



February 9, 2022

To whom it may concern,

The Minnesota Composting Council (MNCC) is grateful that the State is concerned about PFAS in our environment. This is shown through MPCA's development of the PFAS Blueprint and the approval of the PFAS ban in food-service packaging during the 2021 Legislative Session.

PFAS chemicals, or 'forever chemicals' as they're often referred to, are an issue at all end-of-life facilities, including compost sites. As a receiver of waste, compost sites have little control over what material arrives at their facilities. As the State attempts to manage these chemicals in the environment, it is important to focus initial efforts on pathways that have a direct impact on human health and the environment. One clear action item described in the MPCA PFAS Blueprint is to eliminate the use of PFAS in non-essential products and applications, which the MNCC fully supports.

Furthermore, consumers are often unaware that there are PFAS chemicals in consumer products that they use on a daily basis. The MNCC supports any future requirements for all products containing PFAS chemicals to be labeled appropriately. Proper labeling that a product contains a PFAS chemical would help business owners and consumers make environmental and health-conscious decisions about products they purchase and use.

The MNCC supports the passage of the proposed bills which will prohibit PFAS in various consumer products:

- [HF 2906](#) – PFAS prohibited in cosmetics
 - o Compost operators continue to reduce the chances of PFAS entering their systems by not accepting products that could actually be composted primarily due to PFAS concerns. Tissues and paper towels on their own are fine for composting, however, the chemicals that are absorbed by tissues and paper towels when used to remove makeup may result in PFAS entering the composting facility.
- [HF 2907](#) – PFAS prohibited in cookware
 - o With possible high heat transfer of PFAS chemicals from cookware to the food we eat and also discard, cookware is a direct link to human health and the environment. While more research needs to be done on how PFAS transfer from cookware onto food, removing PFAS from cookware protects both human health and the environment and reduces the need for additional expensive studies.
- [HF 2952](#) – PFAS prohibited in ski wax
 - o While there are fewer direct links to composting from ski wax, the MNCC fully supports efforts to remove non-essential uses of PFAS that may make it into the environment

eventually. Limiting these uses reduces atmospheric deposition of these chemicals to nearby areas or dilution into our waters of the State.

We encourage you to pass these bills to prevent PFAS chemicals from having the opportunity to affect human health and our environment from these consumer products. This is a key action item that has been proven to work for other known chemicals in the past.

We are happy to answer any questions you have.

Sincerely,

Minnesota Composting Council

The Minnesota Composting Council is a 501c, 3 dedicated to the development, expansion and promotion of the composting industry based upon sound science, principles of sustainability and economic viability.

mncompostingcouncil.org