

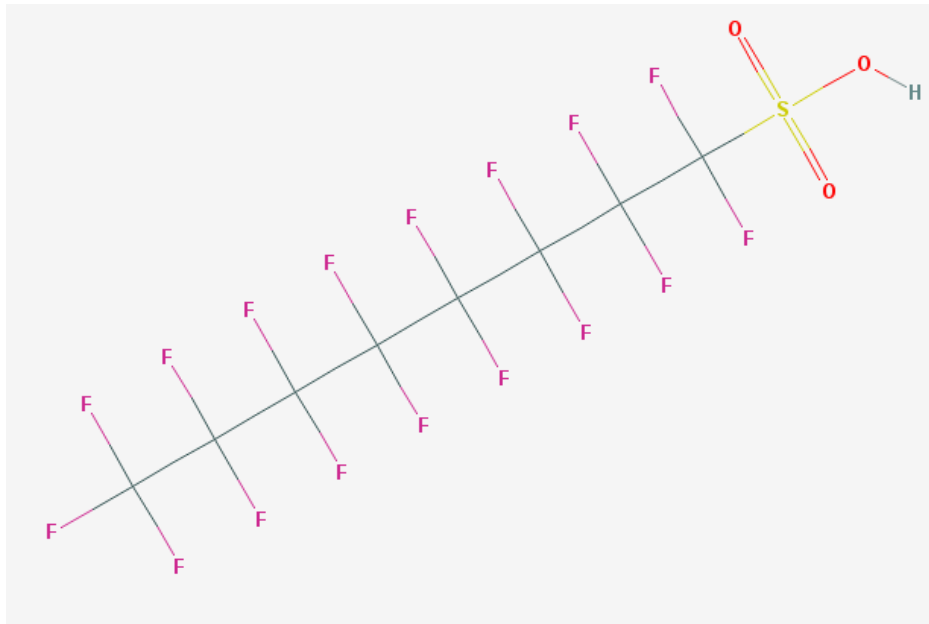


Responding to PFAS in single use foodware

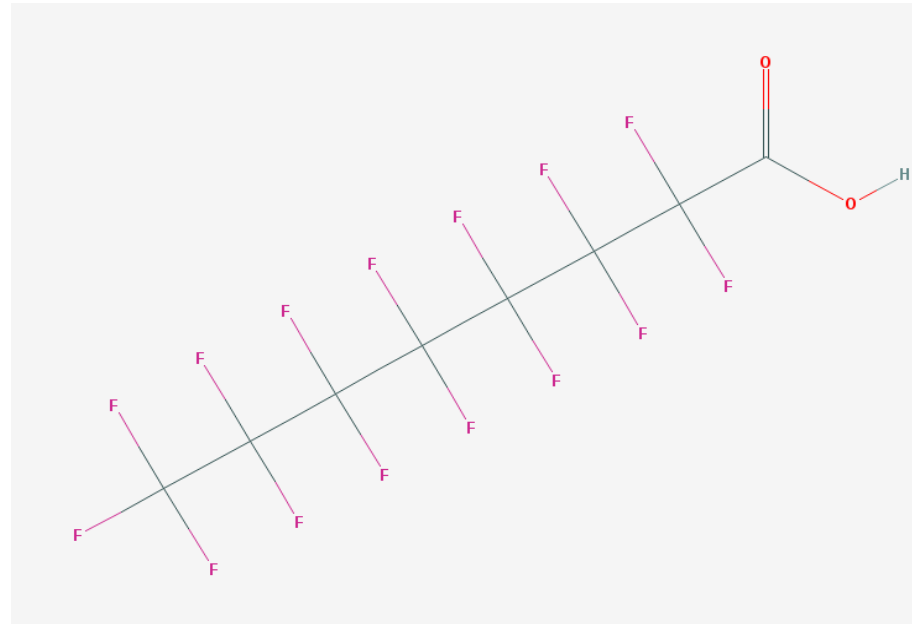
Melissa Peck | October 16, 2018

What are PFAS

Per- and Polyfluoroalkyl Substances (PFASs)



PFOS – in Scotchgard ($C_8HF_{17}O_3S$)



PFOA – in Teflon ($C_8HF_{15}O_2S$)

Products of concern



State of MN's 2015 compostable foodware contract

A) All products must be commercially compostable.

