



# GOLDEN STATE WATER COMPANY

Committed to Ensuring  
Reliable, Quality Water

## Investing in PFAS Treatment

### What is PFAS?

Perfluoroalkyls and polyfluoroalkyls, commonly known as PFAS, are manmade chemicals widely used since the 1940s. PFAS has been used in various commercial and industrial applications, including carpeting, waterproof clothing, food paper wrappings, cookware, cosmetics, and firefighting foam.

PFAS are referred to as “forever chemicals” as they do not naturally break down in the environment and can be found in the water, air and soil. Due to their widespread use and resiliency, they are found worldwide. Exposure to high levels of PFAS over a long period and during critical life stages, such as pregnancy, and in early development stages of children may contribute to adverse health effects.

### What is Golden State Water Doing to Make Our Water Safe?

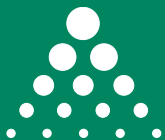
Golden State Water’s highest priority is providing customers with clean and safe water. We routinely monitor and test water to ensure that the level of PFAS in your drinking water meet federal and state water quality standards.

We work hard to ensure that customers feel confident about the quality of their drinking water. Contaminants such as PFAS are reported to federal and state regulators and disclosed in an annual Consumer Confidence Report emailed to customers and posted on Golden State Water Company’s website ([www.gswater.com](http://www.gswater.com)), listed explicitly by service area.

### Who Pays for Water Treatment?

Although PFAS manufacturers are responsible for creating this environmental issue, Golden State Water and its customers are burdened with the treatment cost. Golden State Water has instituted legal action against those it believes are responsible for creating the PFAS contamination. The expenses incurred to maintain exceptional water quality, including treatment and testing, are ultimately supported by the customers’ water bill rates. In Golden State Water Company’s rates for 2020-23, the company is investing in water treatment facilities designed to meet today’s drinking standards as they evolve.

Your rates play a vital role in ensuring that our water systems remain free from regulated or unregulated contaminants, thus upholding high water quality standards.



### About Golden State Water Company

As a wholly owned subsidiary of American States Water Company, Golden State Water Company has delivered quality, reliable water to more than 1 million people in over 80 communities in Northern, Coastal and Southern California for more than 90 years.