



Division of Spill Prevention and Response

Firefighting Substance Disposal Reimbursement Program

Contaminated Sites Program

What is the purpose of this program?

Firefighting substances known as Aqueous Film-Forming Foam (AFFF) contain per- and poly-fluoroalkyl substances (PFAS), a group of thousands of chemical compounds that can cause cancer and other health effects. The goal of the Firefighting Substance Disposal Reimbursement (FSDR) program is to help ensure that AFFF is disposed of according to state and federal law to prevent environmental contamination and protect public health. The Department of Environmental Conservation (DEC) will facilitate this program to reimburse Alaskans for costs related to disposal of AFFF.

Who is eligible for the FSDR program?

A person can qualify for reimbursement of their expenses to dispose of firefighting substances that contain PFAS in two ways:

1. **They live in a community with a population of less than 2,000 people that is off the road system.** DEC will use the Alaska Department of Commerce, Community, and Economic Development's Division of Community and Regional Affairs website to determine the most current population of a community.
2. **They received AFFF from a partially state-funded fire safety project,** such as the Alaska Department of Public Safety's Project Code Red.

What expenses are eligible for reimbursement?

At this time, DEC is prioritizing reimbursements for disposal of firefighting substances that contain PFAS as well as the equipment that contains those substances. Expenses could include, but are not limited to:

- Purchase of associated packaging materials necessary for transport to the disposal facility, such as overpack drums or other storage containers, pallets, etc.,
- Labor costs associated with packaging the material and readying it for transport to a disposal facility;
- Third-party vendor costs to assist in the coordination of transportation and disposal;
- Transportation costs to a disposal facility; and
- Disposal costs at a disposal facility.



Photo - Project Code Red portable firefighting kits in New Stuyahok.

How do I know if my firefighting foam has PFAS in it?

Class B firefighting foams can be divided into two categories - 1) fluorinated foam, and 2) fluorine free foam. PFAS is the active ingredient in Class B fluorinated foams such as AFFF. The fluorine-free foams, commonly called F3, do not contain intentionally added PFAS. Due to their long shelf lives, older AFFF may still be present in your inventory. A list of common AFFF products is available on DEC's website for the FSDR program.



A container of 3M Aqueous Film Forming Foam (AFFF).

How can I dispose of my AFFF?

DEC is not currently aware of any locations within the State of Alaska where AFFF can be disposed of; therefore, you will have to coordinate with an out-of-state disposal facility and arrange for transport of the AFFF to that facility. You should confirm with the disposal facility that they are in compliance with all applicable state and federal requirements. You can coordinate transport and disposal of AFFF on your own or seek the services of a qualified contractor who can assist with packaging, manifesting, shipping, and coordinating with disposal facilities. A list of vendors who are interested in and capable of providing these services is available on DEC's website.

How do I request reimbursement?

Before you request a reimbursement, you should obtain a cost estimate for the packaging, transport, and disposal of the AFFF and equipment. Once you have a cost estimate, complete the eligibility confirmation form through DEC's website. You must submit an eligibility confirmation form before submitting a request for reimbursement. After reviewing the eligibility confirmation form, DEC will let you know if your eligibility has been approved and the deadline for disposal.

Following the disposal of the AFFF and/or contaminated equipment, you can submit a request for reimbursement of your costs through our website or mail a paper copy of your application to the address below. You will need to provide copies of all invoices and a certificate of disposal from the disposal facility.

Contact us

For information about the program or to apply online visit <https://dec.alaska.gov/spar/csp/pfas/firefighting-foam/firefighting-substances-disposal-reimbursement-program/> or scan the QR code below.

For questions about the FSDR program please email dec.spar.fsdr@alaska.gov or call 907-465-1229.

Response Fund Administration
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FSDR Program Website

