IMPORTANT INFORMATION ABOUT YOUR DRINKING WATER

Camp Foster, Chatan Drinking Water Treatment Plant (DWTP), Detectable Levels of Per- and Polyfluoroalkyl Substances (PFAS)

The health and well-being of our service members, their families, and civilian employees remains a high priority for us. Marine Corps Base (MCB) Camp Butler Environmental Affairs Branch (EAB) routinely monitors for the presence of drinking water contaminants on all Camps. On 10 April 2024, the EPA announced a final rule on drinking water standards for certain PFAS under the Safe Drinking Water Act (SDWA). These standards were applied to overseas installations on 28 September 2025 through the DoD policy memo titled *Policy for Monitoring and Treatment of Per- and Polyfluoroalkyl Substances in Department of Defense Drinking Water Systems outside the United States*. The standards within this memo apply to all DoD-operated water systems and all drinking water purchased from Host Nation treatment plants. The DoD policy memo sets maximum contaminant levels (MCLs) and trigger levels for several PFAS in drinking water, mandates initial monitoring to be completed by 26 April 2027, establishes routine monitoring and notification requirements, and requires compliance for all regulated drinking water purveyors to comply with the specified MCLs by 26 April 2029. The purpose of this notification is to publish analytical results of all the prescribed PFAS analytes detected above the trigger levels identified in Table 1:

Table 1: PFAS MCLs and Trigger Levels

PFAS Analyte	Abbreviation	MCL	Trigger Level
Perfluorooctanoic acid	PFOA	4.0 ppt	2.0 ppt
Perfluorooctanesulfonic acid	PFOS	4.0 ppt	2.0 ppt
Perfluorohexanesulfonic acid	PFHxS	10 ppt	5 ppt
Hexafluoropropylene oxide dimer acid	HFPO-DA (GenX)	10 ppt	5 ppt
Perfluorononanoic acid	PFNA	10 ppt	5 ppt
Perfluorobutanesulfonic acid	PFBS	N/A	N/A
Mixture of two or more: PFHxS, PFNA, HFPO-DA (GenX), and PFBS		Hazard Index (HI) of 1 (unitless)	HI of 0.5 (unitless)

Source: *Policy for Monitoring and Treatment of Per- and Polyfluoroalkyl Substances in Department of Defense Drinking Water Systems outside the United States* (28 Sept 2025)

Samples from entry point to the Camp Foster distribution system were collected on 18 May 2026 and results were received on 12 June 2026. The samples were collected from all four entry points to the Camp Foster drinking water distribution system. The results of PFOS ranged from 2.3 – 2.7 ppt. The maximum concentration is reported in **Table 2**. The Chatan DWTP provides drinking water to residents and occupants located on Camp Foster, Plaza Housing, and the North Camp Lester Housing Area.

Table 2: Camp Foster PFAS Results

PFAS Analyte	Abbreviation	Result (ppt)	Is Result Above MCL?	Is Result Above Trigger Level?
Perfluorooctanoic acid	PFOA	Not detected	No	No
Perfluorooctanesulfonic acid	PFOS	2.7	No	Yes
Perfluorohexanesulfonic acid	PFHxS	Not detected	No	No
Hexafluoropropylene oxide dimer acid	HFPO-DA (GenX)	Not detected	No	No
Perfluorononanoic acid	PFNA	Not detected	No	No

PFAS Analyte	Abbreviation	Result (ppt)	Is Result Above MCL?	Is Result Above Trigger Level?
Perfluorobutanesulfonic acid	PFBS	Not detected	No MCL or Trigger Level established	
Mixture of two or more: PFHxS, PFNA, HFPO-DA (GenX), and PFBS		HI of 0	No	No

What are Per- and Polyfluoroalkyl substances (PFAS) and where do they come from?

PFAS are a group of thousands of man-made chemicals that have been used in a variety of industrial and consumer products around the world for decades. Due to their widespread use and environmental persistence, most people have been exposed to certain PFAS. They have been used to make coatings and products that are used as oil and water repellents in carpets, clothing, paper packaging for food, and cookware. They are also contained in some aqueous film-forming foam (AFFF) used for fighting petroleum fires at airfields and for industrial fire suppression.

What does this mean?

Research is still ongoing to understand the mechanisms of PFAS toxicity. The risk of health effects associated with PFAS depends on exposure factors (dose, frequency, route, duration), individual factors (sensitivity and chronic disease burden), and other determinants of health. The epidemiological evidence suggests associations between increases in exposure to specific PFAS and certain health effects. For specific information about the health effects of PFAS exposure, please visit https://www.atsdr.cdc.gov/pfas/.

Are there regulations for PFAS in drinking water?

As noted above, on 10 April 2024, the EPA announced a final rule on drinking water standards for certain PFAS under the Safe Drinking Water Act (SDWA). These standards were applied to overseas installations on 28 September 2025 through the DoD policy memo previously mentioned. Compliance with the MCLs outlined in the DoD policy memo is required by 26 April 2029.

What is being done?

MCB Camp Butler, EAB will continue to monitor PFAS in the treated drinking water from Chatan DWTP on a periodic basis as directed by DoD policy and take appropriate action, as required. Additionally, MCB Butler in coordination with Marine Corps Installations Command and joint service partners will continue to evaluate the potential need for mitigation measures, as necessary. MCB Butler will post sampling results of detected PFAS on the installation's public webpage and in the drinking water system's Consumer Confidence Report(s) (accessible at https://www.mcipac.marines.mil/Resources/Environmental-Notices/#public-notices).

What can I do?

There is nothing you need to do, as there is no immediate risk to the general population. You may continue to use the water for all consumptive purposes (drinking, bathing, showering, cooking, dishwashing, and maintaining oral hygiene).

For more information, please visit https://www.epa.gov/pfas/pfas-explained, or send inquiries to MCB Camp Butler, GF, EAB at mcbb.gf.envwater@usmc.mil or call DSN 315-645-1425.

This notice is being sent to you by MCB Camp Butler Drinking Water Program Office.

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