

THE BIG PROBLEM

In Situ Bioremediation Strategies to Destroy PFAS

Keith B. Rapp - PG, RG, CPG

Jonna Spanier - PE

Brendan McShane - CHMM

**MGWA Conference
November 19, 2024**



PROBLEM

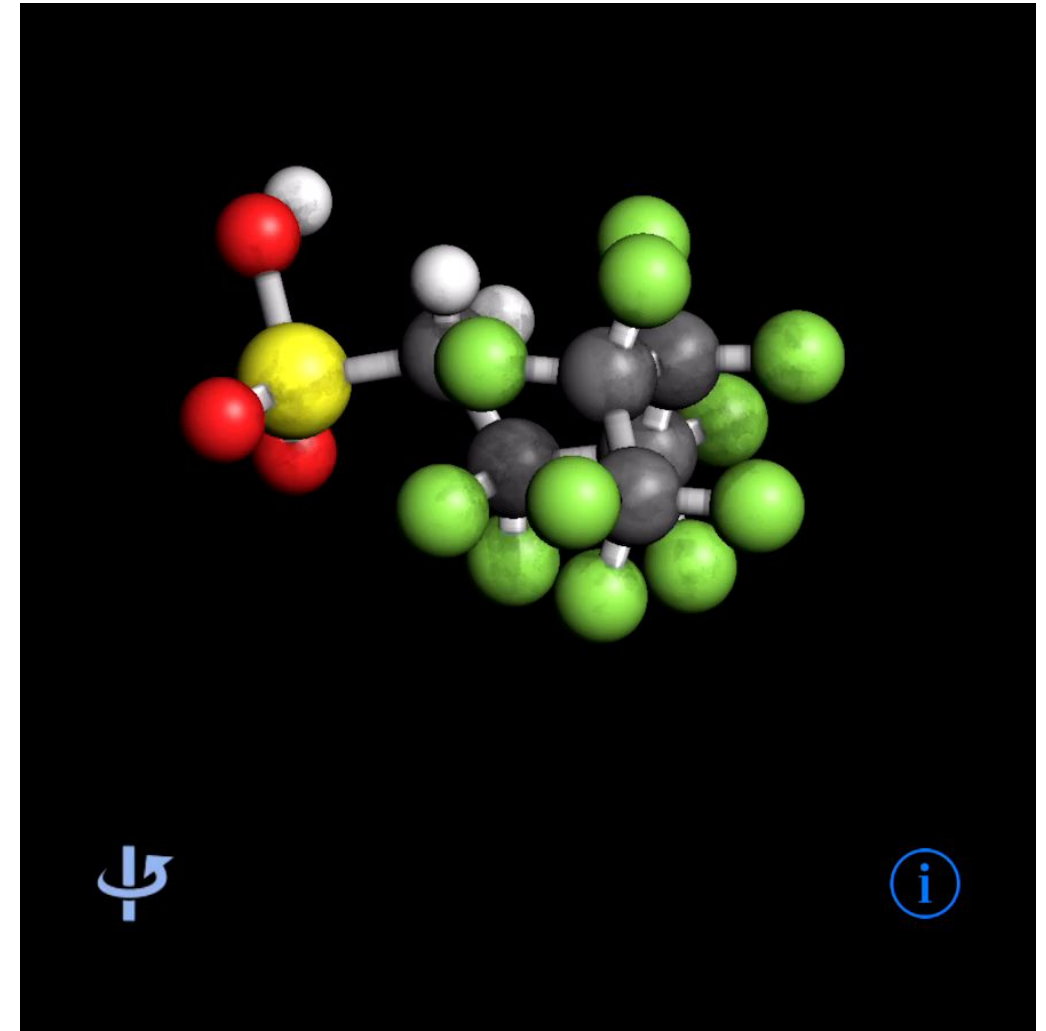
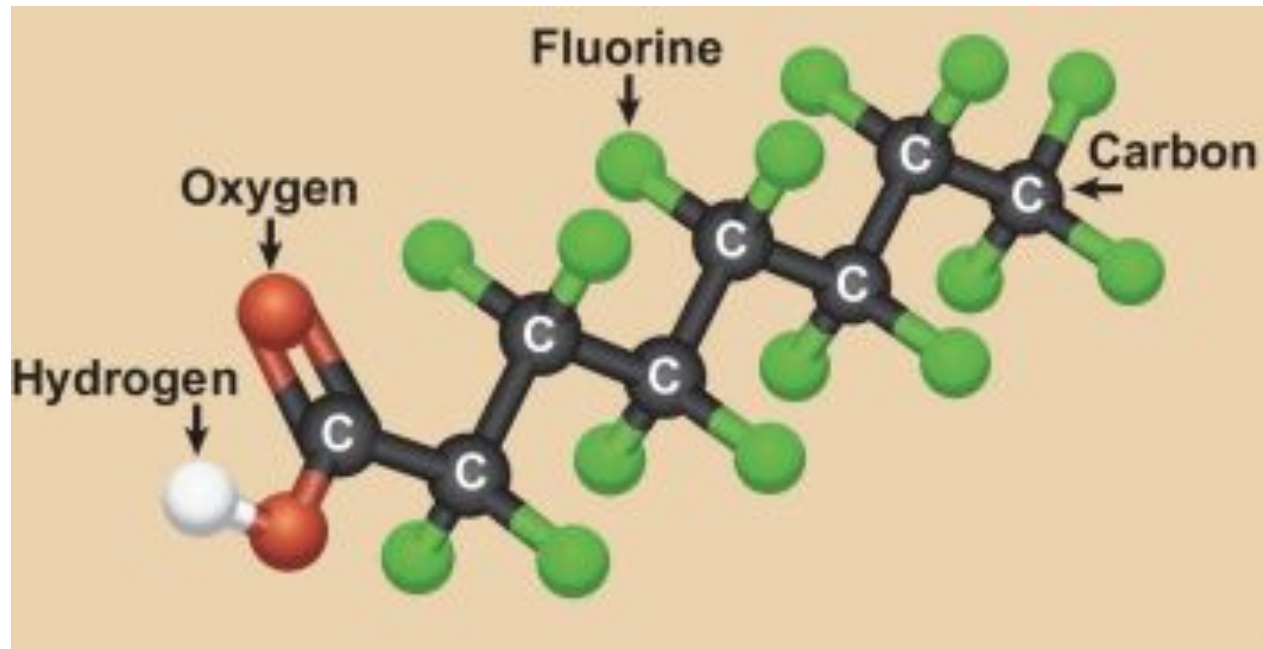
use, extent, exposure routes, persistence, limited remediation alternatives, foreverness

QUESTIONS

bioaccumulation, toxicity, remedial options, waste management, alternatives

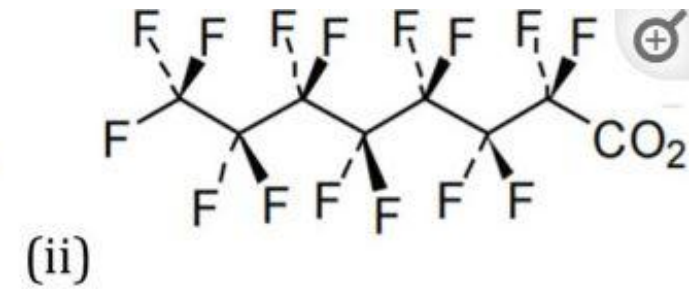
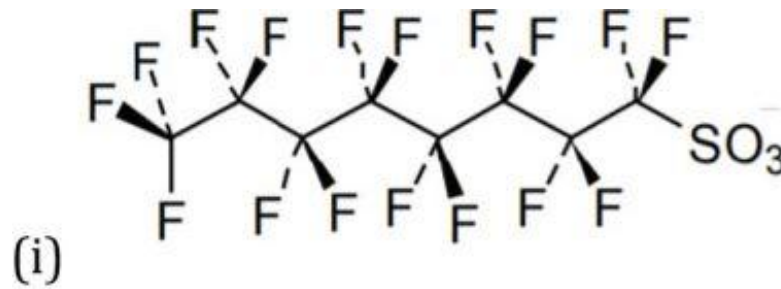
PER- AND POLYFLUOROALKYL SUBSTANCES (PFAS)

