



INFORMATION ON PHARMAECEUTICALS, PERSONAL CARE PRODUCTS, ENDOCRINE DISRUPTING COMPOUNDS AND PHTHALATE ESTERS IN OUR WATER

SEAWA Watershed Report 2010-10 *draft*SEAWA Web-based State of the Watershed Report

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Summary

INTRODUCTION:

Due to the advancements in the methods used for detecting chemicals in the environment, trace levels of pharmaceuticals have been found in waterways. This is an increasing concern because of the potential to cause undesirable ecological effects. Residues of human and veterinary pharmaceuticals such as antibiotics, estrogens and active ingredients of drugs are introduced into the environment via a number of pathways. ²

While a few effects are known, there is a still a great deal unknown about the affects of these drugs in our water.

PHARMACEUTICALS AND PERSONAL CARE PRODUCTS

What are they?

Pharmaceuticals and personal care products are human and veterinary drugs, dietary supplements, fragrances, cosmetics, sunscreens and cleaning products.⁷



Are they in our water?

In 2005, Alberta Environment tested the water in treated municipal wastewaters and the rivers that receive wastewater for pharmaceuticals and endocrine disrupting compounds (EDCs). The results for pharmaceuticals were as follows:

a) Acidic Pharmaceuticals in our water

Of the nine acidic drugs analysed (Table 1), only two (clofibric acid and ketoprofen) were not detected at least once in either effluents (treated municipal wastewaters sent out from the waste water treatment plant (WWTP) into a river or sea) or in the river waters. Of the remaining seven, anywhere from four to seven were noted in effluents from the four WWTPs in Edmonton and Calgary, with the exception of diclofenac and naproxen. In the case of smaller municipalities (Lethbridge, Medicine Hat and Red Deer), only gemfibrozil was detected in effluents and at downstream sites.⁵

Table 1: Acidic pharmaceutical concentrations in WWTP effluents and receiving rivers of Alberta (micrograms per liter). ND = Not Detected.⁵

| | | | NORTH SASKAT | CHEWAN RIVER | BOW | RIVER | OLDMAN RIVER | SOUTH SASKATCHEWAN RIVER | RED DEER RIVER |
|----------------------|-----------------|----------------|--|------------------------------|--|--------------------------------|---|---|---|
| | | Compound | Capital Region WWTP 17/12/02 | Gold Bar WWTP 17/12/02 | Fish Creek WWTP 15/01/03 | Bonnybrook WWTP 15/01/03 | Lethbridge WWTP 29/01/03 | Medicine Hat WWTP 23/01/03 | Red Deer WWTP 22/01/03 |
| | | Bezafibrate | 0.117 | 0.547 | 0.298 | 0.144 | ND | ND | ND |
| | | Clofibric acid | ND | ND | ND | ND | ND | ND | ND |
| | | Diclofenac | ND | ND | 0.429 | 0.359 | ND | ND | ND |
| | ent | Fenoprofen | 0.106 | 0.355 | 0.078 | ND | ND | ND | ND |
| | Effluent | Gemfibrozil | 0.619 | 0.652 | 0.773 | 0.799 | 0.410 | 0.606 | 0.813 |
| | Ш | Ibuprofen | 1.759 | 1.333 | 1.149 | 0.383 | ND | ND | ND |
| | | Indomethacin | 0.803 | ND | 0.166 | 0.105 | ND | ND | ND |
| | | Ketoprofen | ND | ND | ND | ND | ND | ND | ND |
| <u>s</u> | | Naproxen | ND | ND | 2.668 | 1.785 | ND | ND | ND |
| Acid Pharmaceuticals | | Compound | At Fort Saskatchewan Bridge (downstream of effluents) 17/12/02 | | At Stiers Ranch (downstream of effluents) 19/08/03 | | SW of Diamond City (downstream of effluent) 29/01/03 | Upstream of Medicine Hat (upstream of effluent) 23/01/03 | At Red Deer (downstream of effluent 25/08/03 |
| d Ph | | Bezafibrate | 0.029 | | 0.0 | 010 | ND | ND | ND |
| Acio | | Clofibric acid | ND | | ND | | ND | ND | ND |
| | _ | Diclofenac | 0.090 | | 0.021 | | ND | ND | ND |
| | Rive | Fenoprofen | 0.0 | 26 | ND | | ND | ND | ND |
| | /ing | Gemfibrozil | 0.0 | 52 | 0.023 | | 0.017 | 0.067 | 0.004 |
| | Receiving River | Ibuprofen | 0.2 | 69 | 0.0 | 023 | ND | ND | ND |
| | Ř | Indomethacin | 0.0 | 27 | 0.0 | 020 | ND | ND | ND |
| | | Ketoprofen | N | D | N | ID | ND | ND | ND |
| | | Naproxen | 0.1 | 06 | 0.0 | 059 | ND | ND | ND |

