

PFAS: PFAS Policy & Moving Forward

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Policy as Prevention

- Federal level
- State level
- County, Municipality, Local
- Advocacy Opportunities for the Clinician





Federal Action - Drinking Water

- April 2024: EPA Finalized NPDWR (National Primary Drinking Water Regulation)
 - 1st ever national, legally enforceable, scientifically supported drinking water standard covering Maximum Contaminant Level (MCLs) for 6 PFAS
- Included Unprecedented funding
 - Bipartisan Infrastructure Law: \$1 billion to states/territories & private well owners
 - Inflation Reduction Act: \$5 billion for PFAS & other emerging contaminants





Federal Action - Drinking Water

- May 2025: EPA Proposed Announcement to Weaken NPDWR
 - Keep MCLs for 2 of 6 PFAS (Keep PFOA & PFOS but extend deadline)
 - Intent to rescind and reconsider remaining 4: PFHxS, PFNA, HFPO-DA (GenX), & PFBS
 - New rulemaking process Fall 2025/Spring 2026
 - There will be an opportunity for public comment)
- Funding Cuts
 - \$15 million in PFAS research contamination of farmland
 - 23% proposed funding cut to EPA
 - 733 less EPA employees



Other Federal Actions

- January 2025: EPA withdrawal of PFAS effluent limits
- May 2025: EPA Extends TSCA Reporting Period for PFAS Manufacturers from July 11, 2025, to April 13, 2026
- August 2025: Ongoing litigation concerning the designation of PFOA and PFOS as hazardous substances under CERCLA (August 20, 2025, U.S. Court of Appeals for D.C. Circuit granted EPA's fifth unopposed motion for a 30-day stay extension)
- Potential for state preemption



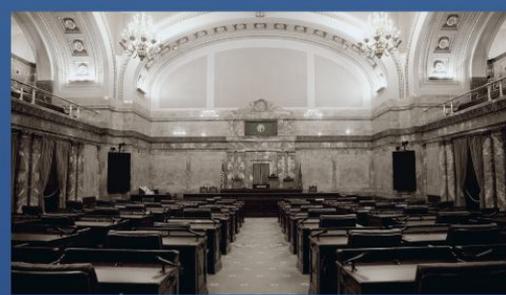
Safer States

saferstates.org

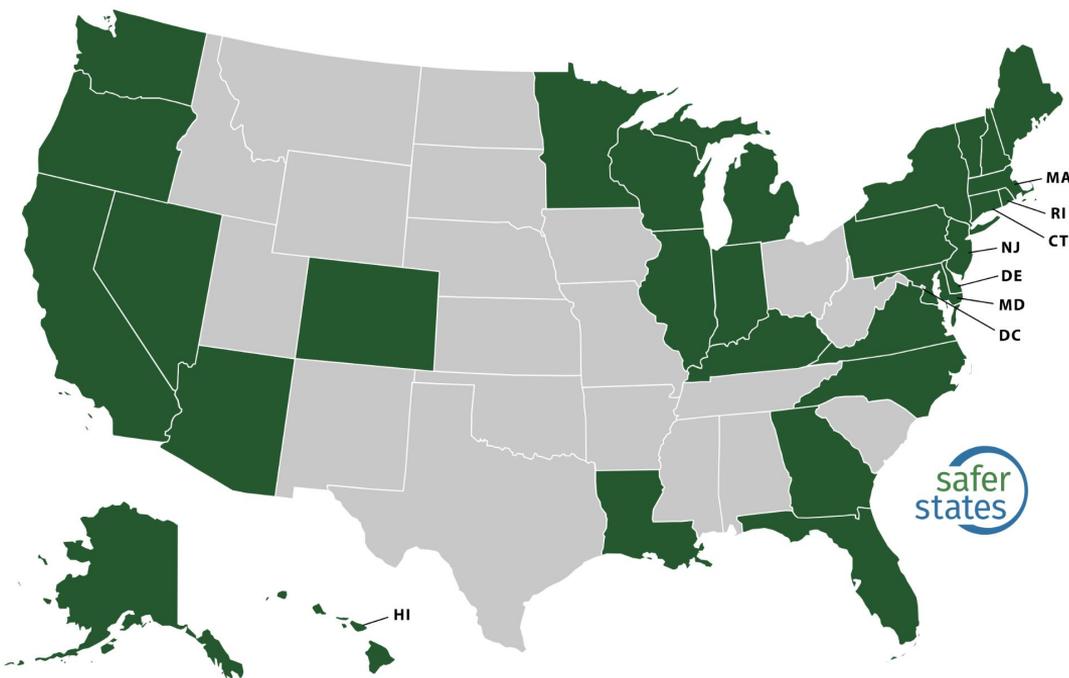
INSIGHTS

States Leading the Way: Takeaways from the 2025 Legislative Session on Toxic Chemicals and Plastics

