

Wisconsin Agency Response to PFAS

An introduction to PFAS and the
development of Wisconsin's Action Plan



PFAS Overview

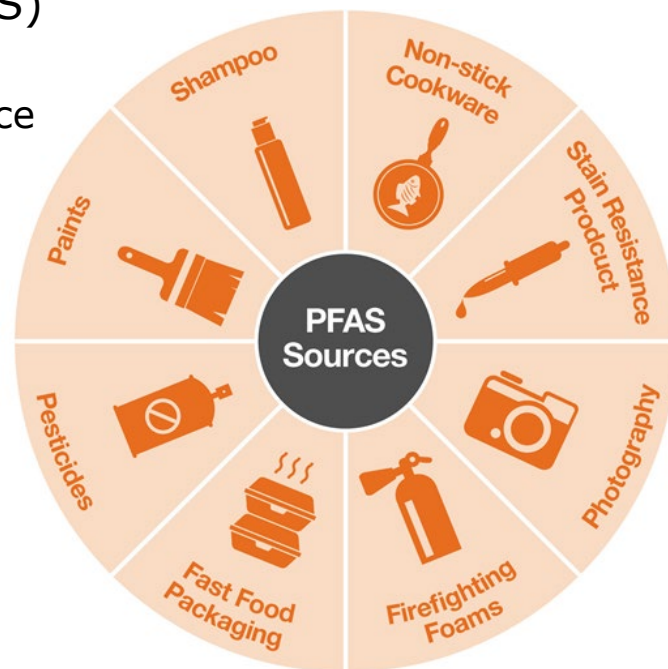


- What are PFAS
- Where do we find PFAS
- Emerging issues
- Challenges we face
- Wisconsin response via WisPAC

Graphic: ITRC

What are PFAS?

- Per- and Polyfluoroalkyl Substances (PFAS)
 - Family of 4,000+ human-made chemicals
 - Commercial and industrial applications since 1940s
 - PFOA, PFOS, PFNA, PFHxS, GenX
 - Less known about “short-chain” PFAS
- “Emerging Contaminant”
 - Bioaccumulate
 - Not known to degrade in the environment and the environment
 - Certain PFAS are threat to human health