b) Neutral Pharmaceuticals

Six of the eight tested neutral pharmaceuticals (trimethoprim, pentoxifylline, cyclophosphamide, carbamazepine, caffeine, and cotinine) appeared in nearly all WWTP effluents (Table 2). Of the remaining two, fluoxetine was only detected in the Capital Region and Goldbar WWTP effluents, while norfluoxetine did not appear at all. Pentoxyfylline and cyclophosphamide were found at very low concentrations in most of the WWTPs. Trimethoprim, carbamazepine, caffeine and cotinine were consistently reported for most effluents and rivers. ⁵

Table 2: Neutral pharmaceutical concentrations in WWTP effluents and receiving rivers of Alberta (micrograms per liter). ND = Not Detected. ⁵

| | | | NORTH SASK RIV | - | BOW | RIVER | OLDMAN RIVER | SOUTH SASKATCHEWAN RIVER | RED DEER RIVER |
|----------------------|-----------------|------------------|--|------------------------------|--|--------------------------------|---|---|---|
| | | Compound | Capital Region WWTP 17/12/02 | Gold Bar WWTP 17/12/02 | Fish Creek WWTP 15/01/03 | Bonnybrook WWTP 15/01/03 | Lethbridge WWTP 29/01/03 | Medicine Hat WWTP 23/01/03 | Red Deer WWTP 22/01/03 |
| | | Fluoxetine | 0.031 | 0.799 | ND | ND | ND | ND | ND |
| | | Norfluoxetine | ND | ND | ND | ND | ND | ND | ND |
| | يبا | Trimethoprim | 3.528 | 0.669 | 0.795 | 0.907 | 0.887 | 0.514 | 1.404 |
| | Effluent | Pentoxifylline | 0.163 | 0.098 | 0.171 | 0.099 | 0.023 | 0.084 | 0.036 |
| | Eŧ | Cyclophosphamide | ND | 0.005 | 0.048 | 0.055 | 0.012 | 0.012 | ND |
| | | Carbamazepine | 2.641 | 1.784 | 0.702 | 0.925 | 2.785 | 1.123 | 3.287 |
| | | Caffeine | ND | 0.129 | 0.670 | 0.405 | 0.074 | 0.872 | 0.095 |
| | | Cotinine | 0.162 | 0.156 | 3.476 | 0.165 | 0.030 | 0.141 | 0.131 |
| Acid Pharmaceuticals | | Compound | At Fort Saskatchewan Bridge (downstream of effluents) 17/12/02 | | At Stiers Ranch (downstream of effluents) 19/08/03 | | SW of Diamond City (downstream of effluent) 29/01/03 | Upstream of Medicine Hat (upstream of effluent) 23/01/03 | At Red Deer (downstream of effluent 25/08/03 |
| id P | | Fluoxetine | ND | | N | ND | | ND | ND |
| AC | | Norfluoxetine | N | D | ND | | ND | ND | ND |
| | /er | Trimethoprim | 0.1 | .04 | 0.018 | | 0.039 | 0.076 | ND |
| | g Rj | Pentoxifylline | N | D | 0.0 |)15 | ND | ND | ND |
| | ivi | Cyclophosphamide | N | D | ND | | ND | ND | ND |
| | Receiving River | Carbamazepine | 0.1 | .71 | 0.0 |)94 | 0.139 | 0.206 | 0.095 |
| | _ | Caffeine | 0.0 | 23 | 0.0 | 064 | 0.072 | 0.466 | 0.054 |
| | | Cotinine | 0.0 | 09 | 0.0 | 007 | ND | 0.189 | ND |

How do they get in our water?

Some ways are: ⁷

- Excretion by humans and domestic animals
- Flushing
- Bathing
- Swimming
- Discharge from municipal sewage systems or private septic systems
- Leaching from landfills
- Runoff from confined animal feeding operations
- Discharge of raw sewage from storm overflow



What is their effect on us?

When it comes to effects of this effluent, there is a great deal of uncertainty. Some scientists believe the levels of pharmaceuticals in the water are so low that there will be no affect. Other scientists are concerned about the effects of long-term and combined exposure to these pharmaceutical products.⁸

However, antibiotic-resistant bacteria are being found in significantly higher numbers in wastewater and treated wastewater compared to the typical resistant population in surface water due to the pharmaceuticals and antibiotics in the wastewater.¹

ENDOCRINE DISRUPTING COMPOUNDS

What are they?

