

# PFAS in Disposable Foodware

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# 200

Uses of PFAS were discovered by scientists in  
2020



# Chemistry of PFAS

- Man-made chemicals that are used in a wide array of products
- Contain carbon-fluorine bonds

**(PFOA), a perfluoroalkyl substance**

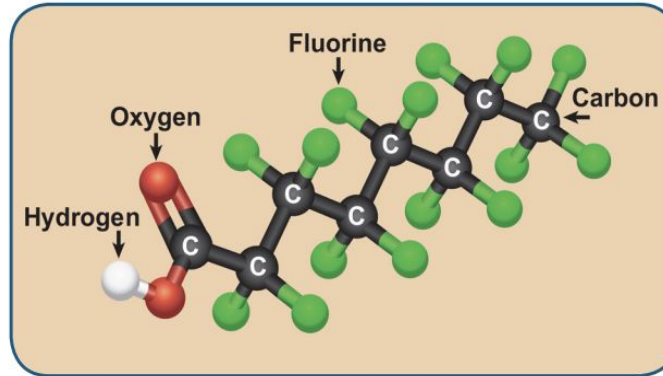


Image credit: NIEHS.

## AB-1200 Bill

“Beginning January 1, 2023, any person from distributing, selling, or offering for sale in the state any food packaging that contains regulated perfluoroalkyl and polyfluoroalkyl substances or PFAS.”

# General Adverse Health Effects

Cannot be isolated to solely study their effects from being in disposable foodware

- Decreased fertility
- High cholesterol levels
- Liver inflammation
- Renal cancer



# Companies That Offer PFAS Free Options

- Aardvark
- World Centric
- Sysco



# Priorities of Purchasers

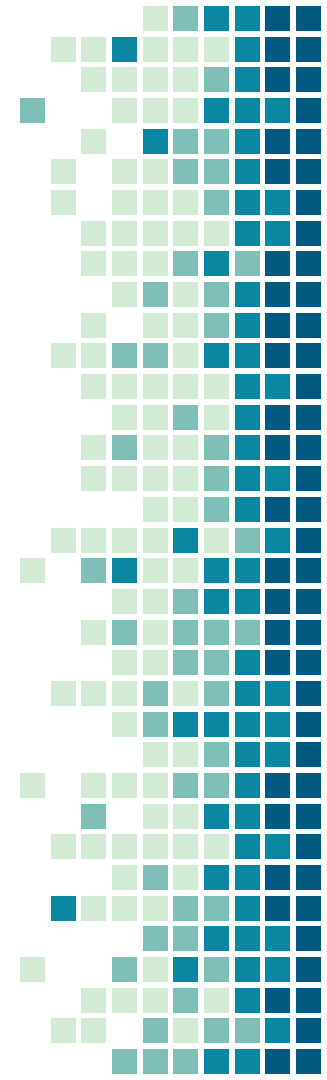
## Hospital

1. Regulations and patient needs
2. Availability
3. Price

## Probation Center

1. Green

Examples of products that do not typically contain PFAS:



# Upstream Proactive Solutions

Fact Sheets

Third Party  
Verification

Recommended  
Policy  
Language





# Fact Sheet

- Developed by CEH
- Effective upstream solution
- Outlines how to address PFAS usage

## Healthier Food Serviceware Choices

Single-use food containers are often treated with chemicals known as PFAS (per and polyfluoroalkyl substances) to make them water and grease resistant, but these chemicals are harmful to our health and should be avoided.

### Why should I be concerned with PFAS?

PFAS are often called “forever chemicals” since they are hard to break down, clean up or remove, and can stay in the environment for thousands of years. They can migrate from foodware into food and stay in our bodies for many years.

Their popularity in non-stick, grease-proof, and stain-resistant consumer products has contributed to worldwide contamination.



PFAS are found in the blood of more than 98% of Americans.