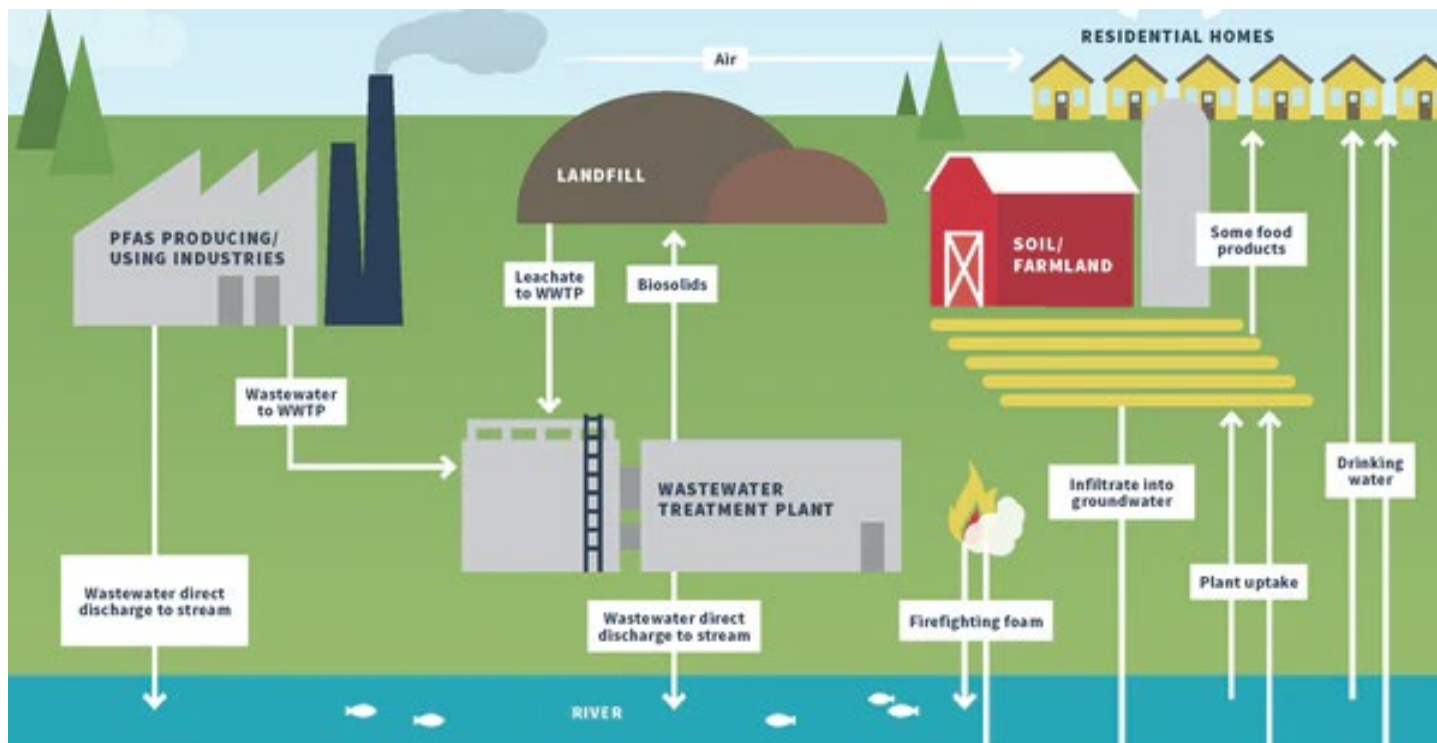
Source: Australian
Department of Defence



Products that May Contain PFAS

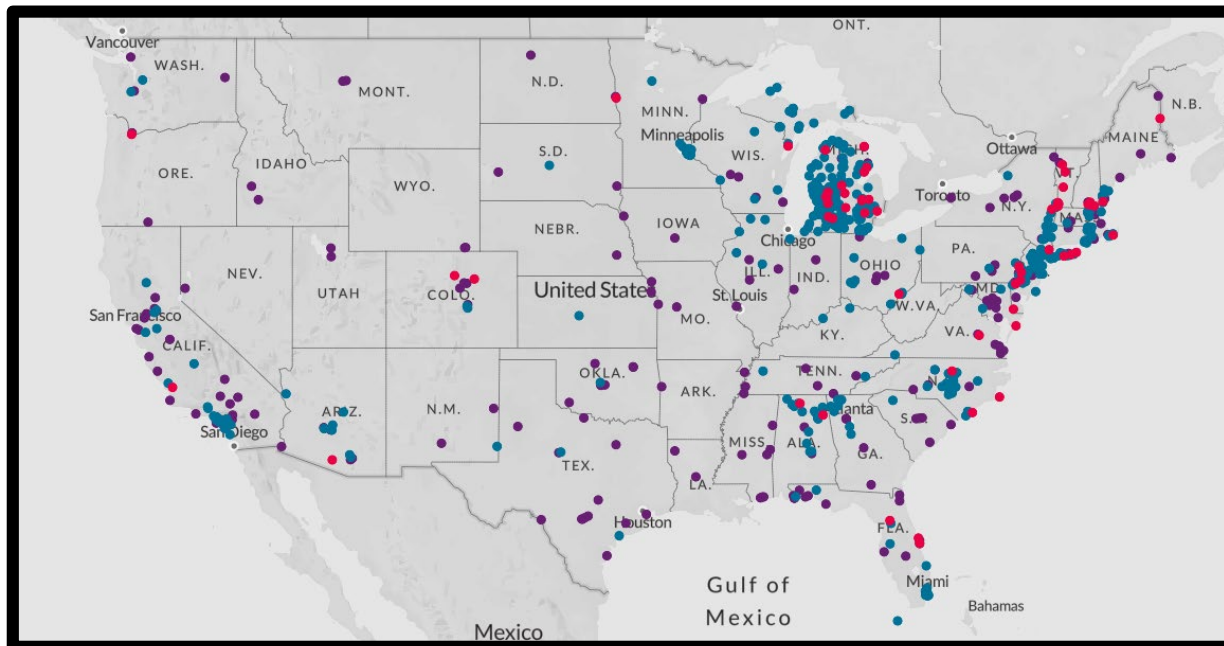
Manufactured for use in:

