

PFAS Lab, Northeastern University 10-28-22 FOMB Merrymeeting Bay Report

<https://pfasproject.com/2022/10/28/new-tests-find-forever-chemicals-in-midcoast-maine-watershed/>



**PFAS Project Lab**  
*Northeastern University*

## **The PFAS Project Lab**

**Studying Social, Scientific, and Political Factors of Per- and Polyfluoroalkyl Substances**

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**New tests find ‘forever chemicals’ in midcoast  
Maine watershed**



Photo from Maine.gov

Date: [October 28, 2022](#) Author: [esmegetto](#) 1 [Comments](#)

Read the [full article](#) (Bangor Daily News)

“New tests have found so-called forever chemicals in a midcoast Maine watershed.

The chemical compounds — [per- and polyfluoroalkyl substances](#), also known as PFAS — have been increasingly linked to harmful health effects in people and animals.

A comprehensive report released by Friends of Merrymeeting Bay provides direct, first-time evidence of PFAS leakage from the former Brunswick Naval Air Station reaching the watershed.

‘The question was, in my mind, ‘What’s making it to the river?’’ Ed Friedman of Friends of Merrymeeting Bay said.

Friedman and others sampled 30 sites on the Androscoggin and Kennebec rivers and several creeks that lead to Merrymeeting Bay.

He said the testing found 19 different PFAS in the water.

‘PFAS is sort of the new kid on the block,’ Friedman said. ‘But we’ve had advisories out for mercury here statewide for many, many years.’

Of the 30 sites tested, the highest levels of PFAS were found in three creeks that drain from the Brunswick Naval Air Station into the Androscoggin River. The highest level was 922 parts per trillion, well above what the EPA considers a safe level.

In fact, recent tests on the former base found two types of PFAS used in firefighting foams.

‘When you have an obvious point source like the Brunswick Naval Air Station, and the firefighting foam is probably leaking out still, then you really need to address, when you know where it is, you need to address the problem and you need to address it quickly and effectively,’ Friedman said.” ...

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### Comments

**[Ed Friedman](#)**

[October 30, 2022 at 4:09 am](#)

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The full FOMB Report can be found at this link on our website

<http://cybrary.fomb.org/pages/PFAS%20Survey%20of%20Merrymeeting%20Bay-Final%20Report%2010-24-22.pdf>

The CBS TV news story is here:

[http://www.friendsofmerrymeetingbay.org/fombnew/pages/what\\_we\\_do/press\\_releases/2022/News%20tests%20find%20forever%20chemicals%20in%20Midcoast%20watershed%20%20%20WGME.mp4](http://www.friendsofmerrymeetingbay.org/fombnew/pages/what_we_do/press_releases/2022/News%20tests%20find%20forever%20chemicals%20in%20Midcoast%20watershed%20%20%20WGME.mp4)