



Swedes warned not to serve pikeperch from Lake Mälaren to their young children due to toxic PFAS contamination (Credit:Vladimir Mironov Stock photo ID:1252587773)

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Bluewater says an immediate total ban on PFAS needed as a Swedish study warns Swedes to avoid eating PFAS-contaminated freshwater fish more than a couple of times a year

Stockholm, Sweden, June 26, 2023 – Swedish consumers are being warned to limit eating certain types of fish to just a couple of times a year due to toxic

contamination. According to a new Swedish Society for Nature Conservation study, edible fish like pikeperch from the freshwater Lake Mälaren, just west of the capital Stockholm, contain high levels of the environmental toxin PFAS.

Eurofins, a world leader in food, environment, and pharma product testing, conducted the study after being commissioned by the society to investigate how much PFAS is present in different foods in Sweden, including fish. The Swedish Society for Nature Conservation has previously reported that at least 2 million Swedes had too much PFAS in their drinking water.

The results led to the society's environmental toxins experts warning that children should not be fed pikeperch, prompting <u>Bluewater</u> founder and CEO Bengt Rittri to call for an immediate ban on all PFAS use. Bluewater is a global leader in water purification solutions for home and professional Horeca applications and public dispensing at events, shopping malls, and elsewhere.

"The EU is currently considering banning all PFAS, and this latest report underlines it is crucial the ban on PFAS is put in place as rapidly and comprehensively as possible," said Mr. Rittri, one of Sweden's foremost environmental entrepreneurs.

PFAS is a highly persistent chemical group that does not degrade and remains in the body for a long time. It has been linked to several adverse health effects, including an increased risk of cancer, a lower immune system, raised cholesterol, thyroid gland issues, and infertility.

Products containing PFAS have been made and sold for decades, despite awareness of the risks. Additionally, emergency services and the armed forces have continued to use firefighting foams containing PFAS.

The report notes that while the levels of PFAS do not exceed limit values introduced earlier this year for meat, fish, roe, and shellfish in Sweden, a person can easily consume more PFAS from various sources in a meal than what is recommended as the maximum intake for a whole week.

Further warnings about the pervasiveness of PFAS came in early 2023 from a broad PFAS mapping project by <u>Watershed</u>, a public-interest investigative journalism group. Their study revealed PFAS exists at high levels at thousands of sites across Europe and the UK, with PFAS found in water, soils,

and sediments from a wide range of consumer products, firefighting foams, waste, and industrial processes.

Bluewater water purifiers have been shown in independently verified research to remove up to 99.99% of health-threatening PFAS chemicals such as PFOA, PFOS, PFBA, and PFBS. Dr. Ahmed Fawzy, Ph.D., a senior research scientist at Bluewater who carried out the <u>tests</u> at the KTH Royal Institute of Technology in Stockholm that Eurofins verified, said Bluewater's unique second-generation <u>SuperiorOsmosisTM</u> technology had removed up to 99.99 percent of all the PFAS chemicals tested for, said Dr. Fawzy, which "is excellent news for anyone worried about forever chemicals in tap water."

For more information, don't hesitate to get in touch with Dave Noble, Bluewater PR and communication director, at david.noble@bluewatergroup.com or +44 7785 302 694.

About Bluewater

Bluewater has set its sights on being the world's most planet-friendly beverage company by innovating disruptive water purification technologies for home, work, and play. Providing drinking water generated and distributed at the point of use, combined with reusable stainless steel and glass bottles, is helping Bluewater to break the stranglehold of single-use plastic bottles and their unnecessary, polluting transportation. Bluewater products are available to consumers, hotel and catering operations, and event and venue organizations in Europe, the USA, the UK, China, South-East Asia, the Middle East, and Africa. Bluewater has been honored with two Fast Company World Changing Ideas Awards, a K&B Kitchen Innovation of the Year Award, and has been recognized for its sustainability efforts by numerous other publications. https://www.bluewatergroup.com

About Bluewater and FloWater

Stockholm-based Bluewater and Denver, Colorado-based FloWater merged in early 2022, and share a mission of innovating solutions for eliminating single-use plastic water bottles and providing access to safe, purified and great-tasting drinking water for everyone. With their beverages, advanced

water purification tech, water refill stations and sustainable bottle solutions, Bluewater and FloWater provide water free of heavy metals, 'forever chemicals' (PFAS), bacteria or viruses, microplastics and other contaminants to consumers, business, schools and large-scale sports events globally. Both Bluewater and FloWater have been honored with *Fast Company* "World Changing Ideas" awards, and featured in numerous leading media, including CNN, Forbes, Inc., The Hollywood Reporter, The Financial Times, and The Daily Telegraph.

For additional information, visit <u>www.bluewatergroup.com</u> and <u>www.drinkflowater.com</u>

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