MPART

MICHIGAN PFAS ACTION RESPONSE TEAM

Fiscal Year in Review

In fiscal year (FY) 2026, the Michigan Legislature continued to support the state's response to poly- and perfluoroalkyl substances (PFAS) by appropriating funding across the seven state agencies that make up the Michigan PFAS Action Response Team (MPART). This funding, from many sources, allowed MPART to continue to be a national leader in addressing PFAS.

Success Stories!

PFAS Awareness Week

In FY 2026, MPART hosted its first ever **PFAS Awareness Week**. From September 21-25, Michiganders were encouraged to learn more about PFAS and sample their private drinking water wells, reduce their use of PFAS-containing products, avoid foam on surface water, and use the Eat Safe Fish Guide.



Championed by **MPART's Citizens Advisory Workgroup (CAWG)**, a group of Michigan residents impacted by PFAS, PFAS Awareness Week sought to educate the public on what PFAS are and how to reduce exposure.

Throughout the week, several partnering organizations and various universities hosted in-person events, including panel discussions, movie viewings, and other presentations. PFAS research was highlighted during presentations at Michigan State University and Western Michigan University. MPART also hosted three free webinars throughout the week, attended by nearly 1,000 people: *PFAS and You*, *PFAS and Fish*, and *Michigan's Response to PFAS*.

In addition to the webinars, MPART also developed several other virtual tools for residents to explore during the week and beyond, including a dedicated **PFAS Awareness Week web page, various social media posts, and two short YouTube videos** focused on educating the public on PFAS.

The Michigan Department of Health and Human Services (MDHHS) supported PFAS Awareness Week by developing a **social media toolkit** with content that residents and organizations could share. MDHHS also

created and distributed a **newsletter** to local health departments and community organizations to help promote the week and encourage participation at events. PFAS Awareness Week events featuring MDHHS resource tables with **health education materials** were cross posted to the MDHHS PFAS website to increase visibility.

The impacts of Michigan's efforts reached far beyond its borders, with news coverage in **33 different states** across the country, and Minnesota and Wisconsin joining Michigan in proclaiming September 21-25 as PFAS Awareness Week. In 2027, MPART plans to continue to work with their partners to make the next PFAS Awareness Week even more of a success!

Agriculture Successes from MDARD



The Michigan Department of Agriculture and Rural Development (MDARD) began a five-year partnership with Michigan State University (MSU) Extension to bolster PFAS monitoring across Michigan, providing farmers with the tools and expertise needed to protect their land, livestock and productivity.

The $3.5 million investment will strengthen Michigan's agricultural resilience and help producers by facilitating:

Education: MSU Extension will develop and deliver educational information and materials for farmers, agricultural professionals, allied industry partners and the public.

Testing: MSU Extension will work with Michigan farms to evaluate their eligibility for no-cost soil and water sampling, collect samples, review laboratory results with producers directly and, if necessary, work collaboratively with them to design and implement mitigation strategies appropriate for each farm.

Mitigation: Following implementation, MSU Extension will follow up with participating farms to assess progress and help farmers refine their approaches as needed.

In FY 2026, MSU Extension and MDARD have combined to:



- Give 30 **educational PFAS talks** at conferences, webinars, and other events with over 1,400 people in combined attendance
- Collected **121 agricultural soil and water samples** for PFAS testing from 34 different farms
- Provided **mitigation recommendations** to five farms
- Provided one farm with **financial assistance** for mitigation
- Conducted **89 personal conversations** educating individuals about the risk of PFAS contamination

Additionally, MDARD announced **$1.9 million in grants for groundbreaking research** to better understand and address PFAS in agriculture. MDARD is among the first state agriculture departments in the country to launch a research grant program focused on understanding PFAS impacts on agricultural systems. These

research grants will help shape recommendations to farmers in addition to refining a framework for mitigating PFAS and other emerging contaminants.

Infrastructure Successes:

- **Irene Avenue Area of Interest (Cascade Township, Kent County):** PFAS contamination from an unknown source impacted drinking water wells in the area. The wells at five homes had detections of PFAS above drinking water criteria. EGLE awarded a $2,300,365 grant to the City of Grand Rapids to extend watermains from Burton Street down Irene Avenue and Linda Avenue and to connect the 39 homes in the area with private drinking water wells, to the city water supply. Watermain construction will begin in the Spring of 2027. This work will provide a permanent safe drinking water supply to all the homes in the Irene Avene Area of Interest.



