

June 11, 2026

Subject: Notification of PFOA and PFOS Notification Level Exceedance

Dear Scotts Valley Water District Board of Directors,

The purpose of this letter, consistent with Health and Safety Code Sections 116378 and 116455, is to inform you of the presence of per- and polyfluoroalkyl substances (PFAS) in the Well 11B water source (State Source ID 4410013-021) that is currently listed as an active source, but has been offline since April 2, 2026. Well 11B is without PFAS Treatment.

Pursuant to Health and Safety Code Sections 116378 and 116455, the Scotts Valley Water District is required to inform its governing body and the governing body of any local agency whose jurisdiction includes the areas supplied with drinking water by the Scotts Valley Water District of concentrations exceeding the notification levels for PFAS. These notification levels are health-based advisory levels established by the State Water Resources Control Board (State Water Board), Division of Drinking Water (DDW) for chemicals in drinking water that lack maximum contaminant levels. When chemicals are found at concentrations greater than their notification levels, certain notification requirements and recommendations apply.

The DDW determined that the Notification Level(s) have been exceeded specifically for PFAS as set forth in the following table:

PFAS	Notification Level	Response Level	Concentration	Health Effects
PFOS	4.0 ng/L	40 ng/L	6.7 ng/L	Some people who drink water containing PFOS in excess of the Notification Level over many years may experience adverse health effects. PFOS exposures have been shown to cause immune suppression and cancer in laboratory animals.
PFOA	4.0 ng/L	10 ng/L	4.1 ng/L	Some people who drink water containing PFOA in excess of the Notification Level over many years may experience adverse health effects. PFOA exposures have been shown to cause increased liver weight and cancer in laboratory animals.

PFOS and PFOA were detected in a water quality sample collected from Well 11B on May 19, 2026. It is important to note that Well 11B has been out of service since April

2nd, 2026. Previous PFOS and PFOA sampling conducted at Well 11B on February 11, 2026 and May 29, 2024 reported concentrations below the State of California Detection Limit for Reporting (DLR) of 2 ng/L.

SVWD is collecting repeat samples and will continue to monitor Well 11B in accordance with applicable regulatory requirements.

PFAS are manmade substances that have been synthesized for their heat, water, and oil resistance properties. They have been used extensively in consumer products such as carpets, clothing, fabrics for furniture, paper packaging for food, and other materials (e.g., cookware) designed to be waterproof, stain-resistant or non-stick. In addition, they have been used in fire-retarding foam and various industrial processes. The major sources of PFAS in drinking water are fire training and response sites, industrial sites, landfills, and wastewater treatment plants and biosolids. The origin of the contaminant in our water supply at this time is unknown but the water system is working with the State Water Board and other agencies to identify the circumstances of the contamination.

Pursuant to Health and Safety Code sections 116378 and 116455, if a chemical is present in drinking water that is provided to consumers at concentrations exceeding the Response Level, the drinking water system must either (1) take the source out of service immediately; (2) utilize treatment or blending; or (3) provide public notification of the Response Level exceedance. Additional information will be provided to our customers in the Scotts Valley Water District Consumer Confidence Report that comes out next year.

Please refer to the following links for additional information about PFAS:

DDW PFAS Website:

https://www.waterboards.ca.gov/drinking_water/certlic/drinkingwater/pfas.html

DDW PFAS Factsheet:

https://www.waterboards.ca.gov/drinking_water/certlic/drinkingwater/docs/2024/pfas-fact-sheet-ddw-2024.pdf

If you have any questions regarding this matter, please contact Scotts Valley Water District at (831)438-2363 or at contact@svwd.org

Sincerely,
Scotts Valley Water District

