

MAINE PFAS SCREENING LEVELS

June 2021

Soil Remedial Action Guidelines ¹ (mg/kg)						
Compound	Leaching to Groundwater	Residential	Commercial Worker	Park User	Recreator Sediment	Construction Worker
PFBS	7.1	1,700	22,000	4,900	5,700	51,000
PFOS	0.0036	1.7	22	4.9	5.7	5.1
PFOA	0.0017	1.7	22	4.9	5.7	5.1

Soil Beneficial Use ² (ng/g, dry weight)	
Compound	Beneficial Use
PFBS	1,900
PFOS	5.2
PFOA	2.5

4	
Compound	Fish Tissue
PFBS	52
PFOS	0.052
PFOA	0.052

Interim Drinking Water Standard ⁴ (ng/l or ppt)	
Compound	Residential
PFOS + PFOA + PFHpA + PFNA + PFHxS + PFDA	20

Milk ⁵ (ng/l or ppt)	
Compound	Action Level
PFOS	210

Beef ⁶ (ng/g)	
Compound	Action Level
PFOS	3.4

Dairy ⁷ - PFOS Crop-Specific Soil Screening Levels (ng/g dry weight)			
	Soil to Hay to Milk Screening Level	Soil to Corn-Silage to Milk Screening Level	Soil to Hay and Corn-Silage to Milk Screening Level
Grass-Based Farm	6.8	120.0	6.4
Average Maine Farm	13.8	54.8	11.0

Helpful Conversions: 0.000001 ppm = 0.001 ppb = 1 ppt

Parts Per Million (ppm)	Parts Per Billion (ppb)	Parts Per Trillion (ppt)
1 milligram/kilogram (mg/kg) = 1 ppm	1 microgram/kilogram (µg/kg) = 1 ppb	1 nanogram/kilogram (ng/kg) = 1 ppt
1 milligram/liter (mg/l) = 1 ppm	1 microgram/liter (µg/l) = 1 ppb	1 nanogram/liter (ng/l) = 1 ppt
1 microgram/gram (µg/g) = 1 ppm	1 nanogram/gram (ng/g) = 1 ppb	1 picogram/gram (pg/g) = 1 ppt

¹ Maine Department of Environmental Protection (Maine DEP), [Maine Remedial Action Guidelines \(RAGs\) for Contaminated Sites](#), effective May 1, 2021.

² Maine DEP, [Maine Solid Waste Management Rules: Beneficial Use of Solid Wastes, 06-096 C.M.R. ch. 418](#), Appendix A, last amended July 8, 2018.

³ Maine DEP, [Maine RAGs for Contaminated Sites](#), effective May 1, 2021.

⁴ Resolve 2021, ch. 82, [Resolve, To Protect Consumers of Public Drinking Water by Establishing Maximum Contaminant Levels for Certain Substances and Contaminants](#), Emergency, effective June 21, 2021.

⁵ Maine Center for Disease Control and Prevention (CDC), [Action levels for PFOS in cow's milk](#), Memorandum to Rachael Fiske, Maine Department of Agriculture, Conservation and Forestry (DACF), from Andrew Smith, SM, ScD and Thomas Simones, PhD, Maine CDC, March 28, 2017.

⁶ Maine CDC, [Action levels for PFOS in beef for use in determining whether beef at a farm is adulterated](#), Memorandum to Nancy McBrady, Maine DACF, from Andrew Smith, SM, ScD and Thomas Simones, PhD, Maine CDC, August 4, 2020.

⁷ Maine CDC, [Derivation of PFOS soil screening levels for a soil-to-fodder-to-cow's milk agronomic pathway](#), September 16, 2020.