### Health Problems from PFAS:

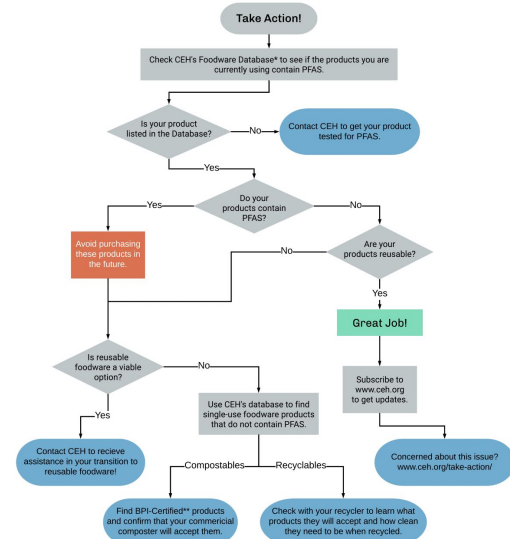
Exposure to certain PFAS is linked with kidney cancer and testicular cancer. Some studies have found a link between PFAS and breast cancer.

Other health effects include:

- Hormone disruption
- Damage to our immune system
- Thyroid disease
- Reduced growth hormones in children
- Increased cholesterol levels

February 2020

### What can I do about PFAS?



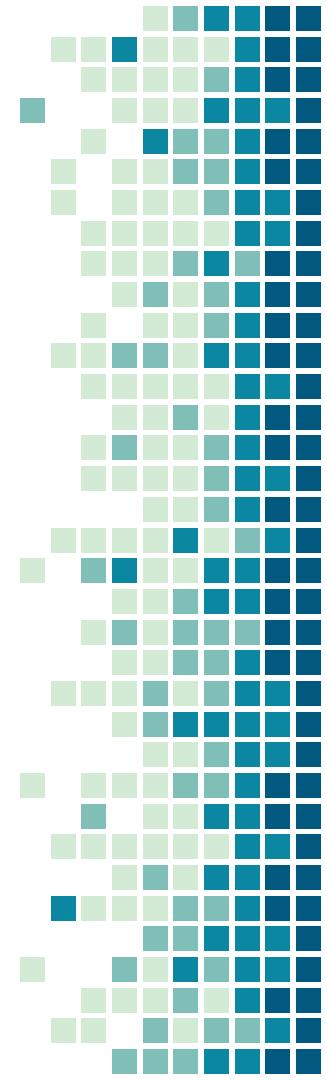
# Third Party Verification

- Green Seal
- Biodegradable Products Institute
- Compost Manufacturing Alliance



# Recommended Policy Language

3.6.11 Contra Costa County should prohibit the purchase of disposable food ware products that contain PFAS. This includes but is not limited to products such as takeout containers, silverware, plates, and bowls. All compostables must be certified by third-party verification organizations.



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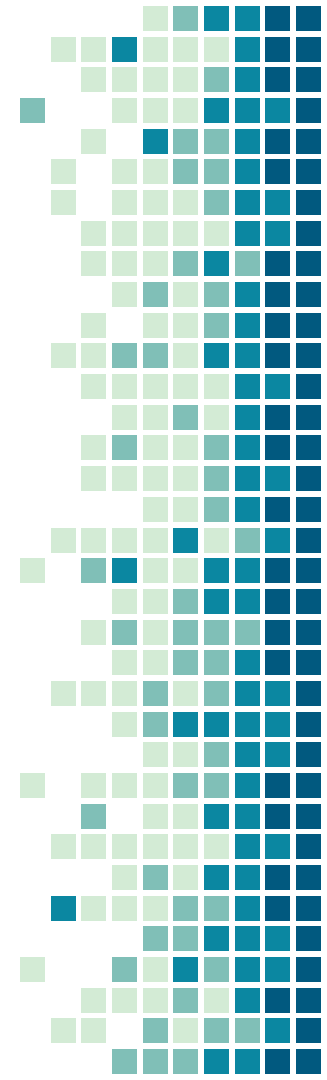
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# Thank You

Any questions?

