

## **Environment Department**

## MICHELLE LUJAN GRISHAM, GOVERNOR

James C. Kenney, Cabinet Secretary

## NEWS RELEASE For Immediate Release

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**Contact:** Drew Goretzka, Director of Communications

New Mexico Environment Department 505.670.8911 | drew.goretzka@env.nm.gov

The Environment Department's mission is to protect and restore the environment and to foster a healthy and prosperous New Mexico for present and future generations.

## **Reminder: NMED hosts webinar on PFAS Protection Act**

SANTA FE — The New Mexico Environment Department will host a public webinar on Wednesday for anyone interested in learning more about the PFAS Protection Act — a 2025 law that phases out and ultimately prohibits the sale of products containing intentionally added PFAS.

The webinar will cover key aspects of the PFAS Protection Act, including an overview and timeline of the rulemaking process, labeling requirements, and a question-and-answer session with NMED experts:

- What: Public webinar on the PFAS Protection Act
- When: Wednesday, Oct. 22 from 1 p.m. to 3:30 p.m.
- **Sign up:** Visit NMED's <u>webinar registration page</u>

The PFAS Protection Act protects New Mexicans from toxic PFAS by phasing out and ultimately prohibiting consumer products containing intentionally added PFAS. These chemicals can cause a range of adverse health issues including thyroid disease, liver or kidney damage, certain types of cancers, and increased risk of reproductive issues like decreased fertility, low birth weight, birth defects, or developmental delays.

The state law applies to manufacturers who intentionally add PFAS to their products and offer them for sale in New Mexico. The law phases out the sale of these products starting in 2027. The phase out starts with products with intentionally added PFAS that come in direct contact with children, like juvenile clothing and toys, or New Mexicans' food, like cookware and food packaging.

In 2028, the phase out continues with products with intentionally added PFAS that come in direct contact with individuals, like cosmetics or hygiene products, or that furnish our homes and businesses, like furniture and carpets.

In 2032, manufacturers who continue to add PFAS to other products will face similar restrictions. Certain products, like medical devices that contain intentionally added PFAS, are exempt from the state law.

The act also allows NMED to require manufacturers to label products containing intentionally added PFAS so consumers can decide if they want to bring a product containing or made with PFAS into their home or business.

Wednesday's webinar follows NMED's submission of proposed rules for implementing the PFAS Protection Act on Oct. 8. The proposed rules are <u>available online</u>, along with a <u>public comment portal</u> for those wishing to provide feedback.

NMED has also launched an <u>updated PFAS webpage</u> where the public can learn more about the state's PFAS-related actions.

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