

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

Updated June 2024

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

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



## Water

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

\*adopted enforceable standards or a Maximum Contaminant Level (MCL) for PFAS chemicals in drinking water



## Firefighting Foam

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



## Textiles

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



## Litigation

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



## Cosmetics

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

More Information:



[www.saferstates.org](http://www.saferstates.org)



[www.mindthestore.org](http://www.mindthestore.org)