July 23, 2025



■ Introduced ■ Adopted ■ Introduced & Adopted



Since 2001

- 30 states have **adopted** 173 policies
- 36 states have **introduced** 217 policies





States with Existing or Planned PFAS Regulations and/or Guidance

Environmental Media	States with PFAS Regulations and/or Guidance	States with PFAS Regulations and/or Guidance that are Also Planning to Implement New Regulations and/or Guidance	States without Existing PFAS Regulations and/or Guidance that are Planning to Implement PFAS Regulations and/or Guidance
Drinking Water	30	18	18
Groundwater	30	13	3
Surface Water	18	5	11
Soil	26	10	3
Air	8	1	0
Fish & Wildlife	21	1	5
Biosolids	10	0	1

This table shows the number of states with regulatory or advisory guidance (left column) and the number of states without existing PFAS regulations and/or guidance that are planning to implement such limits (right column) for PFAS in different environmental media. Some of the states with PFAS regulations and/or guidance (left column) are also planning to implement new PFAS regulations and/or guidance, as shown by the number in the middle column.



Delaware

STATE	STATUS	YEAR	BILL	TOXIC CHEMICAL	ISSUE/ SECTOR	PATHWAYS TO SAFER SOLUTIONS
Delaware	✓	2024	H.B.475 Appropriations bill. Includes \$918,000 for a PFAS foam reclamation project.	PFAS	Other	Accountability
Delaware	✓	2021	HB 8 Directs the Department of Natural Resources and Environmental Control and the Division of Public Health to establish maximum contaminant levels for PFOA and PFOS.	PFAS	Water	Phasing Out the Bad
Delaware	📌	2025	S.B.72 Requires the Division of Public Health to create a website where Delaware residents can find out the level of PFAS in their public drinking water systems. Requires the Division to notify public water utilities if the PFAS in their water exceeds certain limits.	PFAS	Water	Transparency

From
saferstates.org



August 2025

Chemours, DuPont, and Corteva will pay New Jersey \$875 million over 25 years to resolve allegations they contaminated water supplies with “forever chemicals.”

Chemours, DuPont, Corteva settle New Jersey PFAS claims for \$875 million

By Reuters

August 4, 2025 11:30 AM EDT · Updated August 4, 2025



[1/2] A logo is pictured outside of Dupont offices in Geneva, Switzerland, April 15, 2021. REUTERS/Denis Balibouse/ File Photo [Purchase Licensing Rights](#)



Dhumal, T. & Saha S. (2025, August 4). Chemours, DuPont, Corteva settle New Jersey PFAS claims for \$875 million. *Reuters*. <https://www.reuters.com/sustainability/climate-energy/chemours-dupont-corteva-settle-new-jersey-pfas-claims-875-million-2025-08-04/>



Cost of Clean Up*

- 2025: [Dover](#)
 - City used own funds to install (granular activated carbon) GAC treatment system
 - City awarded \$885 thousand grant for feasibility study
 - City Council approved \$191 thousand for engineering consultant
 - Grant awarded- Bipartisan Infrastructure Law
- 2023: DE received [additional \\$25 million](#) - DuPont settlement
- 2021: DE reached [landmark \\$50 million settlement](#) with DuPont, Chemours, and Corteva
- [Blades](#) 2021 & [Blades Groundwater Site](#) (2020)

*Not an exhaustive list



Delaware

Wilmington Council moves forward on PFAS removal

CLAUDIA ESTRADA / AUGUST 25, 2025 / GOVERNMENT, HEADLINES, HEALTH



WILMINGTON'S WATER TREATMENT FACILITIES ARE SET FOR MAJOR UPGRADES AS CITY COUNCIL ADVANCES A PHASE THREE PFAS REMOVAL PROJECT TO PROTECT DRINKING WATER. (PHOTO MANKO KIM)

Delaware settles with PFAS-linked companies to fund testing, cleanup

Delaware Public Media | By Sophia Schmidt
Published July 13, 2021 at 4:37 PM EDT



Courtesy of CDC.gov

Veolia opens \$35M PFAS water treatment facility in Stanton

CLAUDIA ESTRADA / JUNE 24, 2025 / BUSINESS, HEADLINES, TOWN SQUARE LIVE



VEOLIA OPENS ITS LARGEST PFAS TREATMENT PLANT IN THE US AT ITS STANTON WATER TREATMENT FACILITY. (GOVERNOR MATT MEYER, VEOLIA NORTH AMERICA WATER SERVICES CEO KARINE ROUGE, NATIONAL ASSOCIATION OF WATER COMPANIES PRESIDENT AND CEO ROB POWELSON, VEOLIA NORTH AMERICA MID-ATLANTIC REGIONAL PRESIDENT LARRY FINNICHIO) PHOTO COURTESY OF VEOLIA NORTH AMERICA.

