

PFAS Action: Governments, Retailers, and Brands are Stepping Up

Updated August 2023

State as well as federal, tribal, and local governments, retailers and brands are taking action to address the PFAS crisis. PFAS contamination is widespread and will cost taxpayers billions to clean up. More action must be taken now to prevent harm and end the use of these toxic “forever” chemicals that impact our health. **Maine and Minnesota have adopted policy to ban all uses of PFAS** unless the use is necessary for public health. In 2022, the major chemical manufacturer **3M announced that it will stop manufacturing all PFAS by the end of 2025**. In 2023, the European Chemical Agency unveiled a sweeping proposal for banning the use of PFAS across the EU. Highlights of growing momentum in food packaging, water, firefighting foam, textiles, and litigation include:



Food Packaging

Federal agencies are taking action to eliminate PFAS in food packaging, including:	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Department of Defense is phasing out PFAS in all military Meals Ready to Eat (MRE) food packaging
States are taking action to eliminate PFAS in food packaging, including:	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> California Colorado Connecticut Hawaii Maine Maryland Minnesota New York Oregon Rhode Island Vermont Washington
Restaurant chains are taking action to eliminate PFAS from some or all of the food packaging used in their outlets, including:	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Cava Chick-fil-A Chipotle Freshii McDonald's Nathan's Famous Panera Bread RBI (Burger King, Popeyes, Tim Hortons) Starbucks Sweetgreen Taco Bell Wendy's
Grocery stores are taking action to eliminate PFAS from some or all of the food packaging used in the products sold in their stores, including:	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Ahold Delhaize (Food Lion, Giant, Hannaford, Stop & Shop, Peapod) Albertsons (Safeway, Vons, Shaw's, Randalls, Haggen, Carrs) Amazon Trader Joe's Whole Foods Market



Water

Federal agencies are taking action on PFAS to address water contamination, including:	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> EPA proposed drinking water standards for six individual PFAS chemicals EPA named PFAS chemicals to the Toxics Release Inventory
States are regulating PFAS chemicals in drinking water and/or taking action to expand PFAS monitoring, including:	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Alaska California Colorado Connecticut Delaware Florida Illinois Maine* Maryland Massachusetts* Michigan* Minnesota New Hampshire* New Jersey* New Mexico New York* North Carolina Ohio Oregon Pennsylvania* Rhode Island* Vermont* Virginia Washington Wisconsin*
<p>*adopted enforceable standards or a Maximum Contaminant Level (MCL) for PFAS chemicals in drinking water</p>	



Firefighting Foam

<p>Federal agencies are taking action on PFAS based firefighting foam, including:</p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Department of Defense is phasing out the use of PFAS based foam
<p>States are taking action through legislation and regulation to ban the use of PFAS based firefighting foam, and/or creating take back programs for already purchased foam, including:</p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> California Colorado Connecticut Hawaii Illinois Maine Maryland Minnesota New Hampshire New York Vermont Washington
<p>States are banning incineration of firefighting foam, including:</p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Illinois New York



Textiles

<p>States are taking action to eliminate PFAS in carpets, rugs, apparel, textile furnishings, upholstered furniture, fabric treatments and/or other textiles, including:</p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> California Colorado Maine Maryland Minnesota New York Vermont Washington
<p>States are taking action to eliminate PFAS from and/or require disclosure of PFAS in firefighter personal clothing and equipment, including:</p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> California Colorado Indiana Maryland New York Vermont Washington
<p>Major brands and retailers are taking action to eliminate PFAS in apparel, carpets, rugs, textile furnishings, upholstered furniture, fabric treatments and/or other textiles, including, but not limited to:</p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Deckers Brands H&M Home Depot IKEA Jack Wolfskin Keen Footwear Levi Strauss & Co Lowe's Milliken & Co. Office Depot Patagonia Polartec REI Staples Sympatex Target Victoria's Secret Zara



Litigation

<p>State attorney generals are suing PFAS manufacturers, firefighting foam producers, polluting companies and the Department of Defense over contamination, including:</p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Alaska Arizona Arkansas California Colorado Delaware* Illinois Maine Maryland Massachusetts Michigan* Minnesota* New Hampshire New Jersey* New Mexico New York North Carolina Ohio Oregon Pennsylvania Rhode Island South Carolina Tennessee Vermont Washington Washington DC Wisconsin
-----------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------	-------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------

*indicates a settled lawsuit



Cosmetics

<p>States are taking action to eliminate PFAS chemicals in cosmetics, including:</p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> California Colorado Maryland Minnesota Oregon Washington
<p>Major retailers are taking action to restrict PFAS in cosmetics, including:</p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Target