

THE PROBLEM

Toxic chemicals known as Perfluoroalkyl and Polyfluoroalkyl substances (PFAS) have been linked to testicular and kidney cancer, liver damage, hormone disruption, increases in cholesterol, thyroid disruption, asthma, reproductive disorders including infertility, low birth weight and decreased response to vaccines.

Despite the dangers, PFAS are used in firefighting foam, nonstick cookware, water-repellent clothing, stain resistant fabrics and carpets, some cosmetics, products that resist grease, water, and oil, food packaging, and food service ware.

There are more than 4,000 PFAS in use today, and their prevalence has caused pollution in over 94 sites. PFAS have been found in the tap water of millions of homes across the United States. Furthermore, the United States Agency for Toxic Substances & Disease Registry (ATSDR) found that PFAS were more harmful than previously thought and that supposed “safe levels” were 10 times less than previously thought.

A COMPREHENSIVE SOLUTION

Connecticut must pass a bill to restrict the use of class B firefighting foam (PFAS chemicals), currently utilized for training purposes. Washington state passed a similar bill last year, and other states are moving in this direction.

Legislators should also pass a bill to restrict food service ware containing PFAS chemicals as soon as safe alternatives are available. The marketplace is already shifting to rapidly phase PFAS out of food service ware. There are many alternatives available now, and more likely to come in the future.



Toxic PFAS chemicals remain in our bodies for years, and in the environment, for millions of years. As PFAS build up in the environment, future generations risk exposure at higher levels than today.



PFAS chemicals have been found at fire training sites, industrial plants, military bases, and civilian airports.



Over 6 million Americans have been exposed to PFAS chemicals in their drinking water at levels above “safe” estimates. In 2018, PFAS chemicals were found in Greenwich wellwater.

MORE INFORMATION

To learn more about PFAS chemicals and pollution, contact:

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