WILMINGTON— Veolia has opened one of the largest PFAS treatment plants in the United States at its Stanton Water Treatment facility, a \$35 million project designed to deliver safer drinking water to more than 100,000 New Castle County residents.

Estrada, C. (2025, August 25). Wilmington Council moves forward on PFAS removal. *MilfordLIVE*.
<https://milfordlive.com/wilmington-council-moves-forward-on-pfas-removal/>

Schmidt, S. (2021, July 13). Delaware settles with PFAS-linked companies to fund testing, cleanup.
<https://www.delawarepublic.org/politics-government/2021-07-13/delaware-settles-with-pfas-linked-companies-to-fund-testing-cleanup>

Estrada, C. (2025, June 24). Veolia opens \$35M PFAS water treatment facility in Stanton, *Town Square Live*.
<https://delawarelive.com/veolia-opens-35m-pfas-water-treatment-facility-in-stanton/>



Delaware

Delaware Department of Natural Resources and Environmental Control
[PFAS Webpage](#)



PFAS DEFINITION

Most referenced: A class of fluorinated organic chemicals containing at least one fully fluorinated carbon atom

Will define PFAS upon promulgation of legislation.

PFAS MONITORING

- Private Wells
- Groundwater
- Surface Water
- Soil
- Sediment
- Biosolids
- Fish & Wildlife

PFAS ACTION PLAN

In development.

COST-BENEFIT ANALYSIS

Plans to consider.

PFAS PRIORITIES

Delaware has 3 Priorities: Protect public health, identify sources, and eliminate sources. Protecting public health from exposure to PFAS through consumption, continued identification and communication of sources through data collection/analysis and data sharing, and working to eliminate sources and pathways of exposure.

PFAS LEGISLATION

House Concurrent Resolution 20: Requesting The Delaware State Fire School To Develop A Program For The Disposal Of Aqueous Film Forming Foam Currently In The Possession Of The State Of Delaware Fire Companies And Departments
HB8: An Act To Amend Title 29 Of The Delaware Code Relating To Drinking Water

QUANTIFYING REDUCTION

- PFAS Levels in Drinking Water
- PFAS Levels in Fish & Wildlife
- PFAS Levels in Air Emissions

For most media (with regard to monitoring), there hasn't been enough data collected over any period of time to quantify reduction progress. The above topics reflect how the state would like to measure.

Delaware (Cont.)

Delaware Department of Natural Resources and Environmental Control
[PFAS Webpage](#)



AFFF TAKEBACK PROGRAM

Reclaimed all the foam from every fire department in the state. It has since ended. A fire department was provided an opportunity to submit AFFF, and receive F3 in return (it was a gallon for gallon exchange). Tanks were cleaned and reclaimed with new safe alternative. Cost was born by the state. AFFF was appropriately removed by a state approved vendor.

CHANGES IN BIOSOLIDS MGMT.

Primarily focusing on source identification and reduction, and is also conducting sampling to determine if exposure to drinking water is occurring.

Hughes, S.G. & Henderson, J. (2025, April 17). ECOS Compendium of State PFAS Actions, pp 108-109.
<https://www.ecos.org/documents/ecos-compendium-of-state-pfas-actions/>



State Advocacy Opportunities

- Advocate for
 - Healthcare provider education
 - PFAS exposure, testing, and monitoring
 - Strong State Level drinking water protections
 - Funding to address health care outcomes related to PFAS
 - Public health education prevention of PFAS exposure
 - Standard methods for PFAS exposure biomonitoring
 - Coordinated public health tracking systems
 - Safer alternatives to PFAS use



State Advocacy Opportunities

- Advocate for
 - Insurance Coverage for PFAS Blood Testing
 - Only one state (New Hampshire) requires PFAS blood testing to be covered by insurance:
 - “PFAS testing is required to be covered like any other medically necessary laboratory test under major medical insurance in both individual and group markets.”

<https://www.insurance.nh.gov/pfas-faqs>



State Advocacy Opportunities

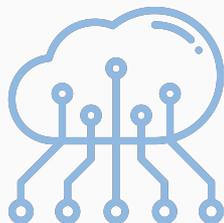
- Advocate for
 - Regulation of PFAS as a class of chemicals NOT one by one
 - 23 states have adopted a definition of PFAS as chemicals containing “at least one fully fluorinated carbon atom”.
 - The science-based definition of PFAS is already being used successfully around the country. Adopting a new, unscientific definition with carve outs based on the policy preferences of certain industries would confuse a marketplace that is already responding to state regulation and transitioning away from PFAS.



