

Red-Lined Tracked Changes, PFAS Prohibition in Cleaning and Personal Care Products

On June 23, 2022, Green Seal issued updated editions of the following standards.

- GS-8 Standard, General Purpose Cleaning Products for Household Use
- GS-37 Standard, General Purpose Cleaning Products for Industrial and Institutional Use
- GS-41 Standard, Hand Cleaners and Hand Sanitizers for Industrial and Institutional Use
- GS-44 Standard, Soaps, Cleansers, Hand Sanitizers and Shower Products
- GS-48 Standard, Laundry Care Products for Household Use
- GS-50 Standard, Personal Care and Cosmetic Products
- GS-51 Standard, Laundry Care Products for Industrial and Institutional Use
- GS-52 Standard, Specialty Cleaning Products for Household Use
- GS-53 Standard, Specialty Cleaning Products for Industrial and Institutional Use

A new criterion was added to each of the above standards:

- Prohibiting per-and polyfluorinated alkyl substances (PFAS)

Guide to the Red-Lined Tracked Changes

Text in the boxes below shows the details of the revisions.

The **red text** shows text has been added. The text ~~with strikethrough lines~~ has been deleted.

New Criterion for Product Requirements – PFAS Prohibition

In the product health and environmental requirements section of each standard, a new criterion was added that prohibits the intentional addition of PFAS and limits any PFAS present as a contaminant to 100 ppm. Applicable defined terms are italicized in each standard.

Per- and Polyfluorinated Alkyl Substances (PFAS). The undiluted product shall not contain any ingredients or components that are Per- and Polyfluorinated Alkyl Substances (PFAS)

In Definitions Annex of each standard, the following definition was added or updated.

Per- and Polyfluorinated Alkyl Substances (PFAS). A class of fluorinated organic chemicals containing at least one fully fluorinated carbon atom. This includes but is not limited to PFAS identified via the US EPA's CompTox database PFAS Master List¹

¹<https://comptox.epa.gov/dashboard/chemical-lists/PFASMASTER>

Additional minor updates were made to individual standards to account for differences in defined terms and ensure a consistent implementation across multiple standards. A summary of these revisions is below.

GS-8 Standard: (1) The term “component” and its definition were added to this standard. The definition is consistent with the definition in the GS-37 Standard.

GS-41 Standard: (1) The term “component” and its definition were added to this standard. The definition is consistent with the definition in the GS-37 Standard. (2) The current definition of PFAS in Annex A was updated to match the definition above. (3) The ingredient prohibition on PFAS that exists in Annex B for hand sanitizers was deleted, as the new criterion added for PFAS applies to all product categories, including hand sanitizers.

GS-44 Standard: (1) The current definition of PFAS in Annex A was updated to match the definition proposed above. (2) The ingredient prohibition on PFAS that exists in Annex C for hand sanitizers was deleted, as the new criterion added for PFAS applies to all product categories, including hand sanitizers.

Multiple Standards: GS-48, GS-50, GS-51, GS-52, GS-53: (1) The criterion language for PFAS above does not contain the reference to “ingredients” because that is not a defined term in those standards.

Additional Information

All previous editions of Green Seal standards and all revision documents including Revision Proposals and stakeholder comments can be found on Green Seal’s [Library of Standard Documents](#). For more information, please contact standards@greenseal.org.