All PFAS contain a chain of carbon atoms bonded to fluorine atoms

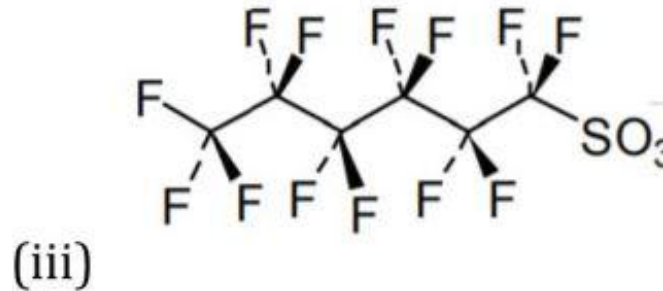


STRUCTURE OF PFAS - (i) PFOS, (ii) PFOA, (iii) PFHxS

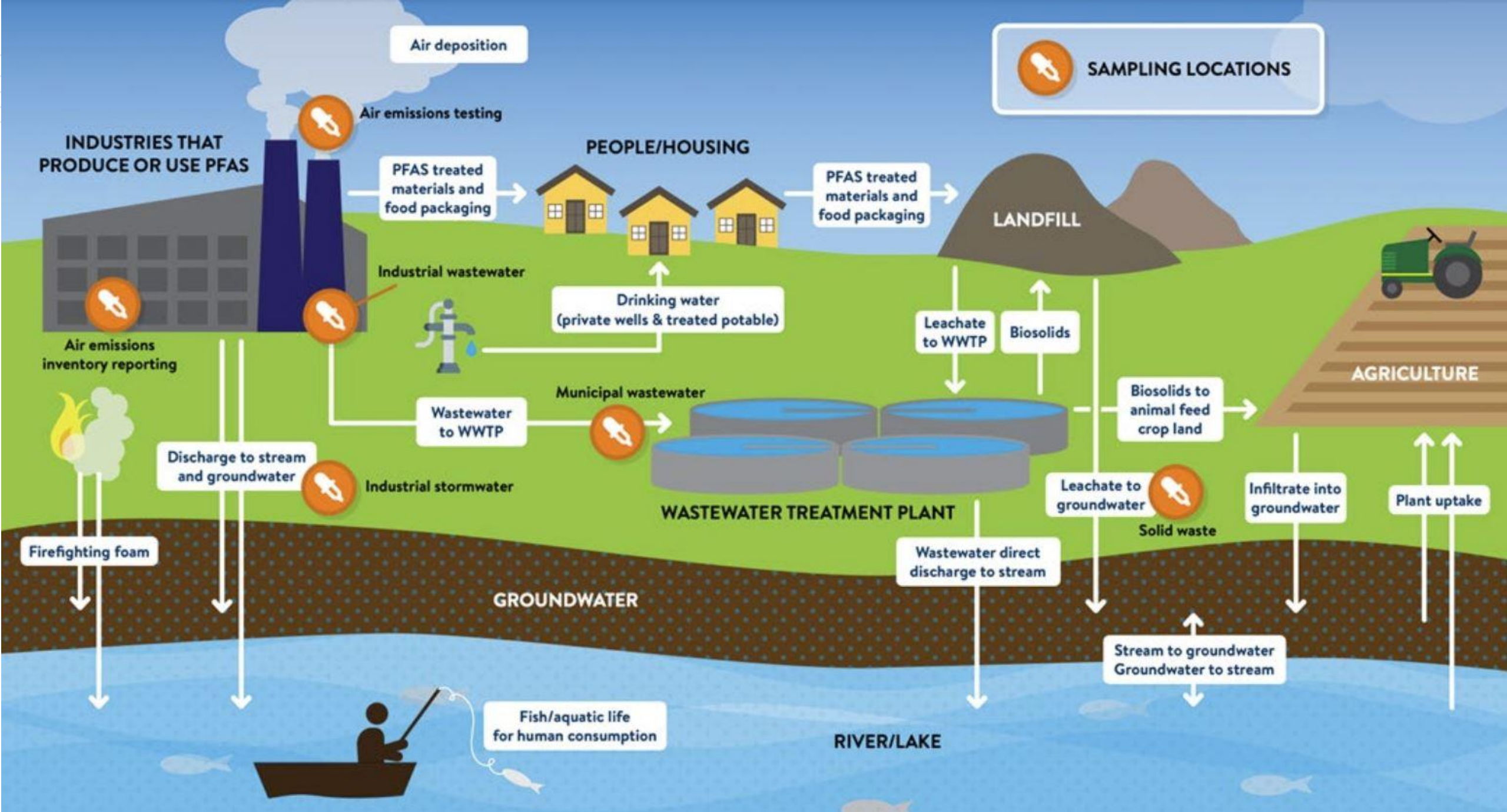
Perfluoroalkyl substances - short and long carbon chains ($C_7-C_{12}^+$), fluorine atoms attach to all bonding sites except for the last carbon group



Polyfluoroalkyl substances are not fully fluorinated, and have at least one lapse in the chain not a fluorinated atom



PFAS are a group of nearly 15,000 synthetic chemicals

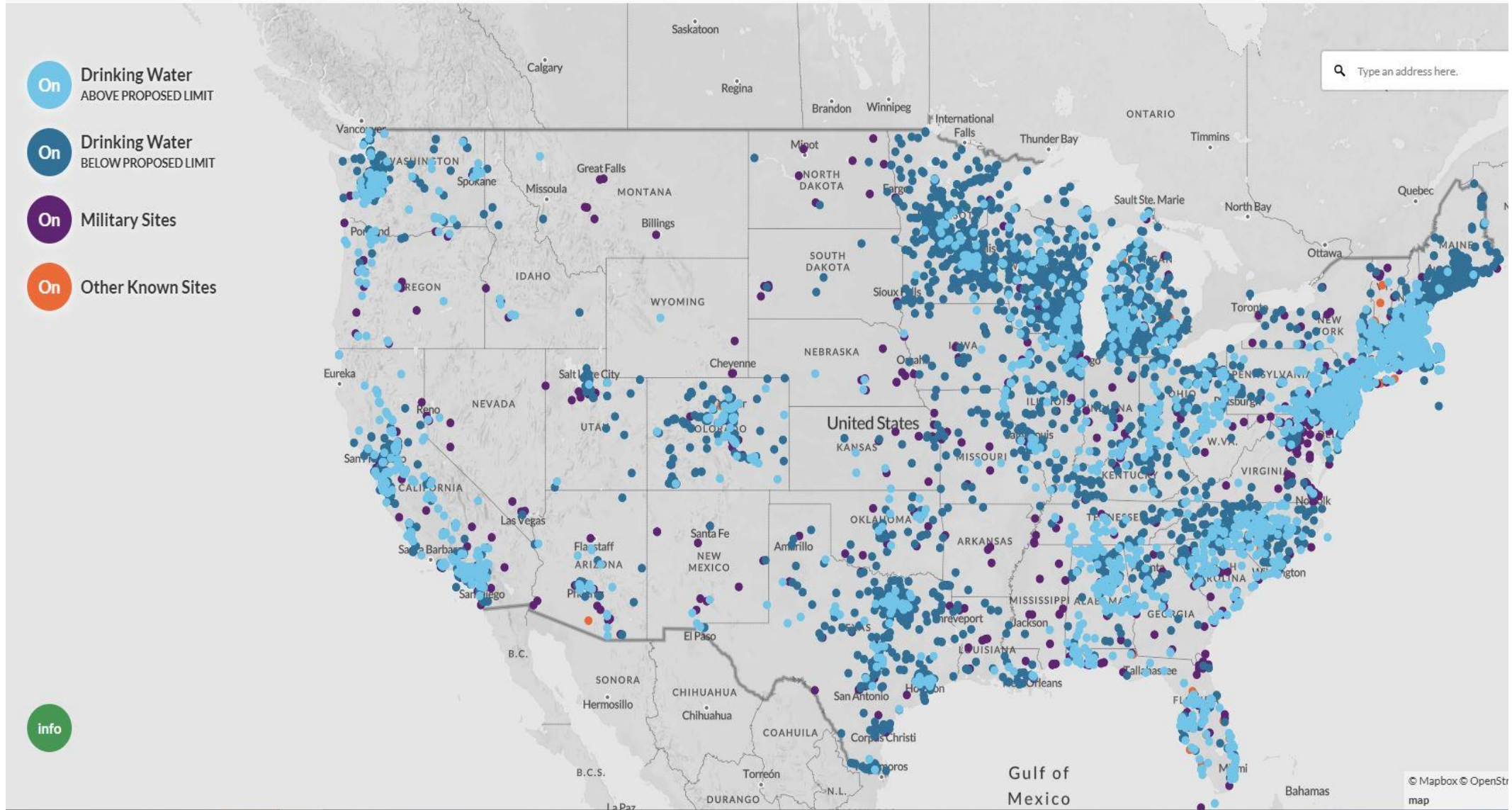


Source: Minnesota Pollution Control Agency • PFAS Monitoring Plan: Initial findings and next steps

PFAS – It's EVERYWHERE



PFAS contamination in the U.S. (August 9, 2024)



HUBRIS

PFAS costs \$50 - \$1,000 per pound, but \$2.7 - \$18 million per pound to remove and destroy from environment

Removing and destroying PFAS from MN water and biosolids \$14 - \$28 billion over 20 years

New “*short-chain*” PFAS are more difficult and up to 70% more expensive than old “*long-chain*” PFAS

February 2021

Minnesota's PFAS Blueprint

A plan to protect our communities and our environment from per- and polyfluorinated alkyl substances



TREATMENT TECHNOLOGIES V. REMEDIATION STRATEGIES

Treatment technologies exploit a contaminant's chemical and physical properties to immobilize, separate and concentrate, or destroy the contaminant. **Point source solution**

Remediation strategies holistically address the entirety of environmental conditions, exposures, environmental media and corrective action options to eliminate mechanisms and conditions in environmental contamination. **Field scale solution**

TREATMENT TECHNOLOGIES (POINT SOURCE)

Separation technologies

- Ion exchange resin
- Colloidal/granular activated carbon
- Nanofiltration
- Reverse osmosis
- Foam fractionation

Destructive technologies

- Electrochemical oxidation
- Plasma
- Photocatalysis
- Sonolysis
- Supercritical water oxidation
- Thermal degradation/incineration



TREATMENT TECHNOLOGIES (SAFF)

1. injects air into contaminated water, concentrating PFAS in foam
2. foam is removed

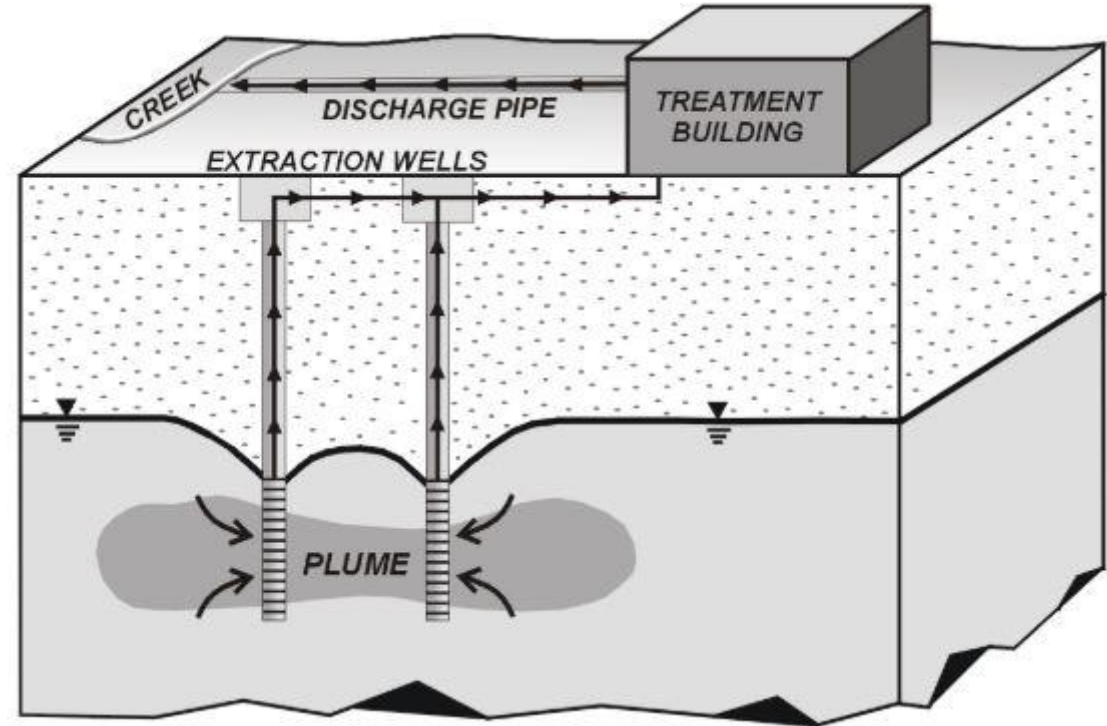


Minnesota is the first state government in U.S. to use this combination of innovative technologies to address "forever chemicals."

REMEDIATION STRATEGIES



Groundwater
pump & treat (P&T)



In Situ Sorption (sequestration)



Special Well and Boring Construction Areas



m DEPARTMENT OF HEALTH
WELL MANAGEMENT

PO. Box 64875 • St. Paul, Minnesota 55164-0875 • 651-201-4600 • 800-551-9808 • health@state.mn.us

A plume of PFAS chemicals under the east metro is moving. The state has a plan to stop it.

