Today, we face a national drinking water crisis from a family of chemicals: PFAS.

PFAS chemicals are the most toxic human-made cancer-causing substances known. Called “forever chemicals,” they take many decades to break down in the human body and the environment.

PFAS is the active ingredient in a fire-fighting foam used in routine fire-fighting exercises at military bases and commercial airports and actual fires. DuPont first introduced PFAS chemicals in 1946 to make heat-resistant cookware, stain- and water-repellent fabrics, polishes, waxes, cosmetics, paints, food packaging, dental floss, artificial turf, etc.

Landfills and chemical and manufacturing plants are sources for PFAS contamination of surface and groundwater used for municipal water systems.

What’s in your drinking water?
Start by finding out here: www.ewg.org/tapwater
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At military bases, PFAS foam has been allowed to seep into the ground to contaminate surface and groundwater. As a result, personnel and families living on base and those in nearby communities have been exposed to unsafe drinking water.

PFAS is linked to thyroid disease; to kidney, liver and testicular cancer; and to immune system disorders; it leads to abnormalities in the developing fetus and young child.

Today, over 110 million Americans are exposed to PFAS-contaminated drinking water. Over 99% of us have PFAS in our blood. PFAS is also found in placental tissue, umbilical cord blood, and breast milk.

The Environmental Protection Agency still hasn’t regulated PFAS in drinking water, so military bases are off the hook for now. For the needed clean up of military and civilian PFAS-contaminated sites, now is the time to cut the military arms budget and free up hundreds of millions of dollars.

Learn more about our project
The Pentagon: Exposing the Hidden Polluter of Water
www.wilpfus.org/our-work/earth-democracy-0

For more information, read:
www.militarypoisons.org
www.civilianexposure.org
www.sierradub.org/nc/ch/michigan/pfas

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