

Why am I being invited to participate?

You are being invited to participate in this study because you reside within the specific geographical region of interest and are 18 years or older. As a first step, we are seeking expressions of interest and will select 100 participants based on these submissions. Please note, in cases where the expressions of interest exceed our capacity for participant inclusion, especially when multiple registrations come from the same suburb, participants will be selected randomly.

What am I being invited to do?

You are being invited to send us a soil sample from your garden and complete a questionnaire related to your gardening practices and soil usage.

How much time will my involvement in the project take?

We anticipate that collecting the soil sample and filling out the questionnaire will take up to 30 minutes.

Are there any risks associated with participating in this project?

There are no foreseeable risks associated with participating in this project. While soil contamination is a topic of ongoing research, we currently have no data suggesting that PFAS in residential gardening soil poses an acute issue. Therefore, this study is purely explorative in nature. The results of the soil tests will not be shared with external organisations. Any data that is published or presented will be de-identified, ensuring the privacy and confidentiality of all participants are maintained.

In the theoretical event that PFAS concentrations in soil exceed the health investigation thresholds, no results will be reported to external organisations. All participants who have provided their email address will receive their results, along with a comparison to the health investigation levels (as defined by National Environment Protection Measures) as a reference point. For additional guidance and resources, participants will be directed to the Australian Government's PFAS Taskforce website (www.pfas.gov.au). Any decision on further action is the sole responsibility of the participant.

We recommend adhering to general gardening ~~(c)3y91t87(b)-3(da)-3(s)-6(k)-6(f)11(o)-3(rc)6(e)3e~~ is

Publishing