- Products must be certified or recognized by one or more of the following certification organizations or programs:
 - Biodegradable Products Institute (U.S.)
 - AIB Vinçotte Inter: OK Compost (Belgium)
 - Australian Environmental Labeling Association
 - Japan BioPlastics Association
 - DIN CERTCO (European Union)
 - Cedar Grove Commercially Accepted Items
- Products made of 100% paper or wood, that are uncoated and unlined (such as wooden stir sticks or uncoated paper plates) are considered commercially compostable without a certification.

B) All compostable plastic products offered must bear a clearly visible, easily distinguishable label or marking indicating the product's ability to be composted.

- The text of the product's label or marking must include the word "COMPOSTABLE."
- The label or marking must be present on each individual item.
- The State prefers the label or marking to be green in color and to include the logo of the certifying body.

C) Product may not contain perfluorinated grease barrier compounds. Bidders shall provide affidavits from manufacturer, guaranteeing that perfluorinated compounds were not used or added as the product was made.

Manufacturers submitted signed letters



7/27/2015

To Whom it May Concern:

Regarding section 10.C of the bid.

World Centric hereby certifies that the products will not contain any perfluorinated grease barrier compounds. These compounds will not be used or added as the product is made.

Kind regards,



Director of Supply Chain



July 27, 2015

To whom it may concern -

Eco-Products does not use perfluorinated grease barrier compounds in the production of any of our food service items.

Sincerely,



Product Engineering Manager
Eco-Products
4755 Walnut Street
Boulder, CO 80301

CEH Study

Material Type Tested:	Non-Fluorinated	Fluorinated	# of Products Tested
All Molded Fibers including: Recycled Paper, Wheat Straw/ Wheat Stalk, Silver Grass (Miscanthus), Sugarcane Waste (Bagasse), Blend of Plant Fibers		X	73
Paper with Unknown Coatings	X		25
PLA-Lined Paper and Paperboard	X		8
"100% Renewable Resources Lined with PLA"	X		5
PLA	X	1-exception	5
Clay-Coated Paper and Paperboard	X		5
Palm Leaf	X		5
Untreated/Uncoated (Non-Molded) Paper	X		4
PLA-lined Molded Sugarcane/ Bagasse		X	3
Plastic-Lined Paper	X		2
Unknown materials		X	2
Bamboo	X		1

Read the CEH report: <https://www.keh.org/wp-content/uploads/CEH-Disposable-Foodware-Report-final-1.31.pdf>

Foodware contract updates

- CEH study identified non-compliant products
- PFAS is a hot button issue in Minnesota
- Mid-contract amendment
- Manufacturers have been responsive
- Disposable foodware contract



Amended contract language

Per- and polyfluoroalkyl substances (PFAS) must not be added to products. To comply with this requirement, Contract Vendor must submit test results demonstrating that each proposed fiber-based product contains less than 100 ppm of fluorine. Information on testing protocol and recommended labs is available, upon request.

Proposed future contract language

- Per- and polyfluoroalkyl substances (PFAS) must not be added to products. To comply with this requirement, responder must submit test results demonstrating that each proposed product contains less than 100 ppm of fluorine. Information on testing protocol and recommended labs is available, upon request.*

Next steps at the State

Foodware contract

- Vendors working to find alternatives
- Disposable up in January 2021

Communications

- Statement has been released Please continue to share!



How to avoid PFAS

Products containing PFAS are still being sold elsewhere

- Report from CEH:
<https://www.ceh.org/ceh-report-avoiding-hidden-hazards-purchasers-guide-safer-foodware/>
- Other resources available:
<https://www.cleanproduction.org/resources/entry/pfas>





Thanks!

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