- Non-stick coatings
- Waterproof fabrics
- Certain firefighting foams
- Protective coatings
- Stain/water resistant products
- Chrome plating
- Food packaging
- Personal care products
- Coated paper



Where are PFAS found?

Not just a Wisconsin Issue...



-  Military Sites
-  Drinking Water
-  Other Known Sites

**PFAS
Contamination
Sites In the U.S.**
Source: EWG 2019

How are humans exposed?



Main exposure from *ingestion*

- Drinking contaminated water
- Eating food with PFAS-containing packaging
- Eating fish caught from PFAS-contaminated water
- Accidentally swallowing contaminated soil or dust.

Exposure can also occur from PFAS-containing consumer products



Health effects of PFAS?

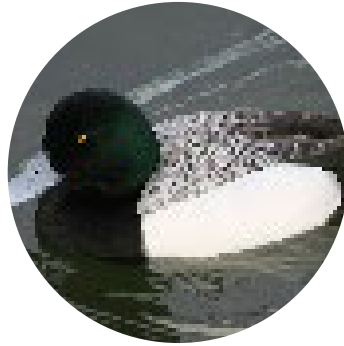
Studies in humans show PFAS may:

- ❖ Increase cholesterol levels
- ❖ Reduce antibody response
- ❖ Decrease fertility in women
- ❖ Increase the risk of:
 - ❖ thyroid disease
 - ❖ Osteoarthritis
 - ❖ Ulcerative colitis
 - ❖ Testicular cancer
 - ❖ Kidney cancer

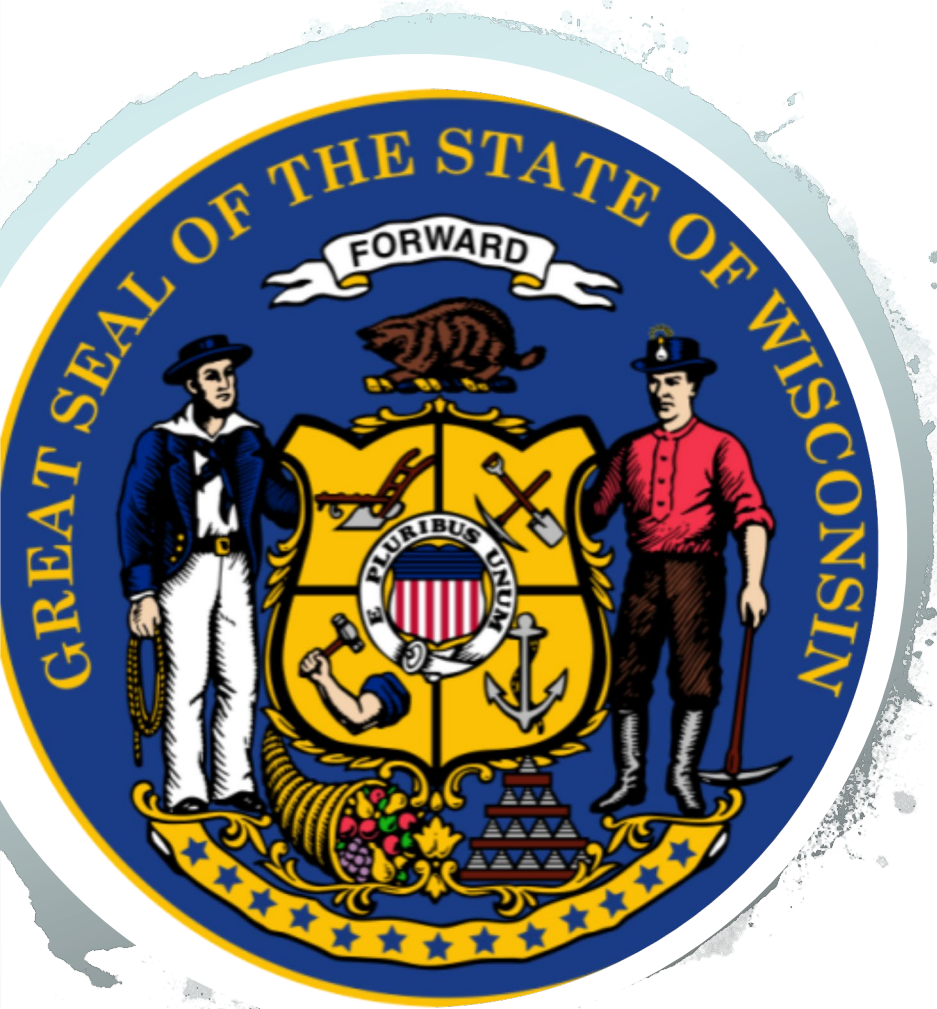
Studies in animals have shown:

