ABOUT US

The Tribal PFAS Working Group is comprised of members of the National Tribal Water Council, Tribal Science Council, National Tribal Toxics Council, Tribal Waste and Response Steering Committee, Tribal Pesticide Program Council, and National Tribal Air Association.





The working group holds monthly meetings to discuss various activities that will help achieve its objectives and priorities.

CONTACT US







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Dianne Barton, Co-Lead bard@critfc.org In 2020, the Tribal PFAS Working Group was formed to help address and reduce PFAS in Indian Country.

www7.nau.edu/itep/main/ntwc/Issues/PFAS

Final: 5/29/24

WHAT IS PFAS?

Per- and polyfluoroalkyl substances (PFAS) are a group of man-made chemicals that were developed in the 1940s. PFAS are found in many items within our environment including food packaging, commercial household products, and firefighting foam, among others. PFAS are persistent chemicals and may accumulate in the human body for a long time. PFAS remain in the environment for a long period of time due to their strong chemical bonds. PFAS pose a risk to tribal lifeways, resources, and traditional foods.



2024 WORKING GROUP PRIORITIES

- Continue to identify tribes and coordinate with tribes that are currently impacted by PFAS. The Tribal PFAS Working Group will continue to invite tribal representatives and researchers during the monthly calls to hear testimonials and presentations on how PFAS have impacted tribal lands and resources.
- **Continue to develop and identify PFAS tools and resources.** Develop and identify PFAS tools and resources, such as databases, outreach materials, maps, funding opportunities, fact sheets, tools and resources to characterize PFAS that will support and allow tribal nations to evaluate their exposure to PFAS.
- Enhance and promote the Tribal PFAS Working Group's webpage with current publications, presentation videos, research, and resources. The working group will also seek and identify treatment technologies and their effectiveness.
- Advocate for rulemaking, research, and education actions, with attention to inclusion of tribal lifeways. Advocate for tribal PFAS work across federal and state agencies, including comment responses to proposed policies and rulemaking actions, research funding opportunities, and science education. Ensure appropriate consultation occurs, advocating and ensuring engagement and consultation with tribes.
- **Develop and host tribal webinars / workshops on PFAS issues.** Three webinars/ workshops will be held during the year with two held virtually and one in person at the Tribal Lands and Environment Forum.
- Expand the scope of the working group to explore and research emerging contaminants, such as 6-PPD, microplastics, flame-retardants, and PFAS and emerging contaminants' impact on various environmental media, including air quality.



Visit the Tribal PFAS Working Group's MediaSpace for webinar & presentation recordings.



Visit the working group's FB page for upcoming events, trainings & resources.

Facebook.com/TribalPFASWorkGroup