PFAS

PFAS Monitoring

1. Stop PFAS Pollution in Water: We ask that authorities enforce strict regulations to prevent the disposal of PFAS (and related chemicals like PFOAS) into our water sources. It is essential that companies are required to implement effective treatment processes to remove PFAS completely before disposal.
2. Set and Enforce a Maximum Contaminant Levels for PFAS: We urge the immediate establishment and strict enforcement of a Maximum Contaminant Level (MCL) for PFAS, aligned with or exceeding the standards set by the EPA on April 10, 2024. This is essential to safeguard our water supply and protect public health from the long-term risks posed by PFAS contamination.
3. Local Action on PFAS Limits: In the absence of a national threshold, we press local governments to set and enforce their own PFAS limits. This is a vital step in community-level environmental responsibility and safety.
4. Call for Transparency in PFAS Management: We demand full transparency on the progress being made towards addressing PFAS limits. If a national MCL is not yet in place, the public has a right to know the steps being taken to establish one.
5. Insist on Public Awareness Campaigns: We require that information about PFAS risks and management efforts be shared with the public in an understandable and accessible manner. This should include regular updates through community forums, official websites, and local media.
6. Mandate Comprehensive PFAS Clean-Up Efforts: We call for immediate and thorough clean-up of areas contaminated with PFAS. This includes a clear plan for identifying and remediating affected sites.

PFAS

PFAS Use Restrictions

1. Restrict PFAS to Only Essential Uses: While we advocate for limiting PFAS usage, we acknowledge that there are certain critical sectors where PFAS may still be necessary. The following outlines essential uses, where safer alternatives are currently unavailable:
    a. Medical Devices and Equipment: PFAS are essential in the manufacturing of life-saving medical devices such as surgical instruments, catheters, and pacemakers due to their resistance to heat, chemicals, and degradation.
    b. Aerospace and Defense: PFAS are used in high-performance aerospace equipment, firefighting foam (currently being phased out but with limited alternatives), and other defense-related materials where their durability and fire-resistant properties are crucial.
    c. Semiconductors and Electronics: PFAS are necessary for manufacturing semiconductors and critical electronic components due to their insulating and non-stick properties.
    d. Energy Production: In renewable energy technologies such as wind turbines and solar panels, PFAS materials are essential due to their extreme weather durability and protective qualities.
2. A ban on manufacturing, selling, or distributing PFAS in non-essential products:
    a. Water-repellent fabrics in consumer clothing
    b. Non-stick cookware
    c. Stain-resistant carpets and upholstery
    d. Food packaging that contain PFAS.