Endocrine disruptors are chemicals that may interfere with the body's endocrine (glandular) system and produce adverse developmental, reproductive, neurological and immune effects in both humans and wildlife. They include certain pharmaceuticals, dioxin, polychlorinated biphenyls, DDT and other pesticides and plasticizers. They can be found in plastic bottles, metal food cans, detergents, flame retardants, food, toys and cosmetics.³



Figure 1: Bisphenol A in plastics



Figure 2: DDT pesticide

Are they in our water?

The results for Endocrine Disrupting Compounds in the Alberta Environment research were as follows:

Thirteen of 32 EDCs were consistently detected in WWTP effluents (Table 3). Most of these thirteen compounds occurred at low concentrations, with only nonyphenol, cholesterol and fucosterol exceeding 1 microgram per liter.⁵

Table 3: EDC concentrations in WWTP effluents of Alberta (nanogram per liter). ND = Not Detected.⁵

| Target Analyte | NORTH | SASKATCHEWAN | I RIVER | BOW | RIVER | OLDMAN RIVER | SOUTH SASKATCHEWAN RIVER | RED DEER RIVER |
|------------------------|--|--|--|--|--|--|--|--|
| | Capital Region 17/12/02 | Capital Region (2) 17/12/02 | Gold Bar 17/12/02 | Fish Creek 12/6/03 | Bonnybrook 15/01/03 | Lethbridge 29/01/03 | Medicine Hat 23/01/03 | Red Deer 22/01/03 |
| | Blank Corrected Concentration (ng/L) |
| Nonylphenol | ND | 178.72 | 2391.92 | ND | 1733.51 | 184.54 | 2771.77 | 786.33 |
| Cholesterol | 800.59 | 337.47 | 290.11 | 2140.14 | 413.65 | 85.34 | 1570.46 | 672.45 |
| Fucosterol | 681.23 | 372.73 | 847.10 | 1798.32 | 577.54 | 53.04 | 870.11 | 523.79 |
| Stigmasterol | 425.37 | 96.49 | 363.02 | 626.32 | 177.14 | 9.74 | 284.05 | 180.39 |
| Campesterol | 342.01 | 135.09 | 233.21 | ND | 153.24 | 6.58 | 764.88 | 177.24 |
| β-Sitosterol | 330.83 | 226.86 | 367.39 | 751.12 | 202.85 | 32.33 | 397.49 | 209.33 |
| Coprostan-3-one | 313.76 | 88.67 | 181.15 | ND | 154.49 | 27.92 | 401.98 | 171.45 |
| Cholestanol | 136.59 | 51.23 | 121.97 | 810.53 | 132.30 | 6.21 | 271.65 | 107.07 |
| Stigmastanol | 87.67 | 20.92 | 44.29 | 330.04 | 29.81 | 4.83 | 108.34 | 35.84 |
| Bisphenol A | 6.49 | ND | 115.93 | 194.55 | 83.57 | 1.29 | 36.93 | 26.34 |
| 7-Ketocholesterol | 83.73 | 126.29 | 40.81 | 130.72 | 14.82 | 52.37 | 74.73 | 36.21 |
| Desmosterol | ND | 102.28 | ND | ND | ND | 68.49 | ND | 143.74 |
| Kaempferol | ND | ND | 56.43 | 13.45 | ND | ND | 40.79 | 48.29 |
| 6-Ketocholestanol | 18.00 | 7.82 | ND | 20.69 | ND | 4.57 | 16.20 | 9.65 |
| Genistein | ND | ND | 9.89 | ND | ND | ND | ND | ND |
| Totarol | ND | ND | ND | ND | ND | ND | 3.11 | ND |
| Pinosylvin | ND | ND | ND | ND | ND | ND | 1.49 | ND |
| α-Zearalanol | ND |
| Naringenin | ND |
| Engosterol | ND |
| Estrone | 3.34 | 0.26 | 34.06 | ND | 2.56 | ND | 10.27 | 9.93 |
| (-)-Norgestrel | 22.23 | ND |
| 17 α-Ethynylestradiol | ND | ND | ND | 8.47 | ND | ND | ND | ND |
| Estriol | ND | ND | 3.43 | ND | 3.99 | ND | 2.51 | 2.19 |
| 17β –Estradiol | ND | ND | 2.08 | ND | 1.48 | 0.21 | 2.73 | ND |
| 17α-Estradiol | ND | ND | ND | ND | ND | ND | 1.79 | ND |
| Equilin | ND |
| Testosterone | ND |
| d-Equilenin | ND |
| Mestranol | ND |
| 19-Norethindrone | ND |
| β-Estradiol-3-benzoate | ND |

