

PFAS: THE FOREVER CHEMICALS

1. WHAT ARE PFAS?

PFAS are a large, complex group of manufactured chemicals that are used to make waterproofing, fire suppressants, non-stick coatings, and many other products.

2. HEALTH IMPACTS

- Negative reproductive effects
- Developmental delays in children
- Increased risk of some cancers
- Reduced ability of the body's immune system to fight infections
- Reduced vaccine response
- Interference with the body's natural hormones
- Increased cholesterol levels and/or risk of obesity.

3. TIPS TO PROTECT YOUR HEALTH

- Avoid takeout food packaging (e.g., microwave popcorn bags; fast-food wrappers; boxes.)
- Avoid stain-resistance treatments
- Select furniture and carpets that aren't marketed as "stain-resistant"
- Avoid clothing that were treated for water or stain resistance
- Avoid use of non-stick cookware
- Avoid PFAS-containing health and beauty products such as dental floss, cosmetics, sunscreen, shampoo, etc.



4. WHAT IS HAMBURG TOWNSHIP DOING ABOUT IT?

To ensure the health and safety of our residents, Hamburg Township is testing drinking water wells and wastewater for PFAS.

5. FINANCIAL BURDEN ON THE TOWNSHIP

Testing for PFAS is expensive. Treatment of residential and commercial wastewater for PFAS is extremely costly. This could incur a raise in sewer charges.

6. HOW CAN YOU HELP?

- Reduce the use of PFAS containing products
- Talk to your legislative representatives and urge them to support PFAS reductions in manufacturing.