- **Grayling Township, Crawford County:** has over 100 drinking water wells with results above PFAS criteria, and many more with detected PFAS, from contamination coming from Grayling Army Airfield and Cantonment, as well as other areas. From 2024 to 2026, nearly $100 million in funding was awarded to Grayling Township from EGLE Remediation and Redevelopment Division (RRD), the Drinking Water State Revolving Fund, the Department of Defense, and legislative appropriations, to design and construct a municipal system expansion to provide a safe source of drinking water to all residents and businesses impacted by PFAS contamination. State RRD contaminated site cleanup funding totaled $25 million to install water mains, provide service connections, and abandon wells. This past year, approximately 12 miles of water main was installed, and the first residents were connected to the system this fall. These connections total a massive state and federal funding and outreach effort started in 2017 between multiple EGLE divisions, Grayling Township, the Army, the Michigan Department of Health and Human Services, District Health Department #10, the Department of Military and Veterans Affairs, and the Grayling Restoration Advisory Board.



- **Haring Charter Township, Wexford County:** Installed a new municipal well and more than 5,000 feet of new water main to connect residential homes and the Wexford-Missaukee Intermediate School District (WMISD) to the Haring Charter Township community water supply. The Township received $3,290,199 through the federal Bipartisan Infrastructure Law – Emerging Contaminants Small and Disadvantaged Communities Grant to address municipal and private wells impacted by PFAS. Funding for the abandonment of impacted private wells was included in the grant. The project

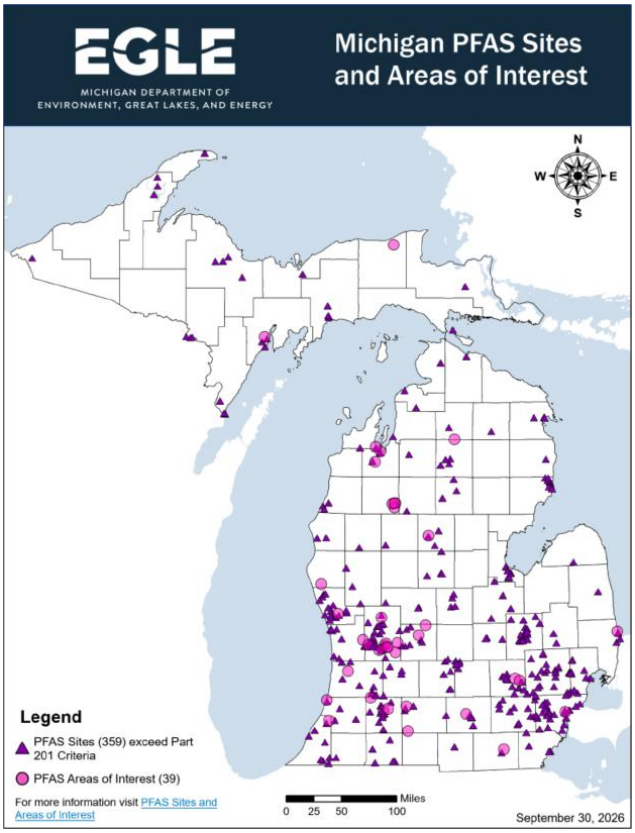
was successful in the connection of 31 residences (two homes declined) and consolidating the WMISD public water supplies with the Haring Charter Township system.

- **White Pigeon, St. Joseph County:** Installed municipal water main in the PFAS-contaminated area south of the Village and connected 22 residential homes. Curb stops were installed in front of every residential property along the new water main alignment that declined to connect. 21 potentially contaminated residential wells were abandoned in place as required. The $2,851,603 spent on this project came from federal American Rescue Plan funds.

Note that for all the municipal water connection projects above, many residents had been provided point-of-use filters by MDHHS/local health while awaiting the municipal water connection project. As a result of being offered connection to municipal water, residents no longer have to rely on temporary measures to reduce PFAS levels in their water.

