



FAIRCHILD

AIR FORCE BASE



May 2024
Volume 1

Next newsletter:
Summer 2024



Did you know...

You can review public documents regarding environmental testing and sampling?

Visit the Administrative Record (AR) to find more information:
<https://ar.afcec-cloud.af.mil/>

- From this link, click "Continue to site", next type "Fairchild" in the installation list.
- If you know the AR number, you can search by that, or numerous other search block can be used.

To go through all documents, make sure nothing is highlighted and click "Search". This will generate all documents uploaded to the AR from Fairchild.

A step-by-step guide can be accessed here:
<https://tinyurl.com/SearchTheAR>

Newsletter Staff

Editors

Vanessa Urbach
Jeniffer Montes

Contributors

Megan Riccobono
Jack Mapes

Meet Our Staff

Jack Mapes was born and raised in Spokane, Washington, where he developed a deep connection to his community and a passion for making a positive impact. After graduating from Boise State University, Jack embarked on a journey driven by his unwavering motivation and eagerness to address the pressing issues facing the local communities surrounding Fairchild Air Force Base.



With a strong sense of duty and commitment to service, Jack is dedicated to being a dependable resource for his community. He eagerly anticipates contributing to and actively participating in the implementation of the Community Involvement Plan, demonstrating his proactive approach to community engagement.

Restoration Advisory Board Meeting

Fairchild Air Force Base would like to extend our sincerest gratitude towards all of our community members that attended our February 7th Restoration Advisory Board meeting. Your thoughtful contributions and feedback have helped us to better understand the needs and concerns of our community, and we look forward to continuing to work together towards our shared goals.



From left to right: Kurt Lee (CZTE), Kostas Dovantis (Noblis), Kristine Weber (AECOM), Lonnie Duke (CZPW), Megan Riccobono (CZOM), John Peper (Bay West), Jarrod Case (CZOM), Monique Nixon (CZR), Mark Loucks (CZOM), Jack Mapes (CZOM), Benjamin Kindt (CZO), Jeniffer Montes (Cherokee Federal), Abigail Power (Ageiss), Jacob Bradley (Bay West), Andy Niemand (CZTE).

What is PFAS?

Per- and Polyfluoroalkyl Substances, or PFAS, are a group of manmade chemicals used for a wide variety of residential, commercial and industrial purposes including: non-stick cookware, stain-resistant fabric and carpet, some food packaging and fire fighting foam.

PFOS and PFOA are components of legacy Aqueous Film Forming Foam (AFFF) that the Air Force began using in the 1970s as a firefighting agent to extinguish petroleum fires. AFFF was used extensively at Fairchild AFB from the 1970s until 2016 to fight petroleum fires.

Sampling Summary (as of December 2023)

- AF sampled 427 private drinking water wells.
- Detected above 70 ppt: 107 private wells.
- Detected above 70 ppt: 2 out of 4 municipal wells.

Treatment Systems and Status

- 90 residential systems in place/installed.
- 4 homes connected to municipal water supply
- 5 pending GAC filtration systems
- 6 locations sampled and above 70 ppt (no longer used for drinking water)
- 2 GAC filtration systems removed

Remediation Strategies

For PFOS/PFOA contaminated wells located within the sampling area that have been sampled and tested above the DoD Policy of 70 ppt, the Air Force is offering two options:

