

Anthony Grassi
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We have a son and daughter-in-law who are organic farmers, and through them and our work as volunteers with MOFGA, we know their community of farmers quite well. Only by good luck has the PFAS problem not landed on their farm.

The families it has hit are totally devastated. They have built their lives and livelihoods around healthy living and providing healthy foods to their farm customers. Now everything they believed in and the codes they have lived by have been upended, their health and that of their children threatened and their livelihoods destroyed.

Their fields have turned out to be tainted by farming practices that occurred before their ownership of the land. The State of Maine is fully culpable here. These fields were fertilized with sludge that was endorsed and encouraged in its use by the State.

We owe these families support and we need to do whatever it takes to give them their lives back (even though we can't reverse the damage done to their own health by drinking water and eating crops contaminated by PFAS).