New Sites and Areas of Interest

As of the end of FY 2026, MPART had identified **359 MPART PFAS Sites**. A PFAS site is an area where PFAS contamination has been found in groundwater above Michigan's criteria, and the source of the contamination has been identified (see map). As of the end of FY 2026, MPART also had a total of **39 Areas of Interest** (AOI), which are locations where MPART is conducting drinking water sampling due to the potential for PFAS contamination to be affecting residential wells, but the source is unknown. MPART continues to actively conduct investigations at dozens of other areas around the state.



MPART's Unique Process

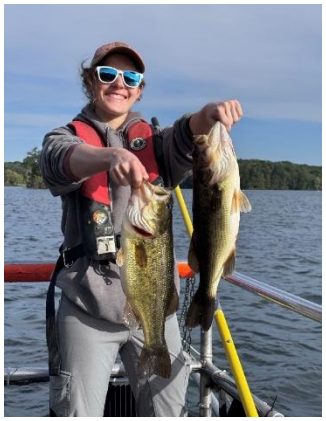
For every new site and AOI, **drinking water exposure** is evaluated. MPART works with MDHHS and local health departments to:

- Determine if there are residential drinking water wells near the site or Area of Interest.
- Review well records to **identify wells** that are potentially at risk of PFAS contamination.
- Send letters to obtain permission to sample and conduct drinking water sampling.
- **Share results** with well owners and agencies and provide education and sometimes PFAS-reducing point-of-use (POU) filters to residents.
- Expand sampling areas if results suggest additional potential impact to other drinking water wells.

For each new site and AOI, MPART conducts **public outreach** to ensure awareness among:

- Local health and local officials
- Legislators
- Tribal Governments
- Local residents as requested by local officials

Monitoring and Addressing Sources of PFAS Around Michigan:



- In FY 2026, MPART awarded and administered **19** grants that supported PFAS testing, monitoring, and remediation, as well as fire truck clean-out and purchasing PFAS-free firefighter turn-out gear at airports across the state.
- Collected **1,563** fish samples from **89** locations throughout **69** different water bodies to determine the need for fish consumption advisories.
- Reviewed and responded to **87 foam sightings** on many different Michigan lakes and streams. Reports are used to help guide future lake and stream sampling efforts.
- Collected **341 water samples** from lakes and streams in **20** different watersheds.
- **2,819** public water supplies were monitored for PFAS in FY2026.
- A total of **27** Administrative Consent Orders or General Administrative Consent Orders have been entered into with parties associated with industrial sites to address PFAS in their stormwater discharges to surface waters, **4** of which were entered in FY 2026. These orders require ongoing monitoring, source investigations, and corrective action plans with the goal of reducing or eliminating PFAS in their discharge. **20** corrective action plans were submitted, and **2** facilities achieved certified compliance for PFOS at one discharge point.
- **30** active industrial wastewater facilities with direct discharges to surface waters currently have National Pollutant Discharge Elimination System (NPDES) permits, certificates of coverage, or substantive requirements documents containing PFAS discharge limits. **4** additional industrial wastewater facilities have entered consent agreements with schedules to achieve compliance with PFAS discharge standards.
- A total of **165** municipal wastewater treatment plants (WWTPs) have monitoring requirements for PFAS.
- As of October 2026, **101 industries** that discharge to municipal WWTPs have installed pretreatment and/or **have achieved significant reductions** through cleaning, equipment replacement, eliminating PFOS-contaminated processes or materials, limiting or discontinuing the discharge to specific WWTPs, or isolating contamination. These actions are significant because WWTPs are not designed to treat PFAS.

Wastewater Treatment Plant (WWTP) Grants



In 2026, EGLE's Water Resources Division (WRD) administered grants to several municipalities to support their work to **reduce PFAS in Wastewater Treatment Plants (WWTPs)** effluent, biosolids, and/or groundwater. These grants are funded through the federal Bipartisan Infrastructure Investment and Jobs Act.