Barriers for clinicians, patients & communities



Testing methodology is complex; not all PFAS can be detected



Lack of data standardization



Poor coordination among experts from different disciplines



Inadequate funding



Few labs able to test for PFAS; lack of insurance coverage for blood testing



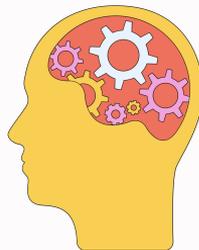
Legislative and Regulatory Actions Needed



Accessible & affordable lab and standardized testing methods



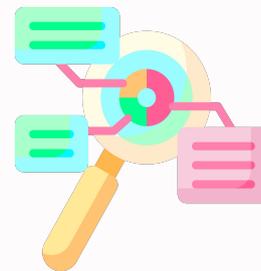
Restricting PFAS discharges to waterways



Finalized chemical data and safety rules



Ongoing strengthening of health protections TSCA



Push for research into safer substitutes for PFAS (medical devices)

FDA PFAS limits for bottled water & OSHA PFAS occupational limits

Push back on rollbacks - PFAS Regulation as a Class not individually

Frequently updated ATSDR PFAS clinician guidance

National PFAS testing program- biomonitoring

Strong Federal/State Drinking Water Protections (Based on latest science with allocated funding)

Per- and Polyfluoroalkyl
Substances (PFAS)
Guidance for Clinicians



Sarah Bucic, MSN, RN, PMHCNS-BC
Cara Cook, MS, RN, AHN-BC
Katie Huffling, DNP, RN, CNM, FAAN
Olivia Weaver, BSN, RN



Thank You!

PFAS: Guidance for Clinicians &
companion brochure for patients

https://bit.ly/ANHE_PFAS



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Speaking to your
healthcare provider
about exposures
to Per- and
Polyfluoroalkyl
Substances (PFAS)



A resource to learn more about PFAS,
potential exposure sources, and how
to talk with your healthcare provider
about concerns relating to exposure.



PFAS

Legacy persistent organic pollutants (POPs)

Organochlorine insecticides (OCs)

- DDT
- six cyclodienes
- toxaphene

Insecticide & industrial uses

- mirex
- hexachlorobenzene (HCB)

Commercial use

- polychlorinated biphenyls (PCBs)

Unintentionally produced & released

- polychlorinated dibenzo-p-dioxins (PCDDs)
- furans (PCDFs)

~ Elliot et al. 2023



What is different from the 1960s & 1970s and now?

- Internet
 - Conspiracy theory breeding ground
 - Social media
 - 24-hour news cycle with partisan programming
 - Live in an era of outrage
- Mistrust in science
- Public health and environmental health considered “partisan politics”



Engaging communities

- Recognize community stress/panic in high exposure areas.
- Acknowledge PFAS exposed health concerns (Calloway et al., 2020).
- Offer clear, accurate information with actionable guidance (Calloway et al, 2020).
- Address mental health issues related to exposure: stress, anxiety, depression.
- Support behavior changes (Berthold et al., 2023)
- Transparency with what is known and not known.

Resources for Communities

ATSDR: PFAS and Your Health: <https://www.atsdr.cdc.gov/pfas/about/index.html>

ATSDR: PFAS Blood Estimation Tool:
<https://www.atsdr.cdc.gov/pfas/blood-testing/estimation-tool.html>

EPA: PFAS explained: <https://www.epa.gov/pfas/pfas-explained>

Environmental Working Group: Protect yourself from PFAS:
<https://www.ewg.org/protect-yourself-from-pfas>

Pediatric Environmental Health Specialty Unit: Region 3 MACCHE:
<https://www1.villanova.edu/university/nursing/faculty-and-research/centers/macche.html>

Information on Blood testing: PFAS- REACH:
https://docs.google.com/spreadsheets/d/1kUdZlKpA-claKbEwv_7vm8_I1q6kOu-r3zErXwYwr08/edit?gid=346039373#gid=346039373



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A national network of collaborators, comprised of health professional with expertise in environmental health.

A resource for health professionals, school personnel, parents and communities about reproductive and children’s environmental health

Gaps in the Science

- Health effects of other perfluoroalkyl and polyfluoroalkyl substances (most PFOA & PFOS)
- Effective methods measure PFAS in our air, water, soil, and fish and wildlife (EPA)
- Level of Human exposure to PFAS (EPA)
- Long-term health effects of PFAS and mixture of chemicals.
- Half-life of PFAS compounds in human body.
- Risk communication to communities and across various groups.
- Citizen science with academic or government agency researchers that includes biomonitoring (Panikkar et al., 2019).

Thank you.

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