

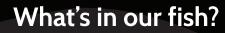
We're taking Columbia River fish from the dinner table to the laboratory and working with local fisherman to test their catch for toxic pollution.



INVESTIGATIONS

Toxic pollution is impacting one of our region's greatest food resources. This is a major problem for people who rely on local fish as a healthy food source. Fish advisories are not the answer. People have the right to eat fish from the Columbia without the fear of getting sick.

Our formula: Personal stories + laboratory analysis + smart advocacy = less pollution



In fish bound for the dinner table, we found:

- PCBs 27,000% above EPA safe levels
- Mercury 300% above EPA safe levels
- Heavy metals such as chromium and lead
- Endocrine disrupting toxic flame retardants



The Problem:

Toxics in the Columbia River

- Heavy metals: mercury from factories and coal burning;
- ▶ PCBs from stormwater runoff, municipal discharge, and dirty industrial sites;
- ► Emerging Pollutants: flame retardants (PBDEs), pharmaceuticals, and endocrine disrupting chemicals



These toxic chemicals can increase cancer risk and harm immune, reproductive, endocrine, and nervous systems in humans and aquatic life.

Solutions:

- ► Enforce laws that protect clean water
- Reduce industrial pollution
- Use non-toxic products
- Support organizations that protect our rivers and our fish



Meet the Fishermen



NAME: Giorgi

FACT: 68-year-old Russian-speaking immigrant from

Krygyzstan, catches and eats carp twice a week

Carp, Vancouver Lake FISH:

IN HIS FISH:

- PCBs 30 times safe levels
- Mercury 3.5 times safe levels
- Toxic flame retardants
- Heavy metals (Cadmium, Copper, Chromium, and Lead)

NAME: Greg

FACT: Loves fishing for his dinner

FISH: Bass, Columbia Gorge

IN HIS FISH:

- Arsenic 120 times safe levels
- Mercury 4 times safe levels
- · Heavy metals





"Fish advisories are sometimes posted in the Columbia Slough, but people do not heed the signs," says Daniel.

NAME: **Daniel**

FACT: Grew up in Romania and fishing for carp, catfish,

and perch

FISH: Sucker, Columbia Slough

IN HIS FISH:

- · PCBs 270 times safe levels
- · Arsenic 100 times safe levels
- · Mercury 2.5 times safe levels
- Toxic flame retardants

NAME: Bob

FACT: Fishing Guide in Astoria, OR.

Sturgeon, Columbia River estuary FISH:

IN HIS FISH:

- · PCBs 74 times safe levels
- Arsenic 270 times safe levels
- Mercury 2 times safe levels
- · Heavy metals (Selenium, Barium, Chromium, and Copper)





For more information visit: www.columbiariverkeeper.org

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