- **The Bay County Department of Water and Sewer:** $160,000 to assess potential PFAS source areas in the wastewater collection system and at the treatment plant. A plan will be developed to address sources in the collection system and ultimately minimize impacts to the environment and receiving surface waters.
- **The City of Brighton**: $56,000 to assess potential PFAS sources within the sewershed. A plan will be developed to identify sources within the collection system and plan for potential remedial actions or technologies for the sources to reduce PFAS loading to the wastewater treatment plant.
- **The Chain of Lakes Sewer Authority:** $50,000 to assess the contribution of PFAS from non-domestic users to the collection system and evaluate how PFAS is cycling within the treatment plant. Advanced PFAS analytical methods such as the Total Oxidizable Precursor Assay, and analyzing for Polyfluoroalkyl phosphoric acid diesters (diPAPs), will be used.
- **The City of Grayling:** $200,500 to characterize existing conditions and potential source areas in the collection system and at the treatment plant associated with known impacts from PFAS. The City will create a Geographic Information System database that compiles the locations of existing PFAS sampling results and known or suspected PFAS sources.
- **The City of Ishpeming:** $155,000 to assess potential PFAS source areas in the wastewater collection system and at the treatment plant. Advanced PFAS analytical methods such as the Total Oxidizable Precursor Assay will be used for select collection system and treatment plant samples. A plan will be developed to prioritize areas within the collection system for corrective action.
- **The Lenawee County Drain Commission:** $110,000 to assess the contribution of PFAS from non-domestic users to the collection system and evaluate how PFAS is cycling within the Rollin-Woodstock wastewater treatment plant. A focus of sampling will be the septage receiving portion of the system.
- **The Village of Onsted:** $110,000 to conduct a review of non-domestic users, AFFF use, contaminated sites, and past industries to determine PFAS contributions to the collection system. This review will inform a sampling plan within the collection system and the treatment plant. Findings will assist in planning for mitigation and corrective action efforts.
- **The Village of Roscommon:** $160,000 to assess the contribution of PFAS from non-domestic users to the collection system and evaluate how PFAS is cycling within the treatment plant. Methods to minimize infiltration/inflow of PFAS contaminated groundwater and/or stormwater will be evaluated to assist in planning for future investigation and mitigation efforts.

Filters and Residential Well Sampling:

- MPART sampled **more than 520** drinking water wells that had not been previously sampled.
- MDHHS *re*-sampled **more than 2,590** drinking water wells that had been sampled in previous years.
- MDHHS provided **more than 320** PFAS-reducing filters to impacted residents.
- MDHHS provided **more than 1,220** replacement cartridges for PFAS-reducing filters.



Health: Updates from MDHHS

Research and Biomonitoring

MDHHS designed the Michigan PFAS Exposure and Health Study (MiPEHS) to understand the effects of PFAS exposure on health. Since 2020, over 1,600 people enrolled in MiPEHS, across three phases of data collection. As of 2026, result letters from the last phase were sent to the participants and new summary reports and peer-reviewed journal publications were released or underway.

MDHHS, in partnership with the CDC and other sites across the United States, conducted the Multi-site Health Study (MSS) between 2020-2025. This national study was designed to research the effects of PFAS exposure on health. As of 2026, data collection for MSS has ended and data analysis is underway. All participants have learned their blood PFAS levels and the results of their health tests. The first journal articles have been published, and more publications were developed and underway in 2026.

The PFAS in Firefighters of Michigan Surveillance (PFOMS) project is a statewide initiative with the primary goal of determining blood concentrations of PFAS in Michigan firefighters. Over 1,000 firefighters were enrolled before the end of data collection in September 2023 and all participants have learned about their blood PFAS concentrations. The report and brief with aggregate findings are available on the PFOMS website, where future findings will also be published.

MDHHS' Michigan Chemical Exposure Monitoring (MiChEM) program is an ongoing effort to measure chemicals in the blood and urine of adults across Michigan. The program measures nearly 200 chemicals, including lead, mercury and PFAS. With support from the CDC, MiChEM completed two cycles of data collection.

- Cycle one took place from September 2022 to July 2024. It included 1,786 adults. Cycle one participants have already received their results. Early findings from Cycle one will be shared in 2027.
- Cycle two collected data from March 2025 to April 2026. It included 1,296 adults. Cycle two participants are now receiving their results.

The Oscoda Area Exposure Assessment (OAEA) is an investigation to understand exposure to environmental chemicals, including PFAS, among residents of the Oscoda area. Over 900 Oscoda area residents were enrolled in the project.

