

State Legislators Introduce PFAS Standards

Written by Wisconsin Senate, Jay Wadd
Thursday, 23 May 2019 09:43

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PFAS, or per-and poly-fluoroalkyl substances, are man made chemicals found in common household products that do not break down naturally and can accumulate over time in the environment. Health impacts to humans may include low birth weight, increased cholesterol, immune system impacts, cancer and thyroid hormone disruption.

MADISON – State Senators Mark Miller (D-Monona) and Dave Hansen (D-Green Bay), State Representatives Chris Taylor (D-Madison), Melissa Sargent (D-Madison) and Staush Gruszynski (D-Green Bay) introduced the CLEAR Act (Chemical Level Enforcement and Remediation Act) to address the growing issue of PFAS, per-and polyfluoroalkyl substances, contamination in Wisconsin’s environment at an event in Green Bay with Governor Tony Evers and DNR Secretary-designee Preston Cole.

“Each spring, Earth Day is a stark reminder that our work protecting our natural world is not done,” said Sen. Mark Miller. “This year, we are taking action to address an emerging threat to our environment and health.”

PFAS refers to a family of similar substances found in common household products such as stain- and water-repellent fabrics, nonstick products, polishes, waxes, paints, cleaning products, and fire-fighting foams. Contamination found in municipal wells in the City of Madison and private wells in more rural areas like Marinette make it clear action is needed at the state level. PFAS pose a known substantial threat to environmental health and human health, including types of cancers and causing serious developmental risk to children.

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