Thirteen EDCs consistently appeared at measurable concentrations in most rivers (Table 4). Twelve of these were among the thirteen detected most frequently in effluents.⁵

Table 4: EDC concentrations in receiving rivers of Alberta (nanogram per liter). ND = Not Detected.⁵

| Target Analyte | North Saskatchewan River at Ft. Saskatchewan Bridge (downstream of effluents) 17/12/02 | Bow River at Stiers Ranch (downstream of effluents) 15/01/03 | Oldman River SW of Diamond City (downstream of effluent) 29/01/03 | South Saskatchewan River Upstream of Medicine Hat (upstream of effluent) 23/01/03 | Red Deer River at Red Deer (downstream of effluent) 22/01/03 |
|------------------------|--|--|--|--|--|
| | Blank Corrected Concentration (ng/L) | Blank Corrected Concentration (ng/L) | Blank Corrected Concentration (ng/L) | Blank Corrected Concentration (ng/L) | Blank Corrected Concentration (ng/L) |
| Nonylphenol | ND | 292.27 | 175.62 | 119.22 | 36.19 |
| Cholesterol | 69.96 | 285.10 | 224.87 | 216.28 | 64.53 |
| Fucosterol | 113.69 | 135.87 | 957.40 | 136.75 | ND |
| Stigmasterol | 12.65 | ND | 252.42 | 44.61 | 21.09 |
| Campesterol | 12.99 | 19.98 | 193.55 | 36.78 | 10.59 |
| β-Sitosterol | 59.58 | 73.28 | 579.52 | 84.22 | 52.05 |
| Coprostan-3-one | 8.70 | 17.65 | ND | 26.08 | 16.73 |
| Cholestanol | 2.47 | 10.01 | 12.37 | 20.55 | 6.45 |
| Stigmastanol | 2.77 | 8.73 | 47.83 | 9.88 | 4.41 |
| Bisphenol A | ND | 1.80 | 1527.35 | ND | 42.55 |
| 7-Ketocholesterol | 5.92 | 105.98 | 80.49 | 45.59 | 47.44 |
| Desmosterol | 11.40 | 165.23 | 94.93 | 61.30 | 65.60 |
| Kaempferol | ND | 2.84 | ND | ND | ND |
| 6-Ketocholestanol | 0.65 | 7.39 | 18.46 | 7.85 | 4.85 |
| Genistein | ND | ND | ND | ND | ND |
| Totarol | ND | ND | ND | ND | ND |
| Pinosylvin | ND | ND | ND | ND | ND |
| α-Zearalanol | ND | ND | ND | ND | ND |
| Naringenin | ND | ND | ND | ND | ND |
| Engosterol | ND | ND | ND | ND | ND |
| Estrone | ND | ND | ND | ND | ND |
| (-)-Norgestrel | ND | ND | ND | ND | ND |
| 17 α-Ethynylestradiol | ND | ND | ND | ND | ND |
| Estriol | ND | ND | ND | ND | ND |
| 17β –Estradiol | ND | ND | ND | ND | ND |
| 17α-Estradiol | ND | ND | ND | ND | ND |
| Equilin | ND | ND | ND | ND | ND |
| Testosterone | ND | ND | ND | ND | ND |
| d-Equilenin | ND | ND | ND | ND | ND |
| Mestranol | ND | ND | ND | ND | ND |
| 19-Norethindrone | 0.58 | ND | ND | ND | 0.77 |
| β-Estradiol-3-benzoate | ND | ND | ND | ND | ND |

What is their effect on us?

The risks associated with pesticides, a common endocrine disruptor, include: 9

- increased risk of cancer (e.g. non-Hodgkin's lymphoma, childhood leukemia and breast cancer)
- neurological impairment (e.g. Parkinson's disease, Alzheimer's disease)
- developmental effects (e.g. autism)
- reproductive effects (e.g. sperm abnormalities, birth defects)
- organ damage
- interference with the human hormone system



Sperm levels and spawning patterns in aquatic organisms have been clearly altered in areas heavily polluted with endocrine disruptors.⁸

PHTHALATE ESTERS

What are they?

