

2025 OUTSTANDING PROFESSOR LECTURE

PFAS in California: Scale, Science, and Communities at Risk



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Wednesday, March 25, 2026

2:00pm - 4:00pm

PLN-216, Data Visualization Center

Per- and polyfluoroalkyl substances (PFAS) are widespread in industrial and consumer products, leading to inevitable **human exposure**. In California, over 25 million people receive drinking water from more than 2,000 community water systems that rely entirely/partially on groundwater. **PFAS contamination** is extensive, affecting many groundwater public supply wells through numerous sources.

This lecture will present the current scientific understanding of **PFAS**, often referred to as "**forever chemicals**," including their health risks and ongoing monitoring efforts in California. Special attention is given to environmental injustices, as communities of color disproportionately bear the burden of PFAS exposure.



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