



**The Environmental
Group Limited**
Engineering a Sustainable Future



A PFAS FREE FUTURE!

HOW COUNCILS CAN LEAD THE CHANGE

What is PFAS?

PFAS (Per- and Polyfluoroalkyl Substances) are man-made chemicals used in firefighting foams, packaging, textiles, and various other industries.

Known as “forever chemicals,” they don’t break down naturally because of their ultra-strong carbon-fluorine bonds. Instead, they build up in soil, water, wildlife, and even people, lasting for decades.

In Australia, PFAS is now one of the most urgent environmental and health challenges. Found in landfills, waterways, industrial sites, farming and livestock, these chemicals can travel long distances and impact entire ecosystems.

With regulators stepping up monitoring and compliance, councils are at the front line of protecting communities and finding safe, effective treatment solutions.

Why Councils Should Care

Local councils are at the frontline of environmental protection. PFAS issues can directly affect:

- ▶ **Landfills & Leachate:** PFAS leaches from waste streams into groundwater and waterways.
- ▶ **Wastewater & Biosolids:** PFAS in sewer sludge and biosolids can re-enter soils and crops.
- ▶ **Community Health:** Residents rely on councils to safeguard clean water and safe public spaces.
- ▶ **Reputation & Trust:** Communities expect councils to lead on sustainability and compliance.
- ▶ **Regulatory Compliance:** State and federal PFAS regulations are tightening, and councils must be prepared.

The Risks of Inaction

- ▶ PFAS can contaminate **drinking water** sources and persist for decades.
- ▶ Councils may face **increased costs** for waste management, soil remediation, and water treatment.
- ▶ Delays in addressing PFAS could result in **liabilities, regulatory penalties, or reputational damage**.





Rapid Deployment of PFAS Mobile Extraction Plants

Councils can act quickly by ensuring that mobile PFAS extraction plants are deployed to priority areas, including:

- ▶ **Landfill sites:** to treat contaminated leachate before it reaches waterways.
- ▶ **Wastewater treatment facilities:** to remove PFAS from sewer sludges and discharge streams.
- ▶ **Firefighting training grounds and airports:** to clean up legacy PFAS contamination from firefighting foams.
- ▶ **Industrial zones:** to manage runoff and prevent PFAS from entering stormwater or soils.
- ▶ **Civil works projects:** to safely manage PFAS-contaminated soils during construction.

Our mobile units allow councils to address contamination immediately, without waiting for large-scale infrastructure upgrades, delivering faster protection for communities and the environment.

How The Environmental Group Can Support You

- ▶ **Research-Based:** PFAS treatment solutions successfully operating.
- ▶ **PFAS Testing:** In collaboration with Victoria University, we can analyse your wastewater, soil, or biosolids and provide expert guidance on next steps.
- ▶ **Scalable Solutions:** Mobile or fixed systems to treat PFAS in wastewater, soils, and biosolids.
- ▶ **Compliance Pathways:** Guidance to keep councils ahead of evolving state and federal PFAS regulations.
- ▶ **Community Engagement Tools:** Fact sheets, posters, and FAQs to help councils communicate with residents.
- ▶ **Future-Ready Approach:** Systems designed to grow with community needs and environmental standards.

What can councils do now?

- ▶ Work with our team to **audit local waste, wastewater, and soil sites** for PFAS risk.
- ▶ **Engage residents and businesses** with education campaigns.
- ▶ **Partner with experts like The Environmental Group** to ensure safe, compliant, and sustainable treatment solutions.

Protect Communities. Build Trust. Leave a Legacy.

Cleaner water and soil.
Safer, healthier communities.
Councils recognised as environmental leaders.

Download the PFAS Council Info Pack



For more resources, case studies, and community campaign materials:



Contact The Environmental Group

03 9541 8699
admin@egl.com.au
environmental.com.au



TOGETHER, WE CAN PROTECT AUSTRALIAN COMMUNITIES & BUILD A SAFER, PFAS-FREE FUTURE.