Phthalate esters are "plasticizers" that increase polymer flexibility in plastics. They are also components of cosmetics, detergents, building products, lubricant oils, pesticides and solvents. Phthalate esters are also characterized as endocrine disruptors although the endocrine disrupting impacts of many are unclear. ⁴⁵ It is estimated that more than four million tons of phthalates are consumed globally per year. Di-(2-ethylhexyl) phthalate (DEHP) is one of the most commonly used phthalates, particularly in Personal Care Products. ⁶

Are they in our water?

With the exception of two blank-corrected values that fell below detection limits, all thirteen target phthalate esters were found at measurable concentrations in effluents from all WWTPs (Table 5).⁵

Table 5: Phthalate ester concentrations in WWTP effluents of Alberta (nanograms per liter). ND = Not Detected.⁵

| Target Analyte | NORTH | SASKATCHEWAN | I RIVER | BOW | RIVER | OLDMAN RIVER | SOUTH SASKATCHEWAN RIVER | RED DEER RIVER |
|----------------|--|--|--|--|--|--|--|--|
| | Capital Region 17/12/02 | Capital Region (2) 17/12/02 | Gold Bar 17/12/02 | Fish Creek 12/6/03 | Bonnybrook 15/01/03 | Lethbridge 29/01/03 | Medicine Hat 23/01/03 | Red Deer 22/01/03 |
| | Blank Corrected Concentration (ng/L) |
| C6-iso-mix | 43.9 | 24.2 | 141.9 | 5.8 | ND | 1.0 | 37.0 | 9.2 |
| C7-iso-mix | 194.2 | 57.9 | 121.9 | 88.1 | 43.8 | 49.7 | 110.5 | 43.9 |
| C8-iso-mix | 2666.6 | 1134.5 | 4772.6 | 5211.4 | 392.0 | 105.7 | 3048.1 | 5508.8 |
| C9-iso-mix | 762.4 | 115.5 | 1107.9 | 373.8 | 30.0 | 38.2 | 180.5 | 147.6 |
| C10-iso-mix | 680.1 | 105.2 | 1295.8 | 243.7 | 35.8 | 21.8 | 170.2 | 64.5 |
| DEHP | 2645.9 | 1128.8 | 4741.6 | 5182.1 | 390.3 | 105.5 | 3037.0 | 5500.5 |
| DBP | 1385.4 | 50.6 | 57.2 | 246.8 | 101.2 | 16.1 | 26.9 | 51.6 |
| DEP | 95.1 | 1.6 | 14.4 | 213.4 | 22.9 | 8.0 | 17.7 | 20.0 |
| DNP | 85.0 | 23.7 | 46.0 | 130.1 | 3.6 | 3.2 | 31.5 | 17.7 |
| DIBP | 56.2 | 54.3 | 6.4 | 107.0 | 10.7 | 1.7 | 24.6 | 7.5 |
| BBP | 36.3 | 15.6 | 3.5 | 77.7 | 8.0 | ND | 14.3 | 16.2 |
| DnOP | 20.7 | 5.7 | 31.1 | 29.2 | 1.8 | 0.3 | 11.1 | 8.4 |
| DMP | 1.1 | 0.0 | 1.0 | 3.9 | 1.4 | 0.3 | ND | 0.1 |

Although all of the thirteen phthalate esters examined during this project were detected in most of the receiving rivers, they were generally present at very low concentrations (Table 6). 5

Table 6: Phthalate ester concentrations in receiving rivers of Alberta (nanograms per liter). ND = Not Detected.⁵

| Target Analyte | North Saskatchewan River at Ft. Saskatchewan Bridge (downstream of effluents) 17/12/02 | Bow River at Stiers Ranch (downstream of effluents) 15/01/03 | Oldman River SW of Diamond City (downstream of effluent) 29/01/03 | South Saskatchewan River Upstream of Medicine Hat (upstream of effluent) 23/01/03 | Red Deer River at Red Deer (downstream of effluent) 22/01/03 |
|----------------|--|--|--|--|--|
| | Blank Corrected Concentration (ng/L) | Blank Corrected Concentration (ng/L) | Blank Corrected Concentration (ng/L) | Blank Corrected Concentration (ng/L) | Blank Corrected Concentration (ng/L) |
| C6-iso-mix | 3.4 | 27.2 | ND | 3.9 | ND |
| C7-iso-mix | 17.9 | 158.4 | 51.8 | 68.7 | 53.6 |
| C8-iso-mix | 76.4 | 688.1 | 2058.7 | 762.2 | 1718.5 |
| C9-iso-mix | 18.3 | 176.8 | 18.2 | 66.0 | 245.9 |
| C10-iso-mix | 41.9 | 128.4 | 26.9 | 43.1 | 33.1 |
| DEHP | 75.5 | 684.1 | 2055.8 | 758.8 | 1715.0 |
| DBP | 5.8 | 169.4 | 41.0 | 87.8 | ND |
| DEP | 18.5 | 48.5 | 22.6 | 2.7 | 9.2 |
| DNP | 3.8 | 20.0 | 5.6 | 12.5 | 12.5 |
| DIBP | ND | 9.0 | ND | ND | ND |
| BBP | 1.2 | 21.7 | 8.2 | 6.9 | 16.1 |
| DnOP | 0.8 | 4.0 | 2.9 | 3.4 | 3.5 |
| DMP | ND | 3.2 | 0.8 | 0.3 | 0.2 |

