



# Assist communities with contaminated drinking water

PFAS and 1,4-dioxane in drinking water pose health risks in Minnesota communities.

## RECOMMENDATION

### **\$8 million** **General obligation bonds**

Governor Walz recommends an appropriation of \$8 million funded by general obligation bonds to provide clean drinking water infrastructure for Minnesotans with contaminated private wells.

The highest-priority project for funding with these dollars will be Red Oaks neighborhood in Andover, where a connection to municipal drinking water is needed for residents whose wells are contaminated with PFAS and 1,4-dioxane.

## Challenge

Human-made contaminants like per- and polyfluoroalkyl substances (PFAS) and 1,4-dioxane have been detected in the private wells of several hundred properties throughout communities in Minnesota, including Andover and Gem Lake, and at manufactured home parks in Austin, Bemidji, and elsewhere. In some cases, contamination has made the drinking water in these places unsafe.

## Why it's important

The Minnesota Department of Health has established health-based values for PFAS and 1,4-dioxane based on their potential to cause cancer and other serious health conditions. Drinking water treatment or alternative sources are expensive and beyond the means of many property owners.

**Alexis Donath**  
Legislative Coordinator

alexis.donath@state.mn.us  
651-373-9277

**Tom Johnson**  
Government Relations Director

tom.e.johnson@state.mn.us  
651-338-8955