Preliminary plans would include a broad and complex system of wells to control the underground flow.

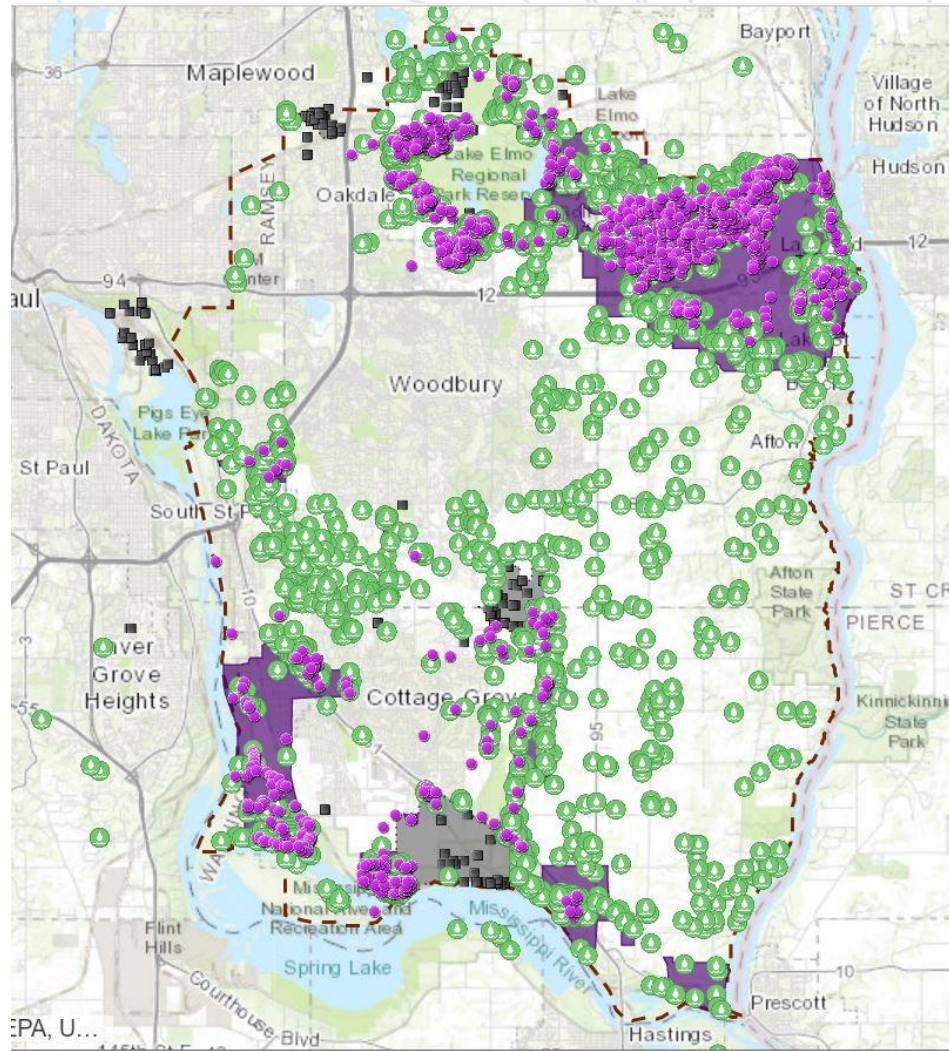
By **Chloe Johnson** Star Tribune | APRIL 19, 2024 — 6:00AM



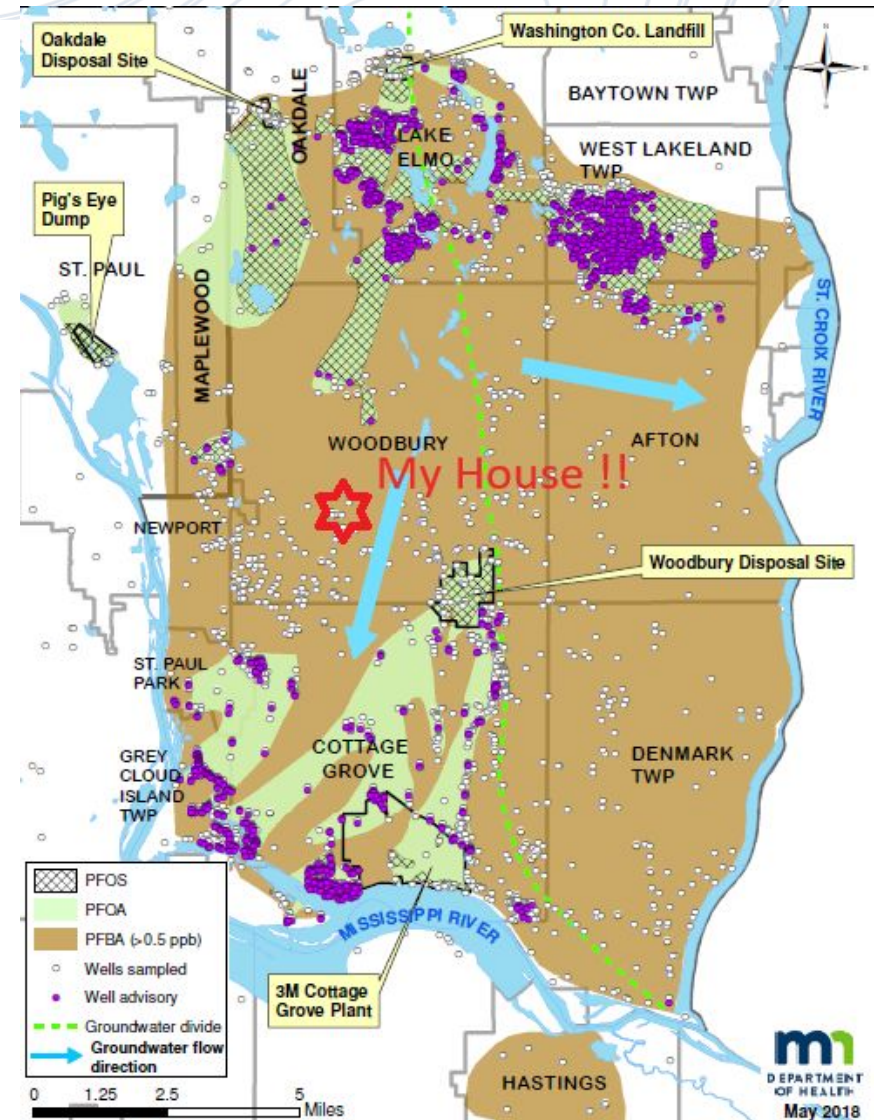
DAVID JONES, STAR TRIBUNE

3M dumped PFAS sludge in the Washington County landfill for years. It's one of two sites that seeded underground chemical pollution that state officials now say is migrating.

S. WASHINGTON COUNTY, MN



← 15 miles →



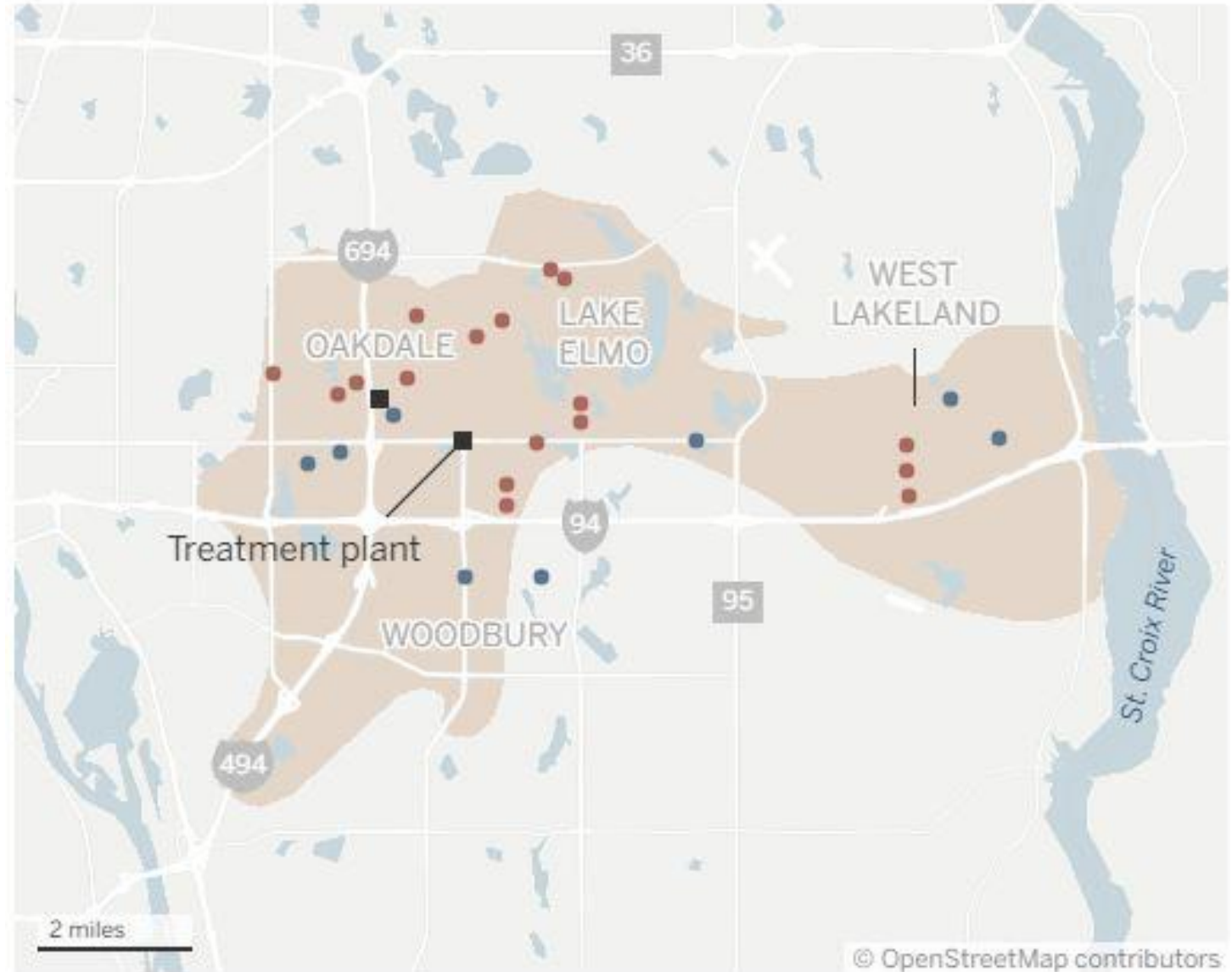
MN Moat

Minnesota studying “moat” concept – network of extraction wells to pump PFAS-contaminated groundwater, treat it, and re-inject

Proposed infrastructure

● Extraction well

● Injection well



ECONOMIC COMPETITION

“Pump & Treat is remediation in perpetuity”

(Makay & Cherry, 1989)

The Fallacy of Pumping to Remove
PFAS from Aquifers
Proven Advantage of In Situ Remediation



Science of The Total Environment
Volume 918, 25 March 2024, 170600

Editorial

Rethinking pump-and-treat remediation as maximizing contaminated groundwater

Kenneth C. Carroll^a, Mark L. Brusseau^b, Geoffrey R. Tick^c, Mohamad R. Soltanian^d

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<https://doi.org/10.1016/j.scitotenv.2024.170600>

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Abstract

For over half a century, the United States has developed water quality regulations (e.g., Safe Drinking Water Act), which has been accompanied by innumerable advances in contaminant transport and fate, site characterization, and remediation. Since “pump-and-treat” techniques have been the most common groundwater contamination remediation...