Only M C8-iso-mix, which was a mixture of MEHP and MnOP, of nine tested monophthalate esters was detected in WWTP effluents (Table 7).⁵

Table 7: Mono-phthalate ester concentrations in WWTP effluents and receiving rivers of Alberta (nanograms per liter). ND = Not Detected; NA = Not Analysed.⁵

| | | | NORTH SASKAT | CHEWAN RIVER | BOW | RIVER | OLDMAN RIVER | SOUTH SASKATCHEWAN RIVER | RED DEER RIVER |
|----------------|-----------------|--|--|--|---------------------------------------|----------------------------------|--|--|---|
| | | Compound | Capital Region WWTP 17/12/02 | Gold Bar WWTP 17/12/02 | Fish Creek WWTP 12/6/03 | Bonnybrook WWTP 15/01/03 | Lethbridge WWTP 29/01/03 | Medicine Hat WWTP 23/01/03 | Red Deer WWTP 22/01/03 |
| | | MMP | ND | ND | ND | ND | ND | ND | ND |
| | | MEP | ND | ND | ND | ND | ND | ND | ND |
| | | MButP | ND | ND | ND | ND | ND | ND | ND |
| | Effluent | M C6-iso-mix | ND | ND | ND | ND | ND | ND | ND |
| | flue | MBzP | ND | ND | ND | ND | ND | ND | ND |
| | Ef | M C7-iso-mix | ND | ND | ND | ND | ND | ND | ND |
| | | M C8-iso-mix | 12.8 | 8.7 | 135.8 | 11.7 | 7.3 | 35.8 | ND |
| | | M C9-iso-mix | ND | ND | ND | ND | ND | ND | ND |
| rs | | M C10-iso-mix | ND | ND | ND | ND | ND | ND | ND |
| late Esters | | Compound | At Fort Saskatchewan Bridge (downstream of effluents) 17/12/02 | | At Stiers Ranch | (downstream of | SW of Diamond City (downstream | Upstream of Medicine Hat | At Red Deer (downstream of |
| htha | | | • | , | effluents) | 15/01/03 | of effluent) 29/01/03 | (upstream of effluent) 23/01/03 | effluent 22/01/03 |
| o-Phtha | | MMP | • | 2/02 | , | • | , | , , | |
| Mono-Phtha | | MMP MEP | 17/1 | 2/02 D | N | 15/01/03 | 29/01/03 | effluent) 23/01/03 | 22/01/03 |
| Mono-Phthalate | j. | | 17/1 | 2/02 D | N | 15/01/03 | 29/01/03 NA | effluent) 23/01/03 ND | 22/01/03 ND |
| Mono-Phtha | River | MEP | 17/1 N N | 2/02 D D | N N | 15/01/03 ID | 29/01/03 NA NA | effluent) 23/01/03 ND ND | 22/01/03 ND ND |
| Mono-Phtha | ving River | MEP MButP | 17/1 N N |) D D D | N N N | 15/01/03 ID ID | 29/01/03 NA NA NA | effluent) 23/01/03 ND ND ND | 22/01/03 ND ND ND |
| Mono-Phtha | eceiving River | MEP MButP M C6-iso-mix | 17/1. N N N |) D D D D D | N N N | 15/01/03 ID ID ID | 29/01/03 NA NA NA NA | effluent) 23/01/03 ND ND ND ND ND | 22/01/03 ND ND ND ND |
| Mono-Phtha | Receiving River | MEP MButP M C6-iso-mix MBzP | 17/1. N N N N | 2/02 D D D D D D | N N N N N N N N N N N N N N N N N N N | 15/01/03 ID ID ID ID | 29/01/03 NA NA NA NA NA | effluent) 23/01/03 ND ND ND ND ND ND ND ND | 22/01/03 ND ND ND ND ND |
| Mono-Phtha | Receiving River | MEP MButP M C6-iso-mix MBzP M C7-iso-mix | 17/1. N N N N | 2/02 D D D D D D D D | N N N N | 15/01/03 ID ID ID ID ID ID | 29/01/03 NA NA NA NA NA NA | ND N | 22/01/03 ND ND ND ND ND ND ND ND ND N |

What is their effect on us?

