DEPARTMENT OF THE AIR FORCE
HEADQUARTERS 10TH AIR BASE WING
USAF ACADEMY COLORADO

AUG 2 9 2019

Dear Woodmen Valley Residents,

I am sure you are aware by now that an Air Force Civil Engineer Center (AFCEC) Site Investigation completed earlier this year found the presence of levels of perfluorooctanoic acid (PFOA) and perfluorooctane sulfonate (PFOS), chemicals used for many years in military firefighting foam, above the Environmental Protection Agency's (EPA) Lifetime Health Advisory (LHA) at four locations on the Academy.

As a result, AFCEC will conduct surveys and additional testing beginning Sept 4-9 at homes south and adjacent to the installation with private drinking water wells that may have been impacted. The Air Force will initially sample 25 private drinking water wells in the Woodman Valley neighborhoods closest to the base, broadening the survey area from the most potentially impacted outward. Our team will go door-to-door personally engaging each private well-owner with an information packet, including a PFOS/PFOA fact sheet, survey authorization form and contact information. Information requested in the well survey will include aquifer screening, depth, usage for drinking or irrigation, and gallons per minute production. If a well owner is not present, we will leave the information at the residence, and the owner can contact AFCEC to schedule sampling.

AFCEC will then test raw groundwater in private drinking water wells. It will take 3-4 weeks for the results of these tests to come back. If PFOS/PFOA are found to be present in drinking water at levels above the EPA's LHA, AFCEC will immediately provide bottled water and develop mitigation actions in coordination with homeowners.

The Air Force Academy could not exist without the longstanding relationship we share with our Colorado Springs neighbors. We take this matter very seriously and are committed to the health and safety of the residents in the area who may have been affected by past firefighting activity on the installation.
If you have questions regarding the additional testing or findings at the Academy, please email the Academy Public Affairs Office at publicaffairs@usafa.edu. Please keep in mind, your local health department, water utility, the Colorado Department of Public Health and Environment, and your medical professional of choice can best address any concerns you may have about drinking water consumption. And you can find additional information regarding the Air Force's response to PFOS/PFOA contamination at https://tinyurl.com/AFCEC-PFOS-PFOS.

I realize this is an important and emerging issue, and that you are interested in learning very quickly about the quality of your water. My team and I are committed to providing accurate information to you as soon as the testing process will allow.

Brian S. Hartless

BRIAN S. HARTLESS, Colonel, USAF
Commander