

New Alternative Drinking Water Program



WE HAVE MONEY TO HELP INDIVIDUAL AND GROUP B USERS IMPACTED BY DRINKING WATER CONTAMINANTS!

What

Funding is available from ESSB 5187 to develop a program to assist with access to safe drinking water for homes and businesses with individual wells or small water systems that are contaminated.

Program activities may include water quality sampling, alternative water supply, and provision of treatment units to allow for drinking and cooking.

The program will provide support for private and Group B well users impacted by regional and specific contamination events, focusing on acute health impacts, sub-acute health impacts and chronic health impacts.

This is an opportunity for communities to receive support for addressing impacts to drinking water including, but not limited to PFAS, nitrate, industrial chemicals, arsenic, and uranium.

When

Funding is available after July 1, through existing contracts and eventually through new community organizational contracts to support residents in need to identify and address drinking water contaminants. Please email odw-adwp@doh.wa.gov with proposed projects or contact your local regional manager after July 1, 2023, to discuss options.

Who

We need local health experts to request the funding when it is made available. We will develop a mechanism and share it with you for adding to existing or additional consolidated contracts with DOH. This will allow the money to be spent more efficiently on testing, filters and alternative water supply rather than new contracting and administration costs.

Where

We will provide the funding across the state in response to requests from local health departments and community organizations willing to contract and distribute the funds.

Why

We requested funds for this new program because contaminants found in public water supply sources are also found in private and Group B sources. This is the first of its kind program funding to support residents impacted by contaminants in individual and Group B water supply sources. Through the program, we will promote health equity and reduce environmental health disparities by providing a remedy for safe drinking water regardless of the income and health literacy of those impacted.

How

We'll communicate our progress in developing the new program through articles, posting information on our website, and presenting information at meetings, such as our [Drinking Water Advisory Group meetings](#).

For additional general information about water contamination and recommended actions during emergencies, please visit our [Emergency Publications for Consumers page](#) and our [Drinking Water Contaminants page](#).