- ❖ Changes in liver, thyroid, and
- ❖ in hormone levels
- ❖ Cancer pancreatic function
- ❖ Changes

Based on conclusion by:
US EPA, the US CDC and ATSDR.



PFAS Exposure: Environment

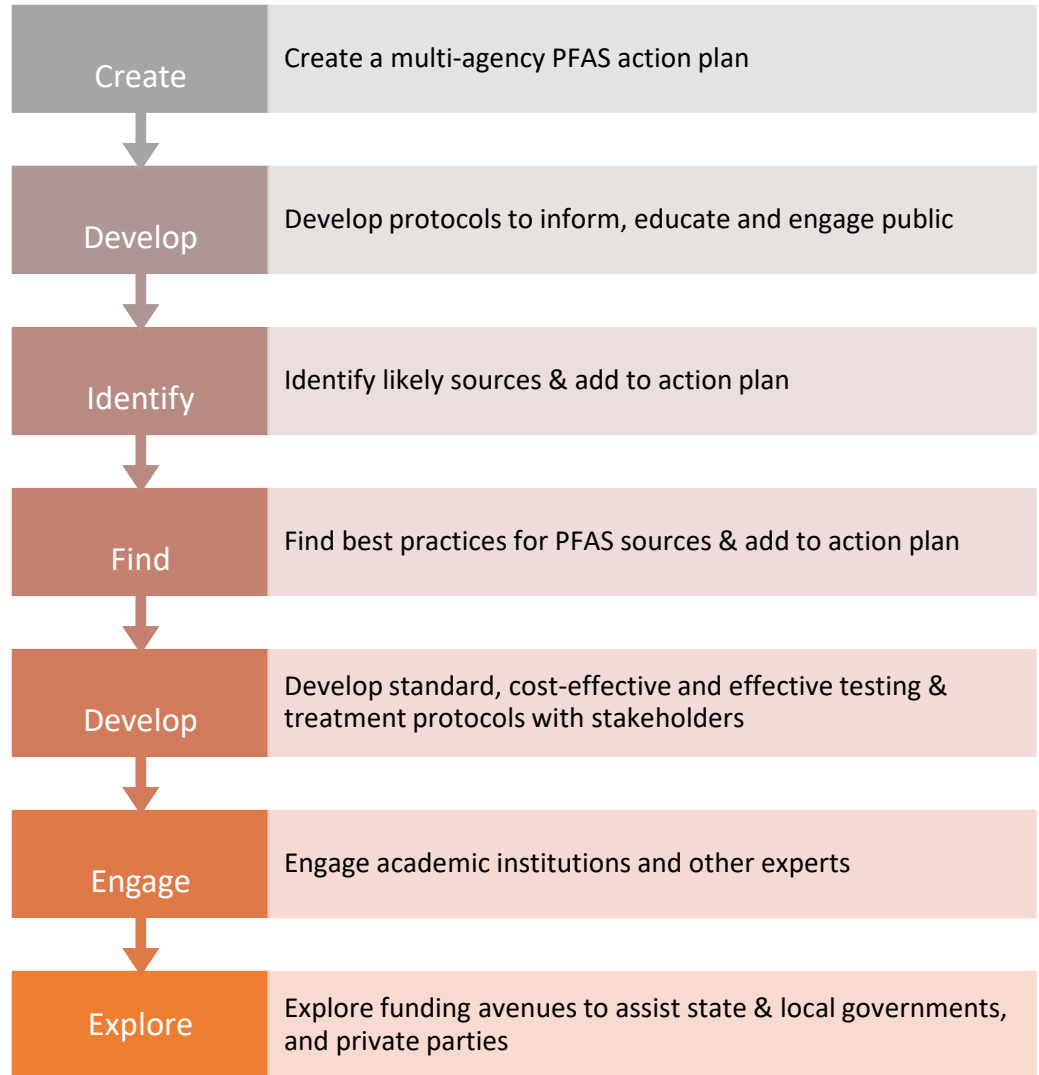


Executive Order No. 40

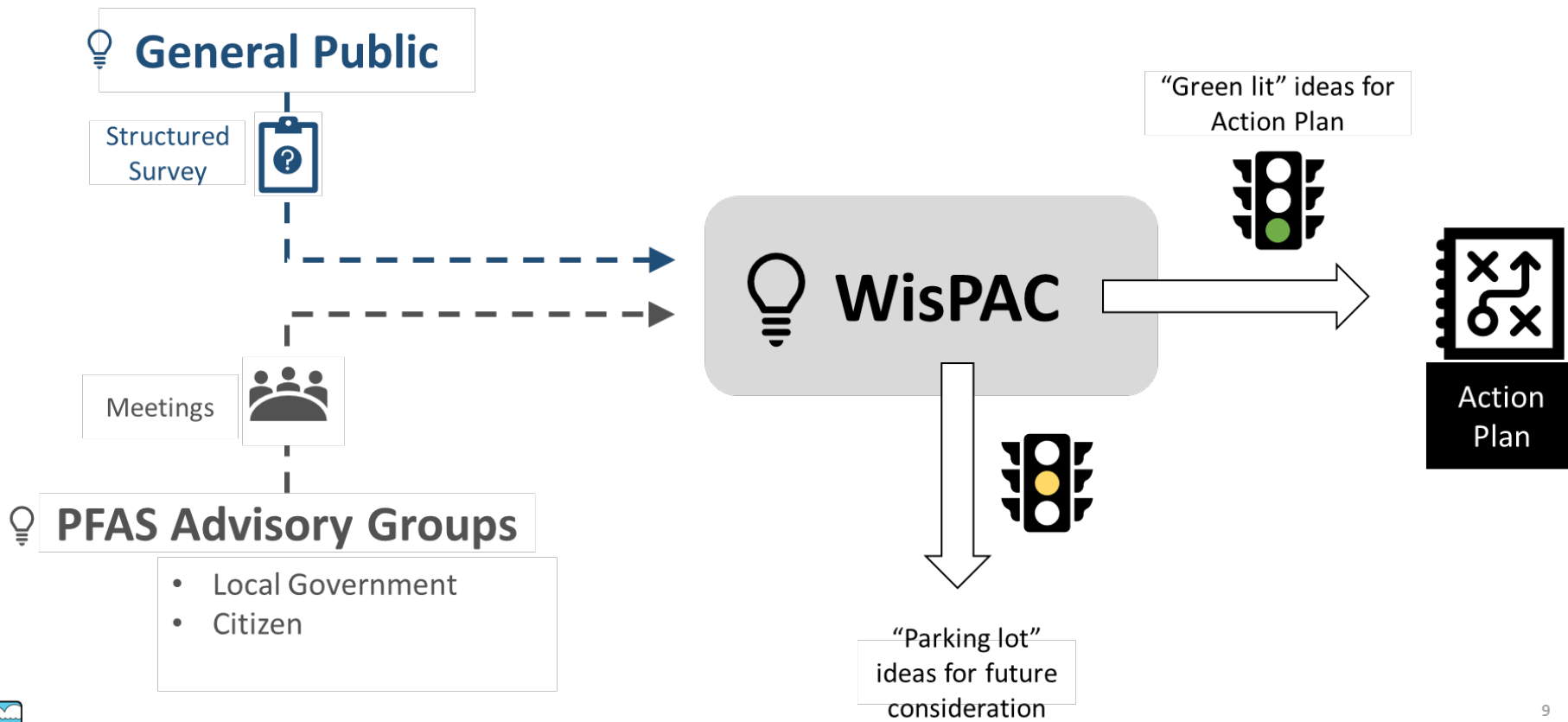
Create the PFAS Coordinating Council pursuant to Section 14.019 of the Wisconsin Statutes. The Council shall be staffed by the Department of Natural Resources, with assistance provided by other agencies. Membership of the Council shall include a representative from each agency seeking to participate.



