

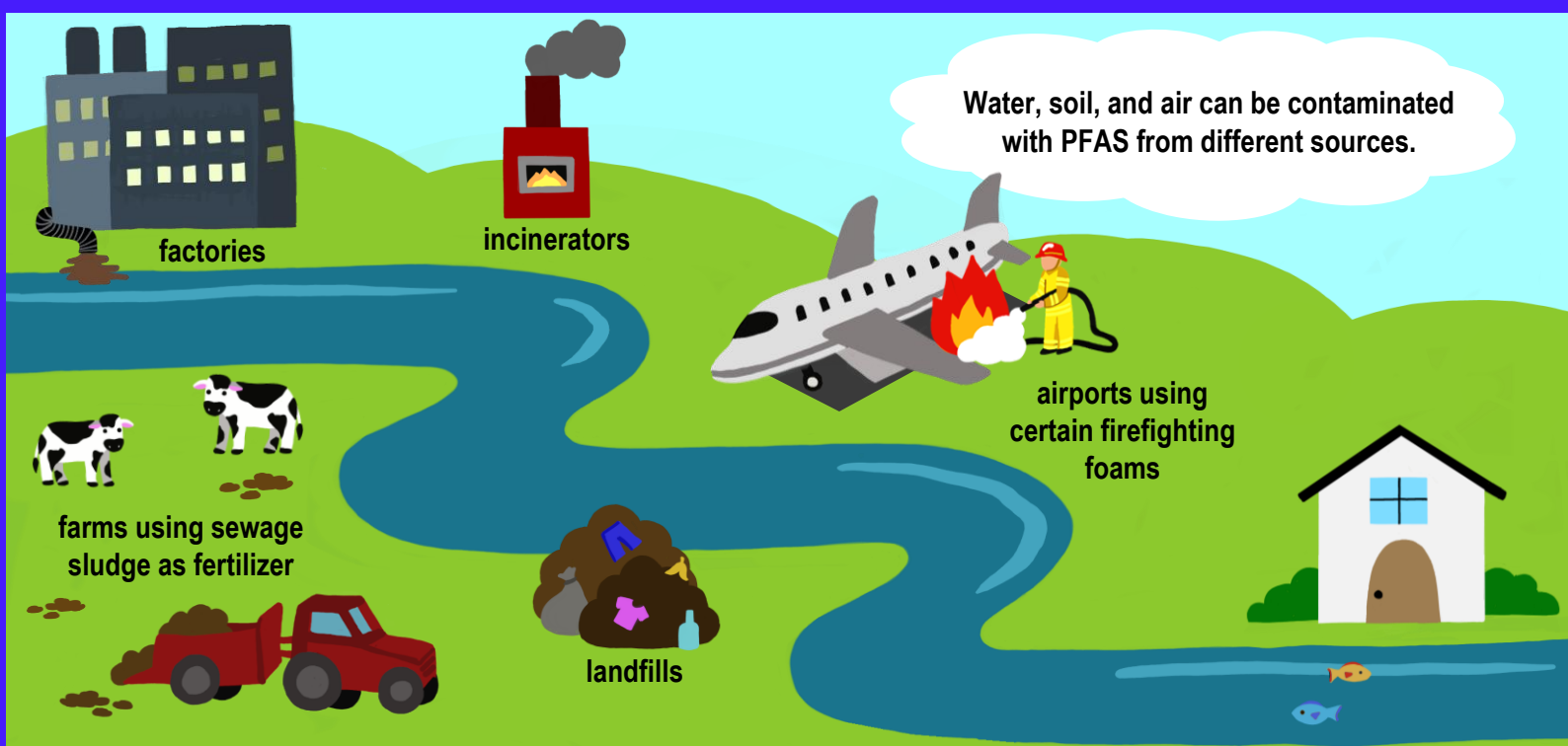
# What are PFAS?

Per- and Polyfluoroalkyl Substances

Synthetic chemicals used in oil- and water-resistant products such as cleaners, carpets, cosmetics, paints, and clothing. They are also present in some firefighting foams.



## How do PFAS end up in the environment?



## How can I be exposed to PFAS?



## Can PFAS affect health?

Certain PFAS are associated with these health effects:

- Increases in cholesterol levels
- Small decreases in birth weight
- Lower antibody response to some vaccines in children
- Kidney and testicular cancer
- Pregnancy-induced hypertension or preeclampsia
- Changes in liver enzymes

## What can I do if I'm concerned?

- Talk to your healthcare provider, who can counsel you on your unique situation.
- Share ATSDR's PFAS Information for Clinicians with your provider:  
<https://www.atsdr.cdc.gov/pfas/hcp/clinical-overview/>
- Reach out to your local health department, which may provide additional resources and ways to reduce exposure.

## How can I reduce my exposure?



**ATSDR**

Visit the CDC/ATSDR website for additional information.

<https://www.atsdr.cdc.gov/pfas/>