Journal of Contaminant Hydrology
Volume 164, August 2014, Pages 16-24

Assessing contaminant-removal conditions and plume persistence through analysis of data from long-term pump-and-treat operations

Mark L. Brusseau, Zhilin Guo

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100⁺-million Americans' water impacted with
PFAS above federal drinking water standards.

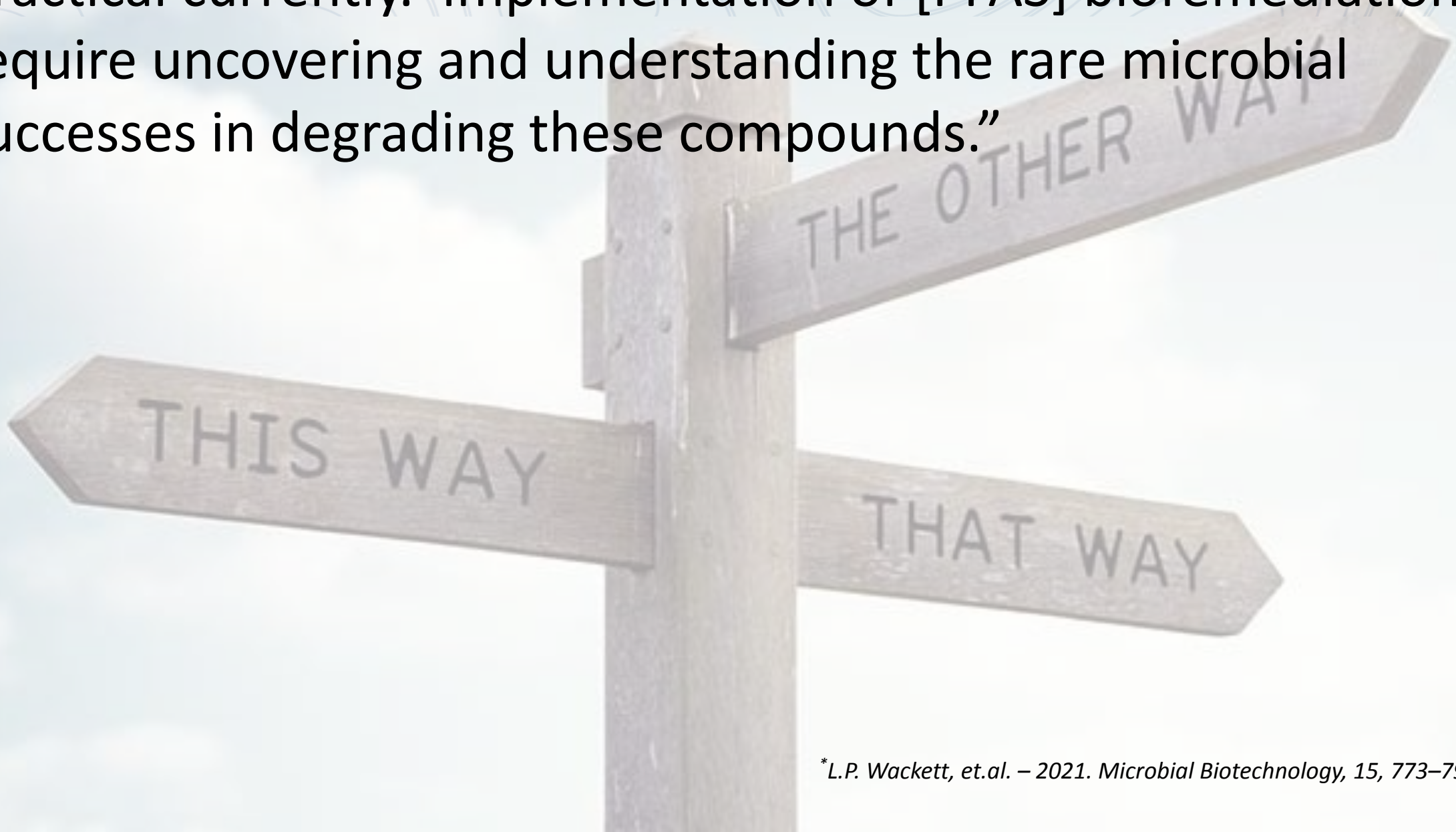
Solving this is **THE BIG PROBLEM**



Use of naturally occurring or deliberately introduced microorganisms or other life forms to consume or breakdown environmental pollutants

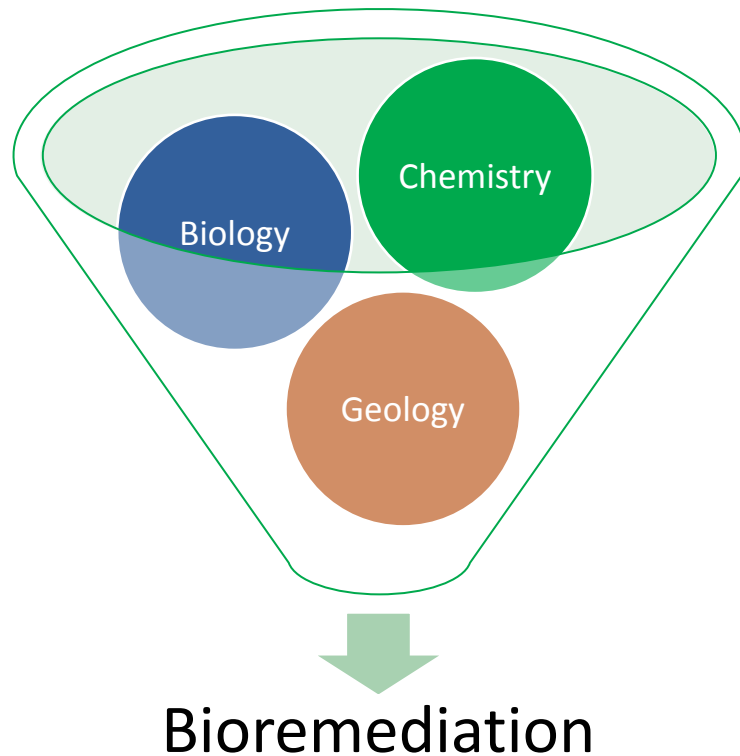
BIOREMEDIATION

“Environmental cleanup by bioremediation is not considered practical currently. Implementation of [PFAS] bioremediation will require uncovering and understanding the rare microbial successes in degrading these compounds.”



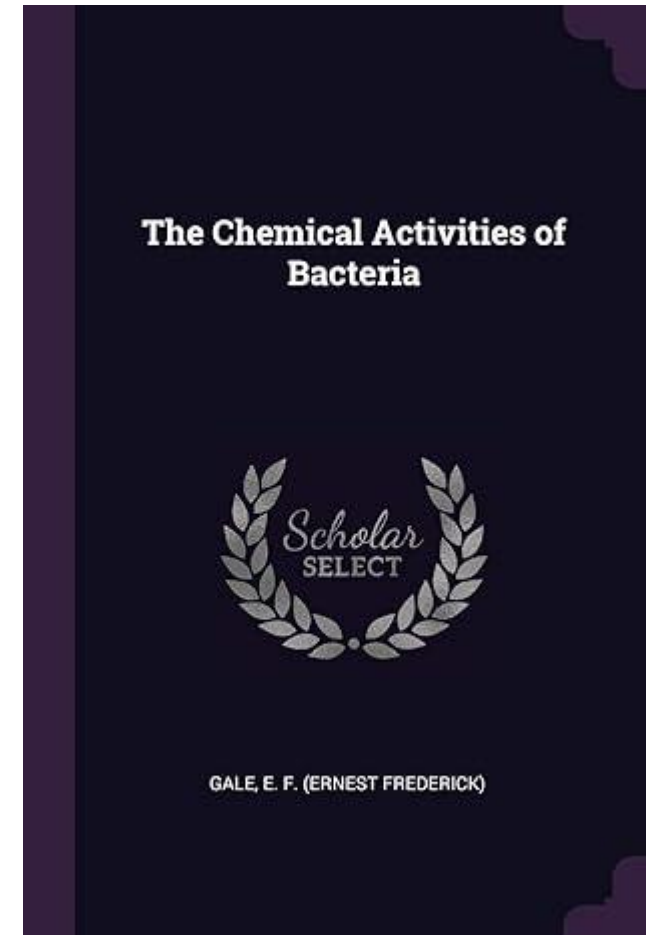
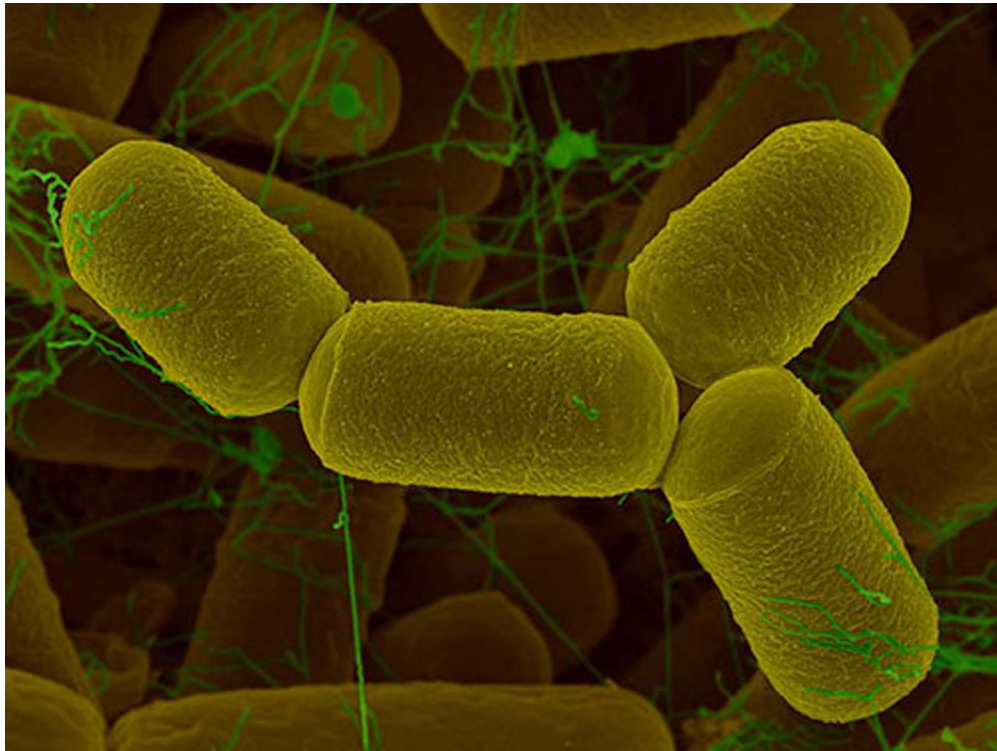
HYDROGEOMICROBIOCHEMISTRY

Interaction of chemistry, biology (micro), geology, soil, sediment, rock and groundwater contamination



MICROBIAL INFALLIBILITY HYPOTHESIS

“.....if there is energy to be gained from a compound [contaminant], a microorganism will figure out how to extract it and create a niche for itself.”



