

My name is Sandy Wynn-Stelt, and I am not here as any expert or representing any group or organization. I am simply here representing my neighbors on House Street, on Chandler, on Wolven, in Belmont and Rockford; and in the multiple other communities that are discovered over the past few months that have been affected by PFAS contamination. Contamination that is a result of industrial waste being disposed of and polluting our groundwater.

My husband Joel and I were married in 1991 and bought our home in 1992. We were best friends. I have never met someone so smart, funny and passionate. We adored each other. In 2016 Joel went in for what we thought was relatively minor surgery. But he was diagnosed with liver cancer and died three weeks later. After 25 years of being married, my world was shattered.

A year later, as I walked to my mailbox, two people from Department of Environmental Quality met me and said that they wanted to test my water for PFAS. They might as well as asked to look for aliens in my closet. I had never heard of PFAS. But again, my life changed. After that day, my water has tested positive for PFAS with rates anywhere from 27,000 ppt to as high as 78,000 ppt. Slowly I learned that my neighbors were also contaminated with this. We eventually learned that our water was contaminated from industrial waste that was dumped by Wolverine World Wide across the street from my home. None of us were aware of this, despite hearing later that warnings had been provided to many other agencies. In November of 2017 my blood was tested to find that it had 5,000 ppb or 5,000,000 ppt of this in my system. 750 times that national average. No one seems to be able to tell me what will happen because of contamination this high.

My neighbors or I could not afford to remedy this on our own. There is unfortunately no end in sight. This class of chemicals will not dissipate, evaporate, or dilute. It will remain in our groundwater. There has been no plan put forth to remedy this. Our townships are left trying to find ways to fund this, while the corporations responsible are not held accountable. Fortunately, we live in an area with law firms that were able to help us, and advocate for whole home filters, and drinkable water. I can't imagine what others do in more rural areas or communities that don't have those resources available.

This is time when myself and my neighbors need our government representatives to stand up for us.

We are asking that the following occur:

1. **The Lifetime Health advisory of PFOS and PFOA of 70 ppt. is misleading and too high.** This is a number of chemicals, not just these two. Research from ASTDR is showing that 70 ppt. is too high as a lifetime advisory. However, by using this standard on a federal level, you are providing cover for states and business to hide behind this and delay or refuse action.
2. **We need the EPA to list PFAS chemicals as a hazardous substance** so that the appropriate funding, oversight and clean up can occur at not just a state but a federal level.
3. There needs to be **overall testing and monitoring** of our drinking water sources, both private wells and public water systems. We applaud MPART and the state of Michigan for starting this process, but this needs to occur nationally as well.
4. There needs to be a concerted effort to provide robust **studies on the medical effects** of this chemical for those that have been exposed. There must include blood testing and longitudinal studies.
5. **Businesses and Industries that have been responsible for this need to be held accountable** for correcting this. This should not be placed on taxpayers or underfunded States to manage these costs, while businesses reap the profits.
6. There needs to be a focus on **prevention of our water system being contaminated** by this compound and new or related compounds. This is a 'forever chemical'. It will not dissolve, dissipate, evaporate or go dormant in any way. We need government to establish guidelines for the future so that new chemicals created are disposed of in an appropriate manner and will not present risk to our health or our environment.

I have lost so much. I have lost my husband, I have lost the value of our property, that we hoped we could use some day to retire. I have no idea what this will do to my overall health. But there 16 children living now on House Street within a quarter mile of this site. They and others in the adjoining neighborhoods should not lose anything because of this disregard for our safety.