The MDHHS Behavioral Adaptability: Learning About Novel Contamination in the Environment (BALANCE) study was designed to understand certain characteristics of health and behavior, and how those may be related to learning about blood test results for PFAS. As of 2026, data analyses are underway.

MDHHS concluded data collection for the Environmental Mediators of Birth-defects and Relation to Contaminants (EMBARC) study in 2026. This research project seeks to understand any relationships between newborn blood PFAS levels and diagnoses of certain birth defects. As of 2026, data analyses are underway.

The Michigan Investigation of Chemical Exposures during Pregnancy (MICEP) project is a surveillance project that measures lead, mercury, arsenic and PFAS in the blood and urine of adults from select areas of the state that are pregnant. This project aims to determine whether amounts of these chemicals are different during pregnancy compared to average statewide and national populations. Appointments for this project started in March 2026 and will continue until December 2026. So far, MICEP has seen 267 participants with 239 receiving their results to date. This study is the first to use MDHHS' new online results reporting portal, "MiResults," which allows participants to get their results much faster than older methods of reporting.

Information on the current status of all of the above studies can be found at DEHBio - Biomonitoring and PFAS Health Studies.

MDHHS Mobile Lab

The MDHHS Mobile Lab is designed to support the work of the MDHHS Division of Environmental Health. The Mobile Lab enables efficient and equitable sample collection for biomonitoring, surveillance, and research projects in Michigan. Since being deployed in 2022, the Mobile Lab has spent 126 weeks in the field traveling over 36,563 miles to 91 unique locations.



PFAS Self-Test Kit Project

The purpose of Local Health Department (LHD) Directed PFAS Self-Test Kit Project is to provide LHDs with the opportunity to decide residential drinking water well sampling efforts for PFAS in their communities. The project is available to residents with private wells in areas where (1) limited or no residential drinking water sampling for PFAS has been conducted or (2) there are community questions about PFAS concentrations in residential drinking water wells in areas outside of existing PFAS investigations (sites or areas of interest).

The project has received 2,051 target addresses from twelve LHDs for recruitment. Approximately 10.49% of residents receiving invitations to participate in the PFAS Self-Test Kit Project have requested a PFAS kit. The EGLE Lab has tested 165 of the kits. These results include 73.33% with no PFAS analytes detected above the reporting limit, 23.64% with detections of at least one PFAS, and 2.42% with an exceedance of at least one PFAS above MDHHS' comparison values.

The project is receiving additional PFAS self-test kit requests from residents who have received recruitment letters.

Care for MiWell Sampling Project

In summer of 2026, MDHHS launched the Care for MiWell Sampling Project. The project aims to assess water quality from Michigan's private wells and help Michigan residents understand information about their well, the plumbing in their home and their water.

Randomly selected private well-owners from across Michigan are invited to participate and are offered:

- Free drinking water testing for various analytes, including bacteria, metals, per- and polyfluoroalkyl substances (PFAS), volatile organic compounds (VOCs) and other drinking water contaminants (over a $1,000 value).
- In-person education and assessment of the residents' private well and the home's plumbing.
- Resources on how to maintain and improve water quality and interpretation of their results.

The project will help residents identify conditions impacting their home's drinking water and provide data-backed guidance to help reduce risks from potential contaminants in well water.

So far, the project has conducted sampling in three counties: Ionia, Livingston and Ingham. There have been 131 homes sampled.

Statewide PFAS Guidance and Campaign

In early 2026, MDHHS published a new statewide recommendation: **"The Michigan Department of Health and Human Services (MDHHS) recommends everyone in Michigan reduce their exposure to all PFAS when and wherever possible."** MDHHS provided the accompanying guidance to support residents in reducing exposure:



- Learn if your drinking water is impacted by PFAS.
- Consider using certified PFAS-reducing drinking water filters.
- Follow fish consumption guidelines in your area to help choose fish low in PFAS.
- Avoid using consumer products that may contain PFAS, such as stain or water-resistant products.
- Avoid foam on surface water and rinse off after contact. Some foam may contain PFAS, as well as other chemicals.