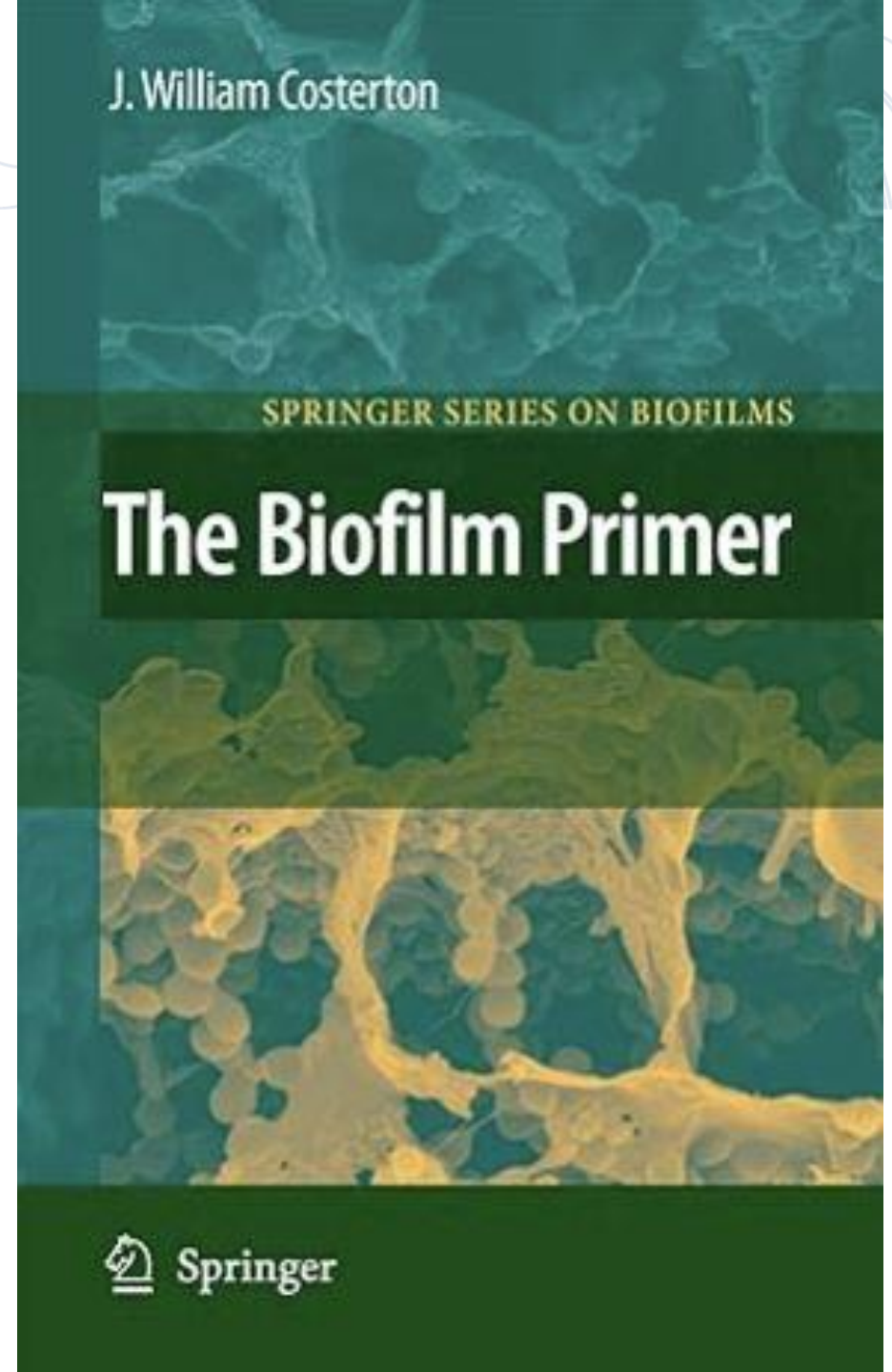
E.F. Gale, 1951 - *The Chemical Activities of Bacteria*

BIOFILM GODFATHER

“Biofilms form in all environments with sufficient nutrients – worldwide”

Costerton (1995)

In nature, >80% of microbes exist within a biofilm



KNOWN PFAS BIODEGRADING MICROBES

Bacteria

<i>Acetobacterium</i> sp.	<i>Desulfovibrio aminophilus</i>	<i>Sporomusa sphaeroides</i>	<i>Pseudomonas</i> sp.
<i>Desulfovibrio aminophilus</i>	<i>Sporomusa sphaeroides</i>	<i>Acidimicrobium</i> sp.	
<i>Burkholderia</i> sp.	<i>Thauera aromatica</i>	<i>Aliivibrio fischeri</i>	<i>Rhodopseudomonas</i>
<i>Desulfococcus</i>	<i>Bacillus</i> spp	<i>Rhodococcus jostii</i>	<i>Dehalobacter</i> sp.

Fungi

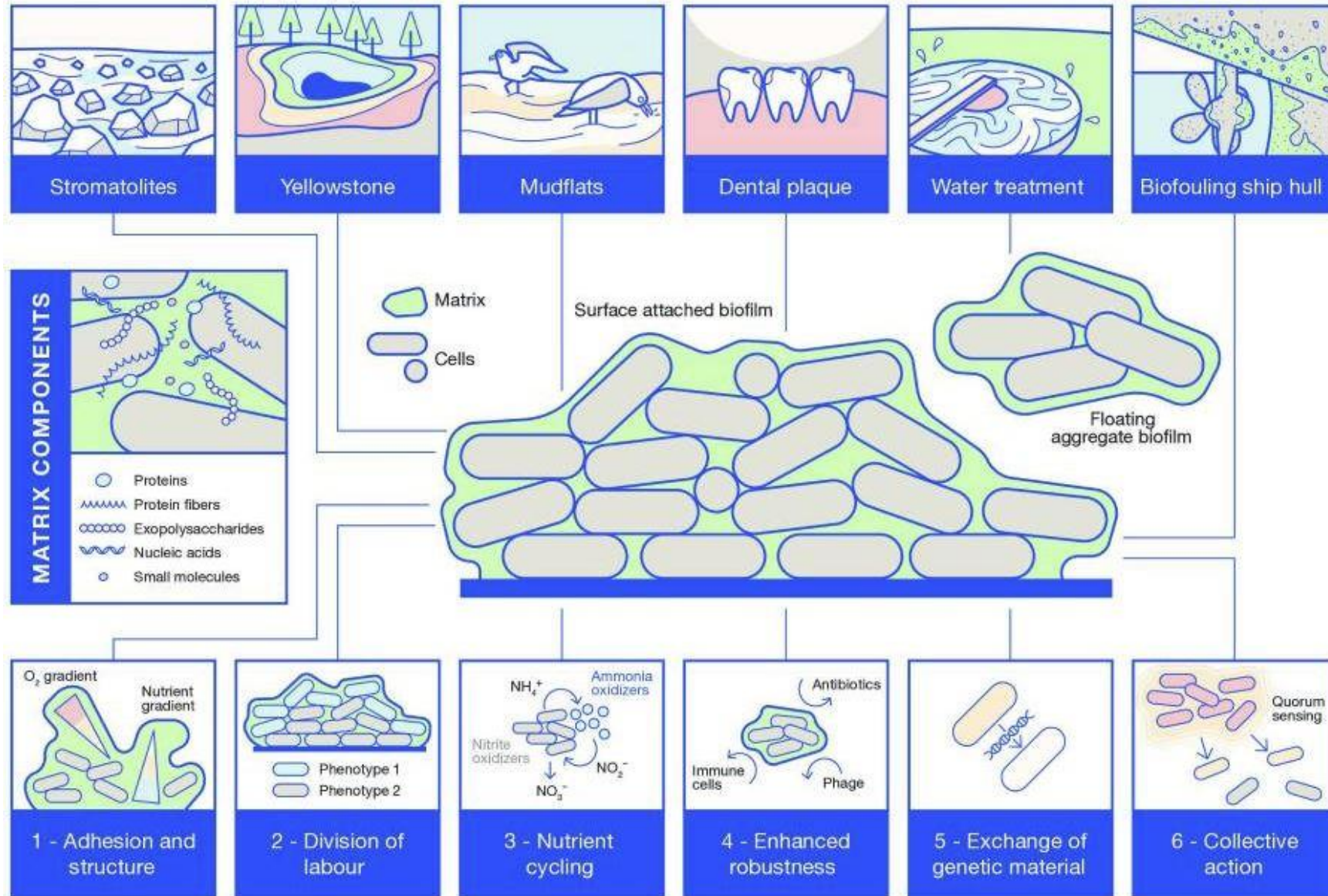
<i>Aspergillus niger</i> (brown rot)	<i>Phanerochaete chrysosporium</i> (white rot)	<i>Phanerochaete chrysosporium</i>
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Archaea

<i>Thaumarchaeota</i>	<i>Euryarchaeota</i>		
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BIOFILMS EXECUTE BIOREMEDIATION

