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TO: Steve Genisot, Mayor, City of Marinette
Denise Wiedemeier, Chair, Town of Peshtigo

COPY: Roxanne Chronert, R&R Program Supervisor, Wisconsin DNR

FROM: Robert Thiboldeaux, PhD, Senior Toxicologist

A handwritten signature in black ink that reads "Robert Thiboldeaux".

SUBJECT: Limit the use of private non-potable wells within the Town of Peshtigo and City of Marinette unless it has been tested.

July 19, 2018

The Department of Health Services has received questions about whether perfluoroalkyl and polyfluoroalkyl substances (PFAS) in water get into the plants we eat. We have been researching the health effects of PFAS given the ongoing investigation into groundwater contamination in the Town of Peshtigo and City of Marinette from Tyco Fire Training Facility.

Some plants concentrate PFASs slightly above what is in groundwater. Many other plants take up very little PFAS from water. Overall, the available research indicates that most garden plants are not a *major* source of exposure, but we cannot say there is *no* exposure.

To avoid even small amounts of exposure, the Department of Health Services is recommending people in affected areas within the Marinette City Limits and the Town of Peshtigo use water that does not contain PFAS above the U.S. EPA Health Advisory Level of 70 parts per trillion (ppt) for gardens. For other non-potable uses such as pools, concentrations above 70 ppt may be acceptable. Contact us for advice if your well is above 70 ppt.

For questions about the health effects of PFCs, contact: Robert Thiboldeaux, PhD, Wisconsin Department of Health Services, (608)-267-6844. For more about private well testing, please see information from the U.S EPA: <https://www.epa.gov/sites/production/files/2016-10/documents/ucmr3-lab-approval.pdf>.