Phthalates are not chemically bound in plastics and therefore can be consumed and readily metabolized to monoesters. Monoesters of phthalates are thought to display the most toxicity. They have estrogenic effects on humans and are also thought to be carcinogenic. Limited studies have been conducted with humans. Toxicological studies have also linked some of these compounds to liver and kidney damage, and to possible testicular or reproductive-tract birth defect problems. (In what concentrations?)

WHAT CAN WE DO?

- 1) Long-term monitoring of river water upstream and downstream of major urban centres⁵
- 2) Work on the fate and transport of pharmaceuticals, endocrine disruptors and other organic wastewater contaminants⁵
- 3) Analyze both WWTP influent and effluent to compare different treatment processes and plants⁵
- 4) Source control aimed at medical disposal practices⁸
- 5) Design more environmental friendly chemicals⁸
- 6) Minimize overuse and misuse of drugs⁸
- 7) Conduct more research on the effects of pharmaceuticals and other endocrine disruptors

GLOSSARY

Acid Pharmaceuticals

Bezafibrate- lipid regulator (common trade names: Befizal, Bezalip)

Clofibric acid- lipid regulator (common trade names: Active metabolite of Clofibrate, Atromid-S, Claripex, Novofibrate)

Diclofenac- analgesic/anti-inflammatory (common trade names: Apo-Dicho, Novo-Difenac, Novo-Difenac-K, Nu-Diclo, PMS-Diclofenac, Voltaren, Voltaren Ophtha, Voltaren Rapide)

Fenoprofen- analgesic/anti-inflammatory (common trade names: Fenopron, Nalfon)

Gemfibrozil- lipid regulator (common trade names: Lopid, Apo-Gemfibrozil, Gen-Gemfibrozil, Novo-Gemfibrozil, Nu-Gemfibrozil, PMSGemfibrozil, ratio-Gemfibrozil)

Ibuprofen- analgesic/anti-inflammatory (common trade names: Advil, Apo-Ibuprofen, Motrin, Novo-Profen, Nu-Ibuprofen)

Indomethacin- analgesic/anti-inflammatory (common trade names: Amuno, Apo-Indomethacin, Indocid, Indotec, Novo-Methacin, Nu-Indo, ratio-Indomethacin, Rhodacine)

Ketoprofen- analgesic/anti-inflammatory (common trade names: Apo-Keto, Novo-Keto, Nu-Ketoprofen, Orudis SR, Oruvail, Rhodis, Rhovail)

Naproxen- analgesic/anti-inflammatory (common trade names: Naprosyn, Apo-Naproxen, ratio- Naproxen, Novo-Naprox, Nu-Naprox, Gen-Naproxen EC, Apo-Naproxen EC, ratio-Naproxen SR

Neutral Pharmaceuticals

Caffeine- stimulant (common trade name: Cafergot)

Carbamazepine- Anti-epileptic, anticonvulsant, antidiuretic, antimanic, antineuralgic, antipsychotic (common trade names: Tegratal, Mazepine, Apo-Carbamazepine, Novo-Carbamaz, Nu-Carbamazepine, PMS-Carbamazepine Chewtabs, PMS-Carbamazepine CR, Taro-Carbamazepine, Tegretol)

Cotinine- metabolite of nicotine

Cyclophosphamide- immunosuppressive; used in treatment of some cancers *(common trade names: Cytoxan, Procytox)*

Fluoxetine- Psychiatric drug, antidepressant, antiobsessional, antibulimic (common trade names: Prozac, Apo-Fluoxetine, Dom-Fluoxetine, Fluoxetine, FXT 10, FXT 20, FXT 40, Gen-Fluoxetine, Novo-Fluoxetine, Nu-Fluoxetine, PMS-Fluoxetine, ratio-Fluoxetine)

Norfluoxetine- primary metabolite of fluoxetine

Pentoxifylline- vasodilator that is used to improve blood flow and treat leg pain associated with poor circulation (common trade names: Trental, Albert-Pentoxifylline, Apo-Pentoxifylline SR, Nu-Pentoxifylline SR, ratio-Pentoxifylline)

Trimethoprim- antibiotic for human and veterinary applications (common trade names: Trental, Albert-Pentoxifylline, Apo-Pentoxifylline SR, Nu-Pentoxifylline SR, ratio-Pentoxifylline)