BIOFILMS IN THE WORLD



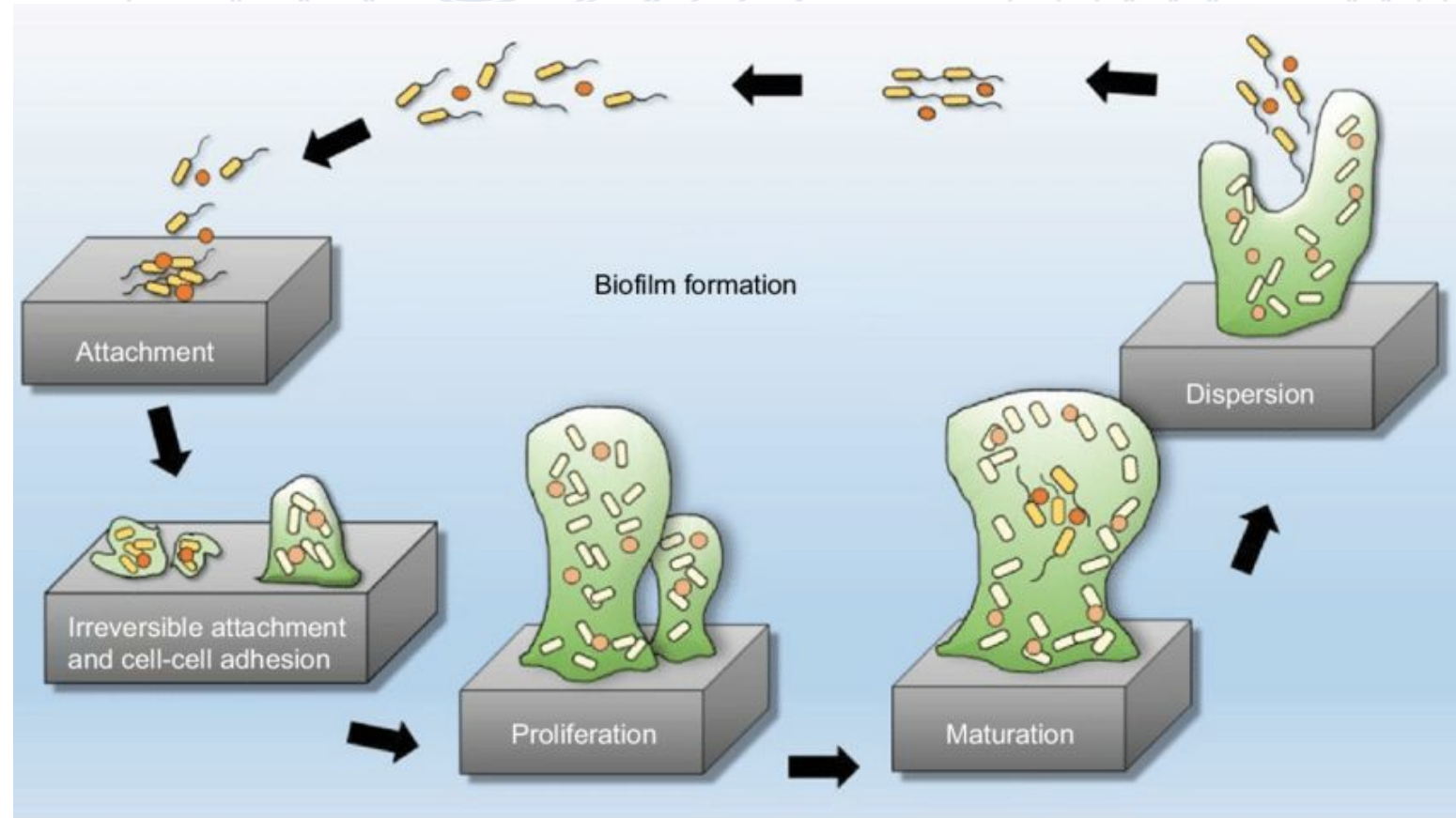
BIOFILM DEVELOPMENT

Biofilms form via cell-to-cell communication

Microbes form attachments to surfaces. Proteins signal nearby cells (quorum sensing)

Signaling recruits new cells, horizontal gene transfer, colony aggregates and forms a biofilm. Colony builds

Proteins signal development of exopolysaccharides (EPS), a protective layer, with channels for flow, energy transmission, and horizontal gene transfer. Biofilm matures



BIOFILM FORMATION

Contaminant destruction occurs at surfaces – pore surfaces, fractures, boundaries.

Planktonic microbes are quickly removed, sessile microbes accomplish remediation

Volume 8, Number 9—September 2002

Perspective

Biofilms: Microbial Life on Surfaces

Rodney M. Donlan*✉

Author affiliation: *Centers for Disease Control and Prevention, Atlanta, Georgia, USA

[Cite This Article](#)

Abstract

Microorganisms attach to surfaces and develop biofilms. Biofilm-associated cells can be differentiated from their suspended counterparts by generation of an extracellular polymeric substance (EPS) matrix, reduced growth rates, and the up- and down- regulation of specific genes. Attachment is a complex process regulated by diverse characteristics of the growth medium, substratum, and cell surface. An established biofilm structure comprises microbial cells and EPS, has a defined architecture, and provides an optimal environment for the exchange of genetic material between cells. Cells may also communicate via quorum sensing, which may in turn affect biofilm processes such as detachment.



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Biosensors and Bioelectronics

journal homepage: www.elsevier.com/locate/bios



OPINION
published: 06 June 2022
doi: 10.3389/fmicb.2022.872610



Microbial nanowires with genetically modified peptide ligands to sustainably fabricate electronic sensing devices

Yassir Lekbach^{a,1}, Toshiyuki Ueki^{a,1}, Xiaomeng Liu^b, Trevor Woodard^a, Jun Yao^{b,c,d}, Derek R. Lovley^{a,c,*}

^a Department of Microbiology, University of Massachusetts, Amherst, MA, 01003, USA

^b Department of Electrical and Computer Engineering, University of Massachusetts, Amherst, MA, 01003, USA

^c Institute for Applied Life Sciences (ICALS), University of Massachusetts, Amherst, MA, 01003, USA

^d Department of Biomedical Engineering, University of Massachusetts, Amherst, MA, 01003, USA

ChemSusChem. 2012 Jun;5(6):1039-46. doi: 10.1002/cssc.201100733. Epub 2012 May 21.

Microbial nanowires: a new paradigm for biological electron transfer and bioelectronics

Nikhil S Malvankar¹, Derek R Lovley

Affiliations + expand

PMID: 22614997 DOI: 10.1002/cssc.201100733

Abstract

The discovery that *Geobacter*...

In the Existence of Pilin-Based Microbial Nanowires

Derek R. Lovley*

Department of Microbiology and Institute for Applied Life Sciences, University of Massachusetts, Amherst, MA, United States

Keywords: *Geobacter*, e-pili, extracellular electron transfer, electromicrobiology, protein, protein nanowires

INTRODUCTION

It is a debate whether *Geobacter sulfurreducens* produces electrically conductive pili (e-pili) from its pilin monomer, PiiA, a protein encoded by gene GSU 1496. *G. sulfurreducens* assembly...

Dr. Bonnie Bassler (YouTube - 18:11)

<https://youtu.be/KXWurAmtf78?si=JLtbt3IzhO-yS63K>

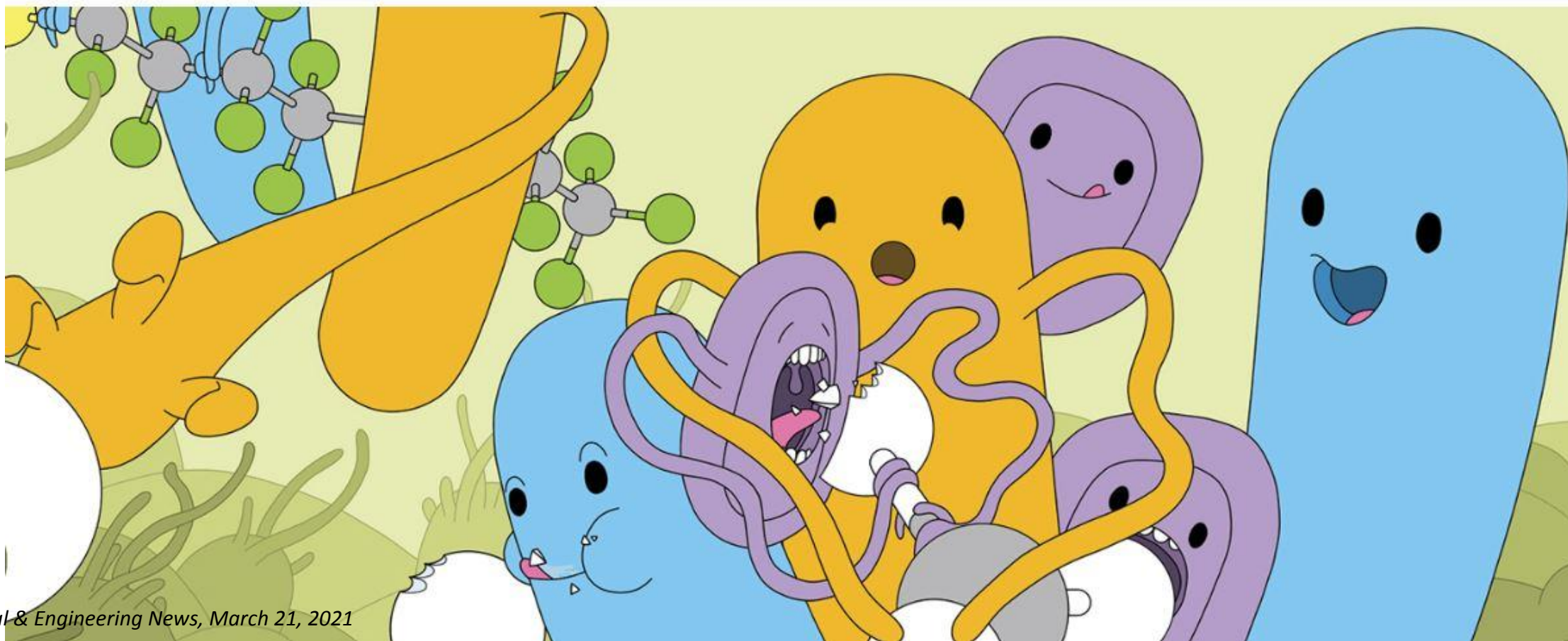
ARTICLE INFO

Can microbes save us from PFAS?

