

PFAS Chemicals

in Home Gardens & Small Farms



"Growing food for ourselves, our families, and our neighbors connects us to the land and helps ensure our communities have access to healthy locally grown food and spaces that restore the relationship between people, the environment & food. If we don't have healthy soil, we don't have healthy food. If we don't have healthy food, we don't have healthy people." -jøn kent, Sanctuary Farms



Why are PFAS chemicals a problem?

Widespread use of PFAS contributes to widespread contamination

PRODUCTS THAT MAY CONTAIN PFAS:

 Pizza Boxes	 Pesticides	 Eye Makeup
 Firefighting Foams	 Stain Resistant Products	 Dental Floss
 Microwave Popcorn Bags	 Paints, Sealants, and Varnishes	 Cleaning Products
 Water Resistant Clothing	 Fast Food Packaging	 Candy Wrappers
 Nail Polish	 Shampoo	 Non-stick Cookware

Using PFAS in products leads to contamination of our:

Air



Water

Soil

This leads to exposure through contaminated:

**Dust
Water
Food**



Exposure is linked to certain cancers, thyroid dysfunction, reproductive harm, high cholesterol, and more.



*Policy makers can prevent PFAS at the source by **banning PFAS** in manufacturing and consumer products, creating incentives to **develop PFAS-free materials**, & enacting **extended producer responsibility laws**.*



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Healthy People, Healthy Planet

more info at ecocenter.org

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How can PFAS end up in gardens?



Water



Soil Amendments

- Biosolids
- Composts
- Animal Byproducts



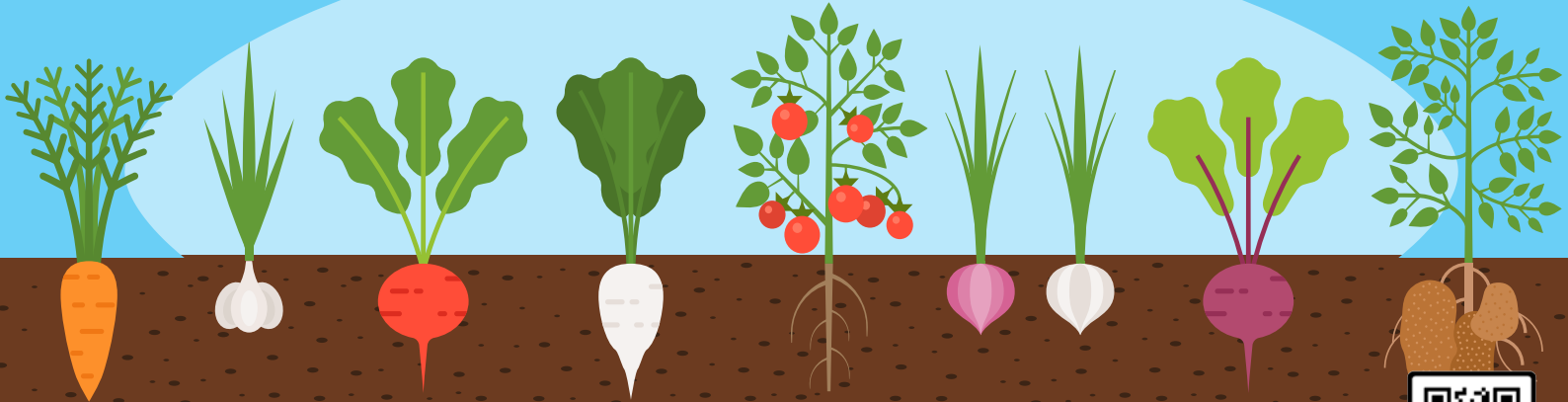
Pesticides



Repurposed Materials



Soil



While these are potential sources of PFAS exposure in your garden, risks vary by source. For more information about which sources are higher risk visit ecocenter.org.



Scan Me

What you can do to prevent PFAS in the garden:



Ask questions to the retailers or brands about the source materials of your composts and other soil amendments. Ask if the products have been tested for PFAS, and if results can be shared.



To prevent contaminating compost with PFAS, use PFAS-free foodware and containers. For a list of compostable products where PFAS are not intentionally added visit: <https://qrco.de/PFASFREE>



If you have concerns that your soil or water is PFAS contaminated:

Contact Michigan State University Extension for questions on how to sample soil or water for PFAS visit: <https://www.canr.msu.edu/pfas/home-gardening>



Send samples of soil or water to a lab for testing. For a list of participating labs visit <https://qrco.de/bgBwDe>



Consider constructing raised beds and fill with PFAS-Free soil.

Consider installing NSF/ANSI 53 (activated carbon) or NSF/ANSI 58 (reverse osmosis) water filters before watering your garden.

more info at ecocenter.org