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Plastics and Human Health Links

- The <u>Minderoo-Monaco Commission on Plastics and Human Health</u> project will be publishing a report in the *Annals of Global Health* in March, 2023. It's going to be a compendium of what is known to date...The report will enumerate the harms of plastic "across its life cycle."
- <u>Plastics' Impact on Human Health</u> by Pediatrician and toxicologist, Dr. Philip J. Landrigan
- <u>Hidden Health Hazards of Plastic by Jenny Davies</u>, MD MPH JD, (CafCu Public and Environmental Health Director). A webinar hosted by the Beyond Plastics Virtual Group (Webinar)
- More about chemicals in plastics
 - Hazardous Chemicals in Plastic Products
 - 7 Harmful Chemical Types in Plastics
 - o There are Thousand More Toxic Chemicals in Plastic than We Thought

Microplastic Pollution Links

1. The <u>Gallatin Microplastics Initiative</u> surveyed microplastics contamination in the watershed of Southwestern Montana's Gallatin River, which is one of the three rivers making up the headwaters of the Missouri-Mississippi watershed, the largest in the United States. Seventy-two sample locations were seasonally sampled (4x/years) for two consecutive years. 774 of total samples were collected by 117 volunteers from 50 tributary sits and 22 main Gallatin River sites...Fifty-seven percent of Gallatin samples contained microplastic pollution.

Microplastic Pollution Links Continued

- 2. In a study during the summer of <u>2019 Environment Montana tested samples</u> from 50 fishing access sites across Montana. They found tiny bits of plastic in 66% of those water bodies.
- 3. A <u>visiting Chinese researcher</u> working with the University of Montana's Flathead Lake Biological Station found microplastics in the samples collect at 12 sites along Flathead Lake
- 4. Research from Montana State University found Microplastics contaminate Montana snow and rain. The study found fibers of polyester and other pieces of microplastic in dozens of snow samples taken from Big Sky Resort, Teton Pass and other Rocky Mountain sites. (Christine Foreman, associate professor in the Department of Chemical and Biological Engineering in MSU's Norm Asbjornson College of Engineering).
- 5. <u>Scientists</u> found more than 1,000 tons of microplastics are deposited onto protected lands in the western United States each year, equivalent to more than 123 million plastic water bottles.

Some additional resources:

- How Bad Art Plastics Really? Article in **The Atlantic** by Rebecca Altman
- A Poison Like No Other: How Microplastics Corrupted Our Planet and Our Bodies by Matt Simon
- Thicker Than Water by Eric Cirino (accessible overview)
- **Countdown** by Shanna H. Swan (chapter about the risks and harm of chemicals and plastics)

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Working to end plastic pollution and its contribution to the climate crisis