1. Connection to a municipal water supply
2. Installation of a Granular Activated Carbon (GAC) filtration system

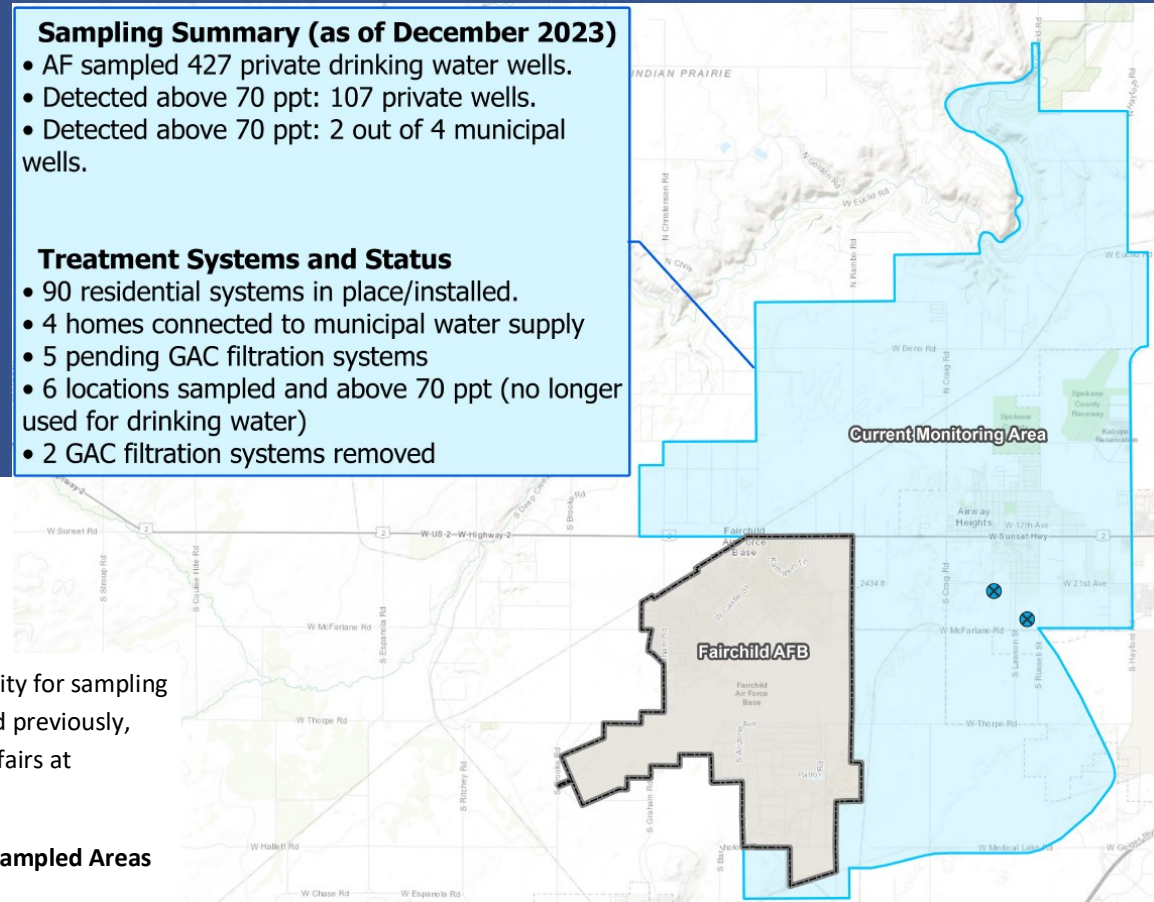
Residential treatment systems are designed with three GAC filtration tanks for redundancy and increased safety. GAC removes contaminants, including PFAS compounds, from drinking water through adsorption. The systems also include particulate filters to remove any sediment/sand from the well, and an ultraviolet (UV) disinfection system for additional removal of bacteria and microorganisms. Sampling and routine maintenance of treatment systems is conducted quarterly. A 24-hour hotline is available for emergency repairs and response. The hotline number is (971) 770-1145.

Legend

- City of Airway Heights (CAWH) Wells
- Current Monitoring Area
- Fairchild AFB Installation Boundary

If you would like to check your eligibility for sampling and have not had sampling conducted previously, please contact Fairchild AFB Public Affairs at (509) 247-5705.

Figure 1 - Fairchild AFB PFOS/PFOA Sampled Areas



Contact Us

Our website:

<https://www.fairchild.af.mil/Information/Restoration/>

Fairchild AFB Restoration Team:

Megan Riccobono
megan.riccobono.1@us.af.mil
(509) 247-2450

Jack Mapes
jack.mapes.1@us.af.mil
(509) 247-2451

Mark Henry
mark.henry.1@us.af.mil
(509) 247-2381

92nd Air Base Wing Public Affairs:

(509) 247-5705
92arw.pa@us.af.mil

Washington State Department of Ecology:

Jason Cook
Jasco461@ECY.WA.GOV

U.S. Environmental Protection Agency, Region 10:

Jaclyn Satira
satira.jaclyn@epa.gov