Actions to reduce exposure, along with the statewide recommendation, are currently being promoted through a statewide PFAS campaign that launched in Spring 2026 and will run through March 2028. The media campaign uses tactics such as radio, TV, streaming services, podcasts, social media, gas station TV, search engines, and billboards. The new MDHHS PFAS website further promotes the guidance through tools such as a lifestyle survey that provides personalized recommendations to reduce exposure, a community social media toolkit, and a comment box for residents to share the actions they're taking to reduce exposure. The campaign is off to a strong start - colleagues and Michigan residents have reported seeing the recommendation promoted across Michigan.

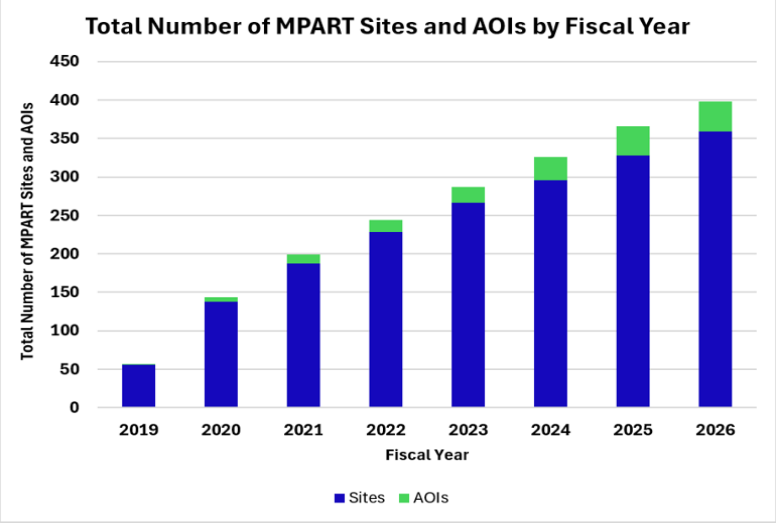
MDHHS Health Consultations and Other Reports

MDHHS has published over 10 health consultations and other public health reports related to PFAS as of the end of FY26. See Health Consultations and Cancer Investigation Resources for details.

MDHHS has published or has in press two peer-reviewed journal articles from MiPEHS and the multi-state MSS team has published two peer-reviewed journal articles of findings from the nationwide study.

In FY 2027, MPART will:

- Build on the success of the 2026 PFAS Awareness Week and collaborate nationally for the event in 2027.
- Continue to **sample drinking water wells** near sources of PFAS and continue to keep residents informed.
- EGLE and MDHHS will continue to coordinate on residential results from the Care for MI Well and Self- Test Kit Sampling projects.
- Emphasize working with PFAS-impacted communities to find long-term drinking water solutions such as **infrastructure projects** connecting more residents to municipal water supplies.
- Continue to implement proactive sampling of drinking water wells near **fire training** facilities and **plating facilities**.
- Continue to **identify sources** of PFAS and hold responsible parties accountable for investigations at sites.
- Continue to work with **industrial direct** and **industrial storm water** discharges to identify and characterize regulated discharges that may have PFAS exceedances to comply with water quality criteria through compliance programs established in Administrative Consent Orders or permit requirements.
- Continue to analyze **surface water and fish** for PFAS from unassessed water bodies.
- Send **health education and outreach** to residents affected by PFAS investigations.
- Continue to provide technical support to **public water supplies** that want to proactively address PFAS.
- Engage with the legislature on **bills** such as PFAS labeling on consumer products and product bans.
- Conduct a focused **septic investigation** to determine if septic can be a source of PFAS to groundwater.



Ongoing Needs:

- Funding for short- and long-term **drinking water solutions** in areas impacted by PFAS.
- Funding and resources to focus on **educating the public** about PFAS.
- Funding to support residents who want to self-sample their **private residential well**. Additional resources are needed to sample the 1 million+ private drinking water wells in the state.
- Funding **to support municipalities** that are responsible for addressing PFAS at their landfills and drinking water and wastewater treatment plants.
- Funding to support continued **source tracking** efforts, including the assessment of PFAS in both surface water and fish tissue throughout the state of Michigan.
- **Toxicological studies** focused on assessing effects on both human health and aquatic life for PFAS that don't have established water quality values.

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