



## **Firefighting Foam**

The City of Corning uses fire fighting foam for certain fire suppression operations. Its role is to cool the fire and to coat the fuel, preventing its contact with oxygen, resulting in suppression of the combustion. This foam was invented in 1902.

Studies have shown chemicals in these foams can be a persistent, bio-cumulative, and toxic pollutant. These chemicals called "perfluorinated compounds (PFCs)" improve the effectiveness of Class B firefighting foams in fighting petroleum and other fires.

On April 25, 2016, the New York State Department of Environmental Conservation (DEC) completed an emergency rulemaking and concurrently proposed a formal rulemaking that listed four new chemicals on the list of hazardous substances that may be found in Class B firefighting foam. Since this time, the City's Fire Department has phased-out the use of foams containing these chemicals and replaced it with non-toxic foam.