

Toxic chemicals that harm health and the environment

Anne Hulick, JD, MS, RN
CT Director, Clean Water Action

Reducing CT Waste: toxic chemicals and plastics

- **SB 100:** Per and polyfluoroalkyl substances (PFAS)
- **SB 962:** Neonics: harms pollinators
- **HB 6606:** Plastics and Styrofoam: made from petrochemicals, toxic chemicals.
- **HB 6608:** Plastic straws

What are PFAS?

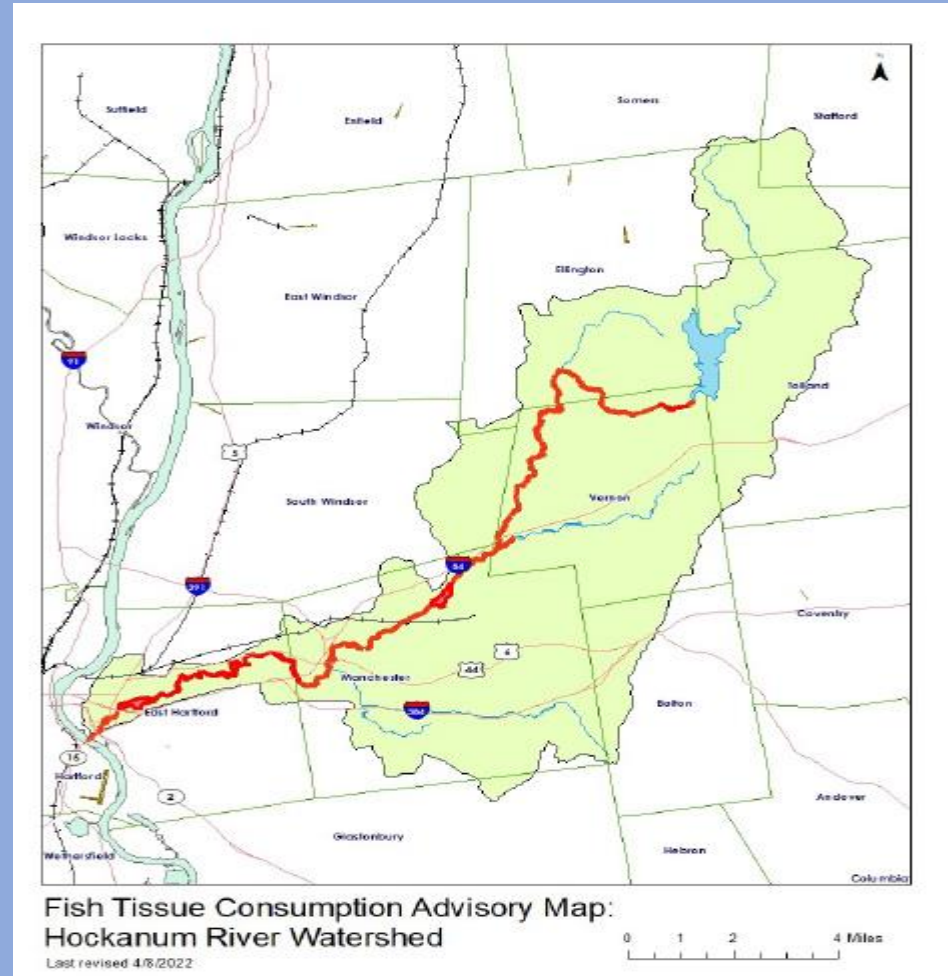
- Per and polyfluoroalkyl substances
- Class of approximately 12,000 chemical variations—fluorine/carbon bond
- Strongest bond known to man
- Used to make products water resistant, anti-stain, grease resistant, wrinkle resistant, anti-stick (cookware)
- Found in: textiles, cookware, cosmetics, children's products, apparel, outdoor clothing, artificial turf,

Health Impacts

- testicular and kidney cancer
- liver malfunction
- hormonal changes
- thyroid disruption
- high cholesterol
- high cholesterol
- obesity
- ulcerative colitis
- lower birth weight and size
- Impaired response to vaccines in children

PFAS Contamination in CT

- Spill of firefighting foam into Farmington River, June 2019
- Hartford landfill leachate to CT River
- Hockanum River
- Old landfill in Ellington
- Killingworth wells/schools
- Norwalk drinking water well and rivers
- Wells in Greenwich



Solution

- Comprehensive plan:
 - Restrict additional product categories containing PFAS where it is unnecessary or safe alternatives exist—carpets, rugs, textiles, cookware, childrens products, etc
 - Give DEEP authority to collect data on products made or sold in CT that contain PFAS (transparency)
 - Give DEEP and the state authority to ban any additional products made or sold in CT containing PFAS by 2030—ample time
 - Fund state agencies to do this work: saves money on further remediation costs and prevents future, on-going contamination.