WisPAC's Charge



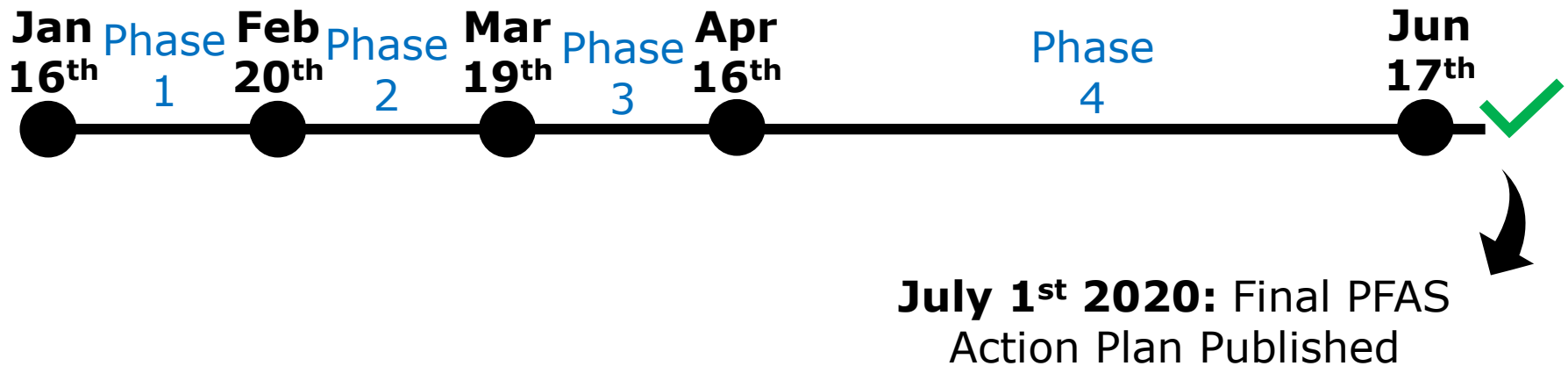
Developing the Action Plan: General Overview

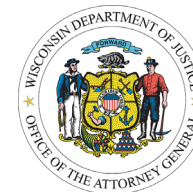




Developing the Action Plan: Timeline

(see handout: **Proposed Timeline & Steps for Developing the PFAS Action Plan**)





State Agency Involvement