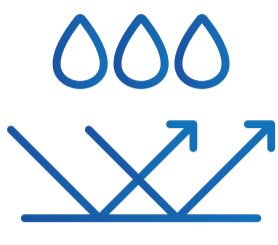
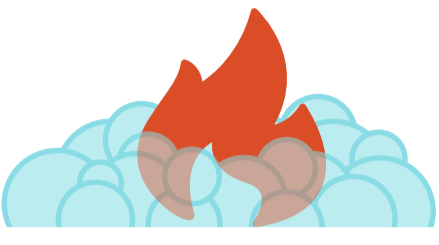
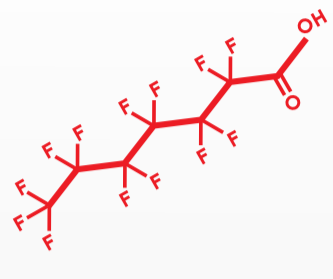
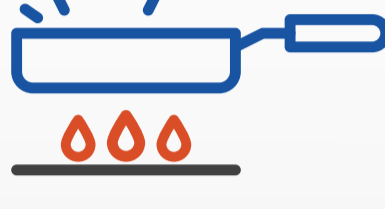








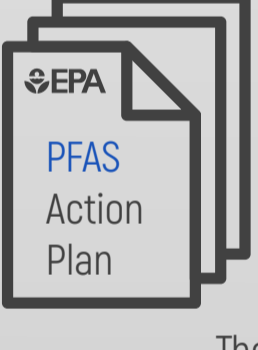
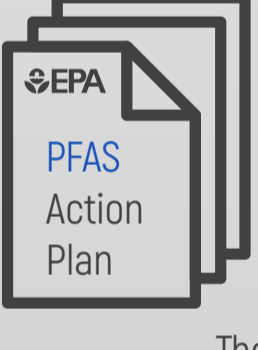
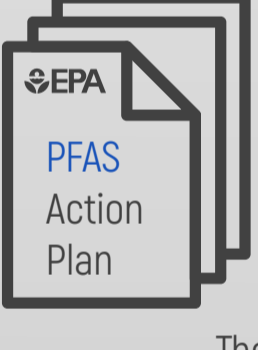
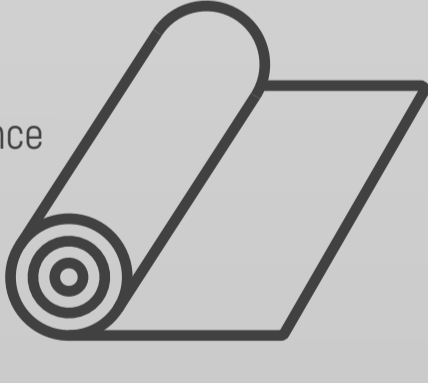
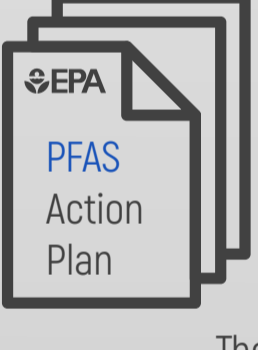






PFAS

CONTAMINATION & REGULATION

PFAS (per- and polyfluoroalkyl substances) are a large, diverse group of manufactured compounds used in a variety of industries, including aerospace, automotive, apparel, certain food paper wrapping, firefighting foams, non-stick coatings/cookware, wire, carpeting, and many others.

- 1938** PFAS are discovered and become a primary chemical in the production of **nonstick and stain-resistant coatings**.
 
- 1967** **Aqueous Film-Forming Foam (AFFF)** with PFAS developed for the US Navy after a major fire aboard an aircraft carrier. AFFF becomes required for all DoD by its inclusion in MIL-SPEC.
 
- 1978** Independent studies start to show that PFAS is **bioaccumulative** and likely **toxic** to humans.
 
- 1979** PFAS properties lead to **widespread use in consumer products**: waterproof and stain-resistant fabrics and carpet, certain food paper wrappings, personal care products, etc.
 
- 1991** PFAS compounds detected in **drinking water**.
 
- 2003** **US producers** start to voluntarily **stop production** of PFOA and PFOS.
 
- 2012** **Pace Analytical** develops EPA 537 PFAS test method and is approved by EPA for Unregulated Contaminant Monitoring Rule (UCMR) 3 testing at its Florida lab.
 
- 2013** PFAS included in **UCMR 3**.
 
- 2013** **Pace** analyzes over 3,000 drinking water samples for UCMR 3.
 
- 2016** EPA issues **health advisory** recommending a drinking water limit for PFOA and PFOS of **70 ppt**, combined or individually.
 
- 2017** **Pace Analytical** adds PFAS testing at its Minnesota lab.
 
- 2018** **Pace** adds **PFAS[®] Mobile Laboratory** testing services, staffed by expert chemists to perform on-site analysis.
 
- 2018** New Jersey becomes the first state to set **enforceable limits** for PFAS.
 
- 2019** The EPA introduces the **PFAS Action Plan**: Initiates a process to add PFOA and PFOS to the SDWA MCL and the Hazardous Substance list. Expands list of PFAS compounds to be monitored in drinking water under UCMR 5. Requires numerous other actions by the EPA.
 
- 2019** **Pace Analytical** adds PFAS testing at its Louisiana lab, including AFFF testing. **Receives DoD ELAP accreditation**.
 
- 2019** **Home Depot and Lowes** announce they will voluntarily stop selling carpet and rugs treated with PFAS by January 1, 2020.
 
- 2019** **Pace Analytical** adds PFAS testing at its South Carolina lab. **Receives DoD ELAP accreditation**.
 
- 2020** US **defense spending** bill includes amendments requiring DoD and EPA to take specific measures to limit, monitor, and further study PFAS chemicals nationwide.
 
- 2020** The EPA releases an update to its **PFAS Action Plan** to include preliminary determinations to regulate PFAS contaminants, restrictions to manufacturing and importing of new PFAS chemicals, new drinking water validation methods, and more.
 
- 2020** The Department of Defense releases an update to its **PFAS Task Force Progress Report** announcing it is setting enforceable limits for PFAS for all public water systems owned and operated by the DoD. It subsequently took the same action for all water it purchases from public water systems owned by other entities.
 
- 2020** **Pace Analytical** acquired **Con-Test Analytical**, expanding PFAS testing capacity in the New England area.
 

The Bottomline

PFAS compounds are known to be bioaccumulative and toxic to humans. While the EPA has yet to set enforceable limits, and may not for several years, about half of the states* have established enforceable limits or guidance for PFAS in drinking water, groundwater, wastewater, and/or surface water.

*Several states have since set regulations for PFAS. [Visit here for more information.](#)

