



What is PFAS?

Per- and polyfluoroalkyl substances (PFAS) are a group of man-made chemicals that were developed in the 1940s. PFAS are persistent chemicals and may accumulate in the human body and environment for a long period of time due to their strong chemical bonds. PFAS pose a risk to tribal lifeways, resources, and traditional foods.

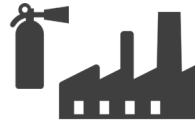
PFAS can be found in, but not limited to:



Food packaged in PFAS-contained materials or grown in PFAS-contaminated soil or water.



Commercial household products, such as nonstick products.



Facilities that use fire fighting foams that contain PFAS, such as airports, training sites, and Dept. of Defense facilities.



Living organisms where PFAS may bioaccumulate.

The **Tribal PFAS Working Group** formed in April 2020 to help address and reduce PFAS in Indian Country. The working group is comprised of members from the National Tribal Water Council, Tribal Science Council, National Tribal Toxics Council, Tribal Waste and Response Steering Committee, and Tribal Pesticide Program Council.

Working Group Objectives:

- Evaluate the successes in addressing PFAS across tribal nations
- Advocate for areas where there are shortcomings
- Develop and improve communication methods about PFAS to others, such as elders and children
- Develop guidance documents, such as social media templates, as needed

Working Group 2021 Priorities:

- Identify tribes that are affected by PFAS
- Develop a database and map
- Establish a Tribal PFAS WG webpage to provide clearinghouse of PFAS information, such as articles
- Identify funding opportunities for PFAS research
- Obtain more information and provide recommendations for tribes on PFAS disposal, such as levels of dangers

For more information, please contact:

- Page Hingst, Tribal Science Council: page.hingst@santeoep.com
- Dianne Barton, National Tribal Toxics Council: bard@critfc.org



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