities to monitor a range of PFAS
- JAN 2022 More tests show 23.8-35.3 ppt in Wausau wells
- FEB 2022 DPW Director Eric Lindman vouches for the safety of Wausau municipal water saying “my entire family continues to drink and use Wausau tap water.”
- 6/15/2022 EPA issues interim drinking water health advisory for PFOS (.02ppt) and PFOA (.004ppt)
- 2019-2022 At least 16 states enact bills providing funds for PFAS remediation

3/9/2023 American Water Works Association quotes DPW's Eric Lindman on the "discovery" of PFAS in our municipal water system 18 months into construction of our facility

"...everybody has recognized how important this is for generations to come."

In hindsight, Lindman said, utility officials should've ramped up communication and outreach from the beginning...([AWWA.org](http://AWWA.org))

FEB 2024 In a Capital Times interview, the Mayor claims the PFAS contamination went unnoticed until she took office and "promptly" tested for PFAS. (Ignoring tests from 2019 cited above)

The Future 2024 and beyond...

As a community, we must remain vigilant and provide real oversight of our municipal water and sewage system. Too many leaders have shown that they will prioritize their own public image and narratives about city hall over the health of our neighbors.

All the above information was readily available online.

Not readily available is an indication of how our water utility is ensuring that the biosolids (sludge) from our sewage treatment do not further pollute the terrain and waters of central Wisconsin. As much sludge has traditionally been spread on farm fields, it is imperative that we demand our utility adopt better practices or we may simply re-contaminate our groundwater and put farmers out of business.

Catherine Kronenwetter, Kronenwetter for Council