Researchers are investigating whether microbes can help break down fluorinated contaminants

by *XiaoZhi Lim, special to C&EN*

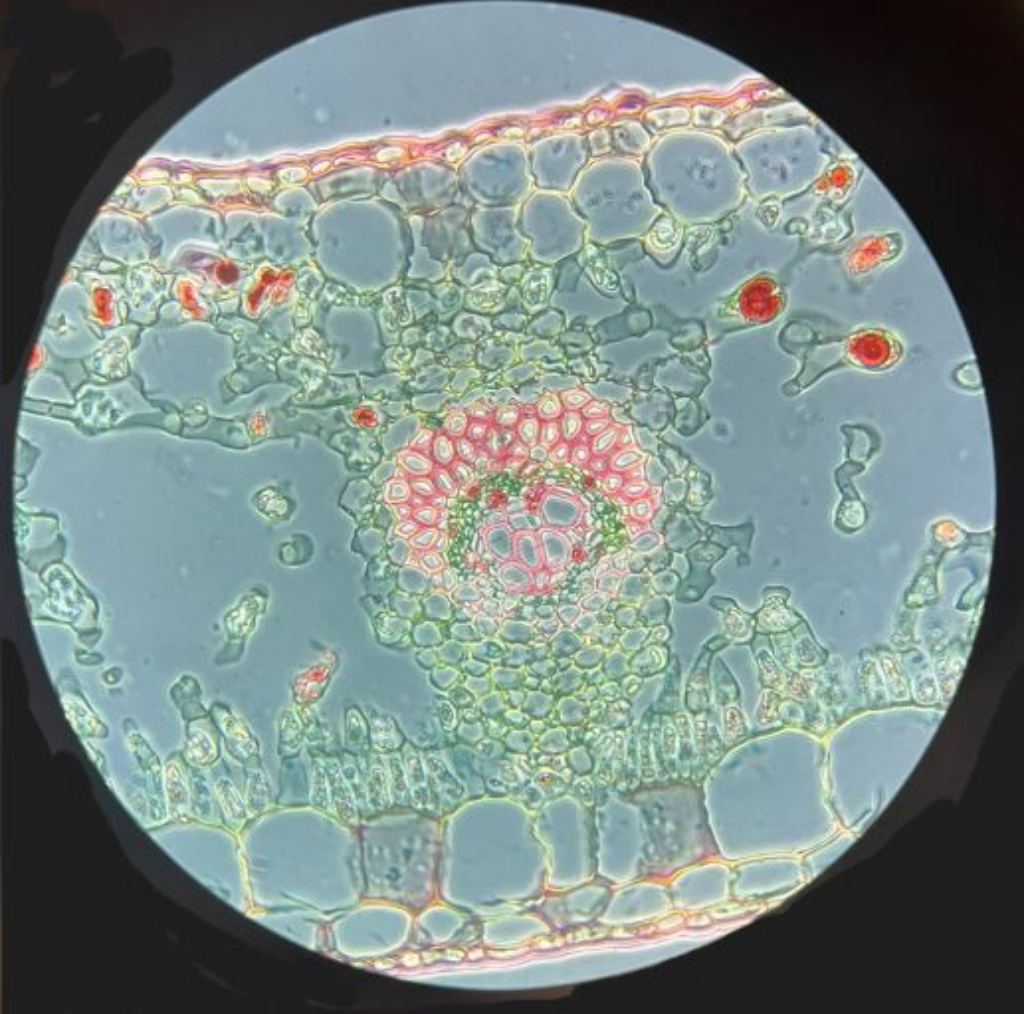
March 21, 2021 | A version of this story appeared in **Volume 99, Issue 10**



A circular microscopic view of a plant stem cross-section. The central vascular bundles are stained pink and show a clear arrangement of xylem and phloem. The surrounding cortex and pith are stained light blue. Several large, red-stained structures, likely lenticels or specialized cells, are visible on the outer surface.

**MICROBES
COLLECTIVELY
ORGANIZING**

BIOFILM FORMATION



- MICROBES COLLECTIVELY ORGANIZING

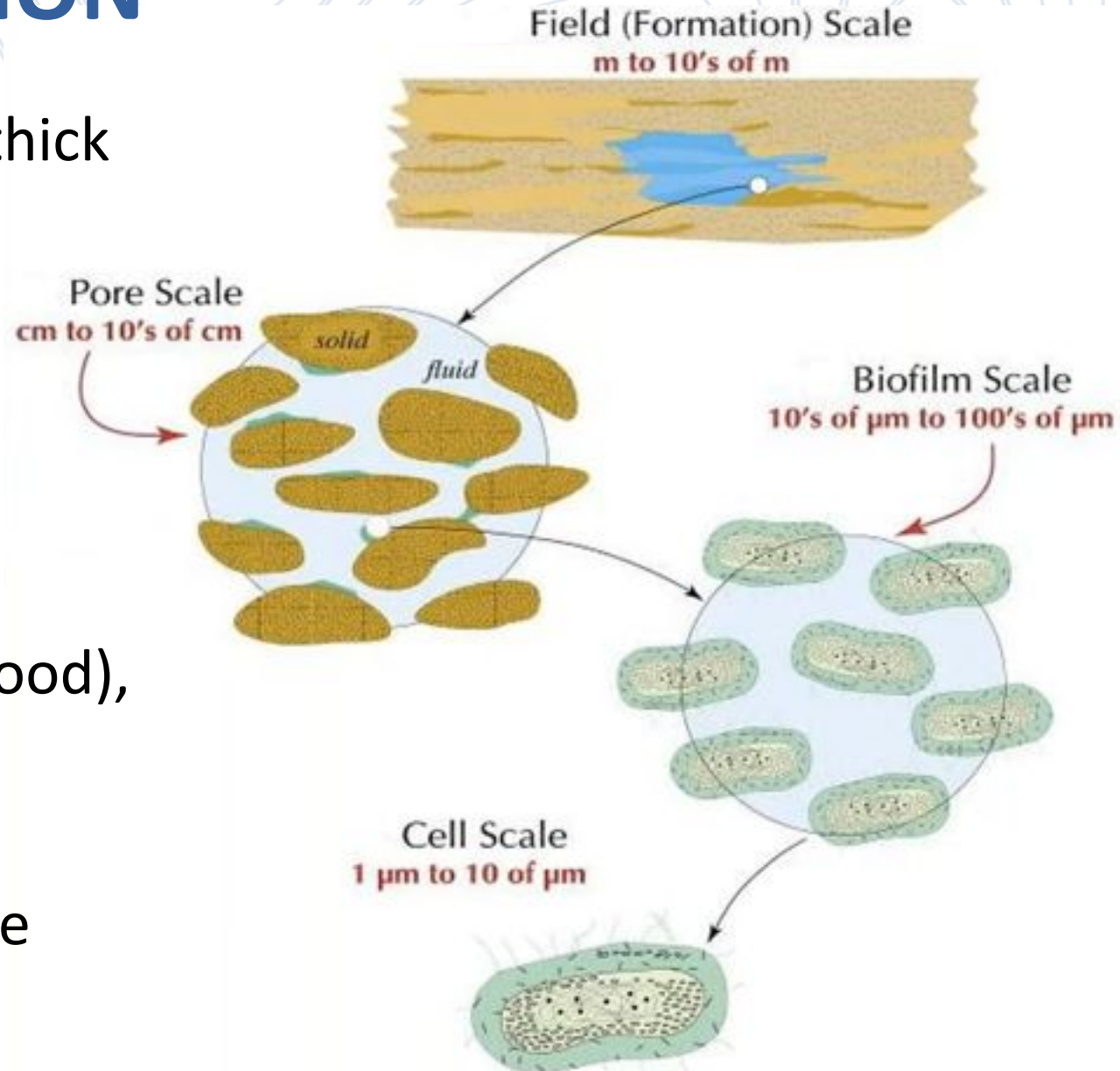


SCALE & COMPOSITION

- Biofilms ~97% water, ~10 to 100 μm thick
- EPS layer ~0.2 to 1.0 μm
- EPS 65–95%, microbes 5-35%

EPS composition determined by environment, growth circumstances, microbial strains (DNA-in-the-neighborhood), and nutrient supply

Lack of nutrients = biofilm cells disengage from surfaces



SCALE

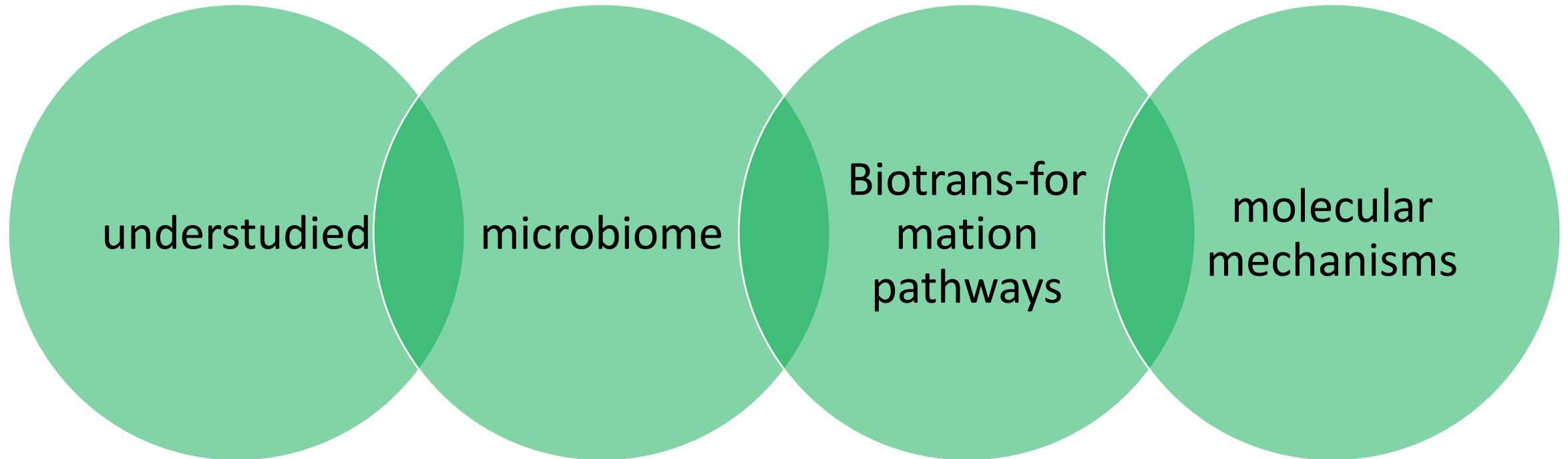
PFOA/PFOS
standard is 1,000x
more dilute than
an equivalent TCE
plume

4 ppt = 1/2 drop in an Olympic-sized pool



IN SITU PFAS BIODEGRADATION

UNKNOWNNS



IN SITU PFAS BIODEGRADATION

BENEFITS

contaminant
fate

ideal for
in situ
applications

cost effective

sustainable

Minireview

Nothing lasts forever: understanding microbial biodegradation of polyfluorinated compounds and perfluorinated alkyl substances

Lawrence P. Wackett 
Department of Biochemistry, Molecular Biology and Biophysics, University of Minnesota, St. Paul, MN 55108, USA.

Introduction


Greater than 9000 heavily fluorinated compounds have been synthesized for various applications (Wackett, 2021). The use of microorganisms has become an important tool for the biodegradation of fluorinated elements of polyfluorinated compounds, both perfluorinated and partially fluorinated alkyl groups.



microorganisms

Review

Strategies for the Biodegradation of Polyfluorinated Compounds

Lawrence P. Wackett 



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Environmental Science Advances

TUTORIAL REVIEW

Check for updates

Environ. Sci.: Adv., 2023, 2,

Bacterial transformation of per- and poly-fluoroalkyl substances: a review for the field of bioremediation

Jessica A. LaFond, ^a Paul B. Hatzinger, ^b Jennifer L. Guelfo, ^a Kayleigh Millerick^a and W. Andrew Jackson^{*a}

Per- and polyfluoroalkyl substances (PFAS) have received growing attention due to their potential risk and widespread extent of contamination in the environment. Currently, where extensive bioremediation has been developed to address these contaminants.