Endocrine Disrupting Compounds

Bisphenol A- potent EDC from plastics

Campesterol- major wood derived sterol

Cholestanol (Coprostanol)- cholesterol derivative

Cholesterol- animal derived sterol(polycyclic alcohol)

Coprostan-3-one- fecal neutral sterol

Desmosterol- cholesterol derivative

d-Equilenin- hormone replacement therapy drug

Equilin- hormone replacement therapy drug

Ergosterol- main sterol produced by fungi

17α-Estradiol- female estrogen

17β-Estradiol- female estrogen

β-Estradiol-3-benzoate- veterinary drug

Estriol- female estrogen

Estrone- female estrogen

17α-Ethynylestradiol- synthetic ovulation inhibitor in birth control pills

Fucosterol- sterol found in seaweed

Genistein- secondary metabolite found in soy products and pulp mill effluents

Kaempferol- secondary metabolite found in woody plants

6-Ketocholestanol- cholesterol oxidation product

7-Ketocholesterol- cholesterol oxidation product

Mestranol- synthetic ovulation inhibitor in birth control pills

Naringenin- secondary metabolite found in woody plants

Nonylphenol- potent EDC from surfactants, pesticides and lubricating oil

19-Norethindrone- synthetic ovulation inhibitor in birth control pills

(-)-Norgestrel- synthetic ovulation inhibitor in birth control pills

Pinosylvin- a toxin found in heartwood

β-Sitosterol- major wood derived sterol

Stigmasterol- major wood derived sterol

Testosterone- male steroid hormone

Totarol- organic antibacterial substance found in heartwood

α- Zearalanol- veterinary drug

Phthalate Esters

Butylbenzyl phthalate(BBP)- used to coat electrical wires

Di-n-butyl phthalate(DBP)- found in carpets, paints, insect repellents and hair spray

Di(2-ethylhexyl) phthalate(DEHP)- a commonly used plasticizer

Diethyl phthalate(DEP)- plasticizer in cosmetics, insecticides and aspirin

Diisobutyl phthalate(DIBP)- used as a solvent, in PVC production and in synthetic rubber

Dimethyl phthalate(DMP)- rubber softener in wood stains and varnishes

Di-n-octyl phthalate(DnOP)- a plasticizer and pesticide

Dinonyl phthalate(DNP)- plasticizer that has automobile applications

Mono-phthalate Esters

MBuP - C13-Mono-n-butyl phthalate-ring-1.2-13C-dicarboxyl-13-C2

Monobutyl phthalate(MButP)- dibutyl phthalate metabolite

Monobenzyle phthalate(MBzP)- butylbenzyl phthalate metabolite

MEH - C13-Mono-2-ethylhexyl phthalate-ring-1.2-13C-dicarboxyl-13-C2

Monoethyl phthalate(MEP)- diethyl phthalate metabolite

Monomethyl phthalate(MMP)- dimethyl phthalate metabolite

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The **South East Alberta Watershed Alliance (SEAWA)** was formed in 2007, incorporated as a non-profit society in 2008, and designated as the WPAC (Watershed Policy and Advisory Council) for the South Saskatchewan River sub-basin.

SEAWA Vision: A healthy watershed that provides balance between social, environmental and economic benefits.

SEAWA Mission: South East Alberta Watershed Alliance brings together diverse partners to plan and facilitate the sustainable use of the South Saskatchewan River Watershed for present and future needs.

SEAWA Members include interested individuals throughout the watershed along with our communities, ranchers, farmers, industries, companies, governments, conservation groups and educational institutions. We are proud to include the following among our founding members:

Government Sector: Alberta Government, City of Medicine Hat, Government of Canada, Cypress County, Palliser Health Region, Town of Redcliff, Town of Bow Island, and Special Areas Board.

Land Resource - Industry and Agriculture Sectors: St Mary River Irrigation District, Murray Lake Ranching, GG Bruins Farms, Short Grass Ranches, Canadian Fertilizers Limited, Redcliff Technology Enterprise Centre, Box Springs Business Park, and Canadian Centre for Unmanned Vehicles.

Academic, Research and Non-Governmental Organizations Sectors: Medicine Hat College, Alberta Research Institute, Red Deer River Watershed Alliance, and Hyperion Research.

Tourism and Conservation Sectors: Grasslands Naturalists, Canadian Badlands, and Medicine Hat Interpretive Program.

SEAWA Web-based State of the Watershed Report is managed by the *SEAWA State of the Watershed Committee (2010 members)*:

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Major Dan Davies OMM CD (Canadian Forces retired)

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