



Bulletin #90.1
January 12, 2026
HAZMAT

PFOA and PFOS have been designated hazardous by USEPA, effective July 8, 2024.

PFAS chemicals are unlike other hazardous chemicals that HAZMAT has dealt with previously.

- The chemical class is persistent and does not break down naturally.
- They do not dilute – they expand the contamination area.
- Water resources have been contaminated by AFFF use over 5 decades.
- They bioaccumulate.
- PFAS can be found in everyone’s blood. Your body’s systems and organs will contain PFAS from blood distribution.
- PFAS goes through bedrock, concrete, glass, plastics, your epidermis, etc.
- “Four PFASs were associated with altered DNA methylation levels at specific genes. These results may indicate how PFASs are harmful to health and merit further exploration.”

The fire service has been put into the unique position of contaminating their **own communities** without their knowledge.

Firefighters remain at elevated risk from historical AFFF/PPE exposure, with ongoing research linking PFAS to cancers and other effects. No new major EPA health advisories specific to firefighters emerged in 2025–2026, but contamination cleanups at training sites and bases continue.

Foam Exposure Committee