Department of Biochemistry, Molecular Biology and Biophysics and BioTechnology Institute, University of Minnesota, Minneapolis, MN 55455, USA; wacke003@umn.edu

Abstract: Many cite the strength of C–F bonds for the poor microbial biodegradability of polyfluorinated organic compounds (PFCs). However, commercial PFCs almost invariably contain C–F bonds that are activated by other functional groups, providing a weak entry point for reaction in microbial biodegradation pathways and is observed with aromatic hydrocarbons, chlorinated compounds, phosphonates and many other compounds. Initial metabolic activation proceeds via C–F bond breakage and assimilation of nutrients. A similar strategy with commercial PFCs involves initial attack at the non-fluorinated functionalities: sulfonates, carboxylates, chlorines, or phosphonates. Metabolic transformation of these non-fluorinated groups can activate C–F bonds, allowing more facile cleavage than a direct attack on the C–F bonds. Given the

BIOFILM MEDIATED PFAS DESTRUCTION IN GROUNDWATER



Environment and Natural Resources Trust Fund
2025 Request for Proposal

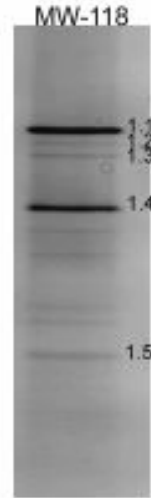
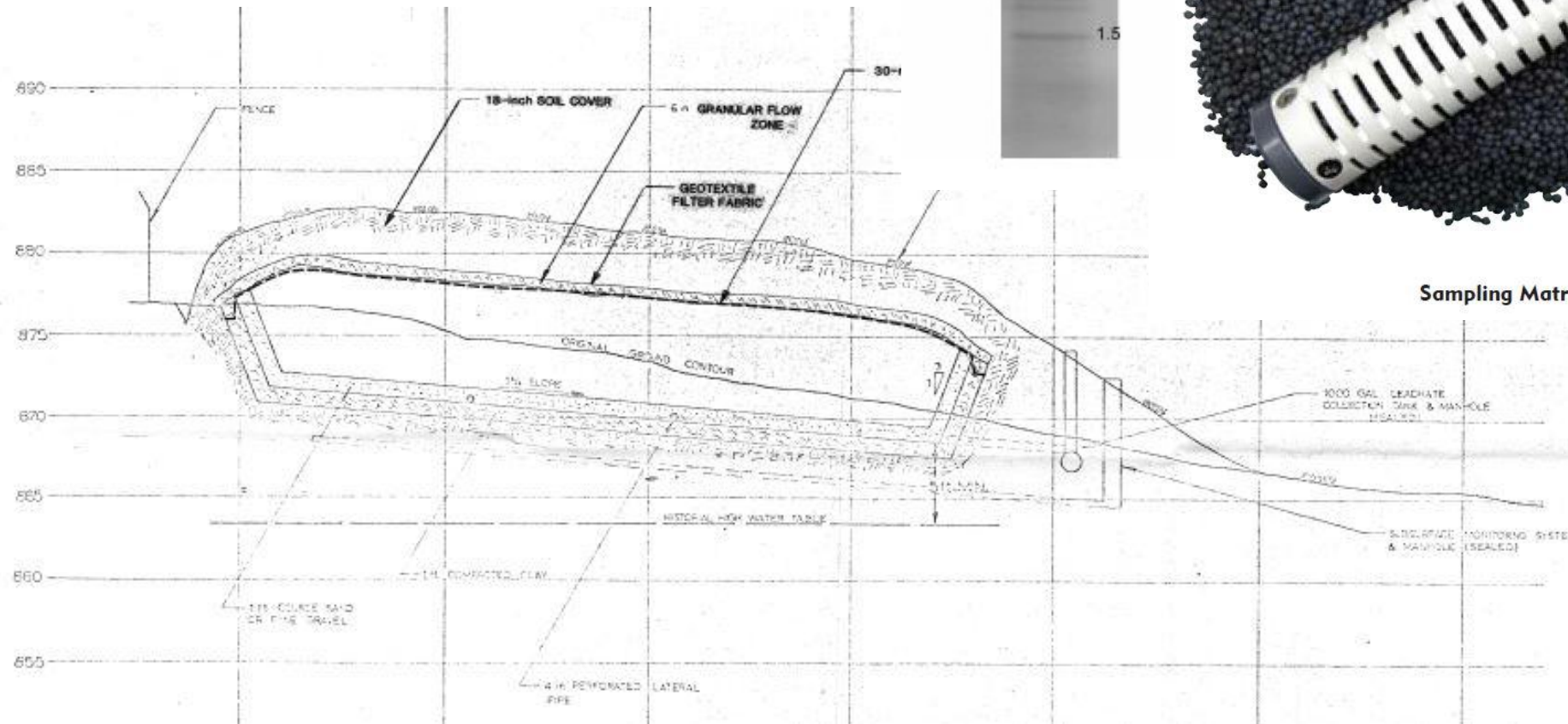
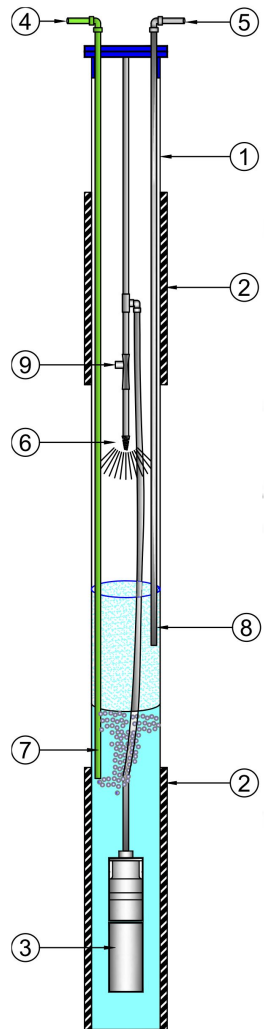
- General Information¶
Proposal ID: 2025-258¶
Proposal Title: Biofilm-Mediated Destruction of PFAS in Groundwater¶
- Project Manager Information¶
Name: Keith Rapp¶
Organization: Bay West LLC¶
Office Telephone: (651) 291-3415¶
Email: krapp@baywest.com¶
- Project Basic Information¶
Project Summary: Microbes control the attenuation and destruction of environmental contaminants. Biofilm

LCCMR Meeting -- June 26, 2024
167 views 2d ago ...more

MN Environment and Natural Resources Trust Fund 116

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MICROBE SOURCING

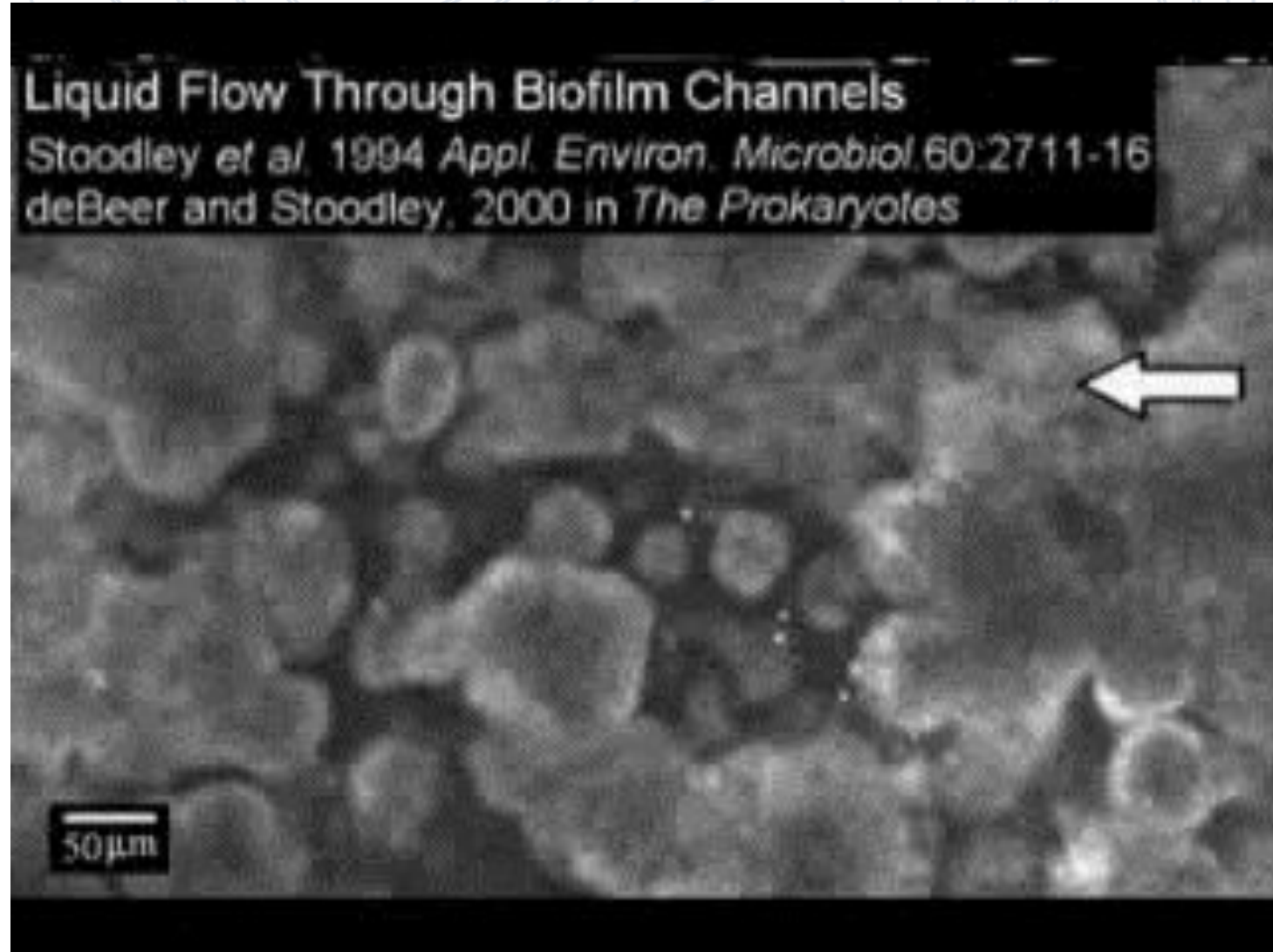


Sampling Matrix: Bio-Sep® Beads

BIOFILM ENVIRONMENT

Channel flow occurs
within pores & fractures
& 10 – 1,000 X faster

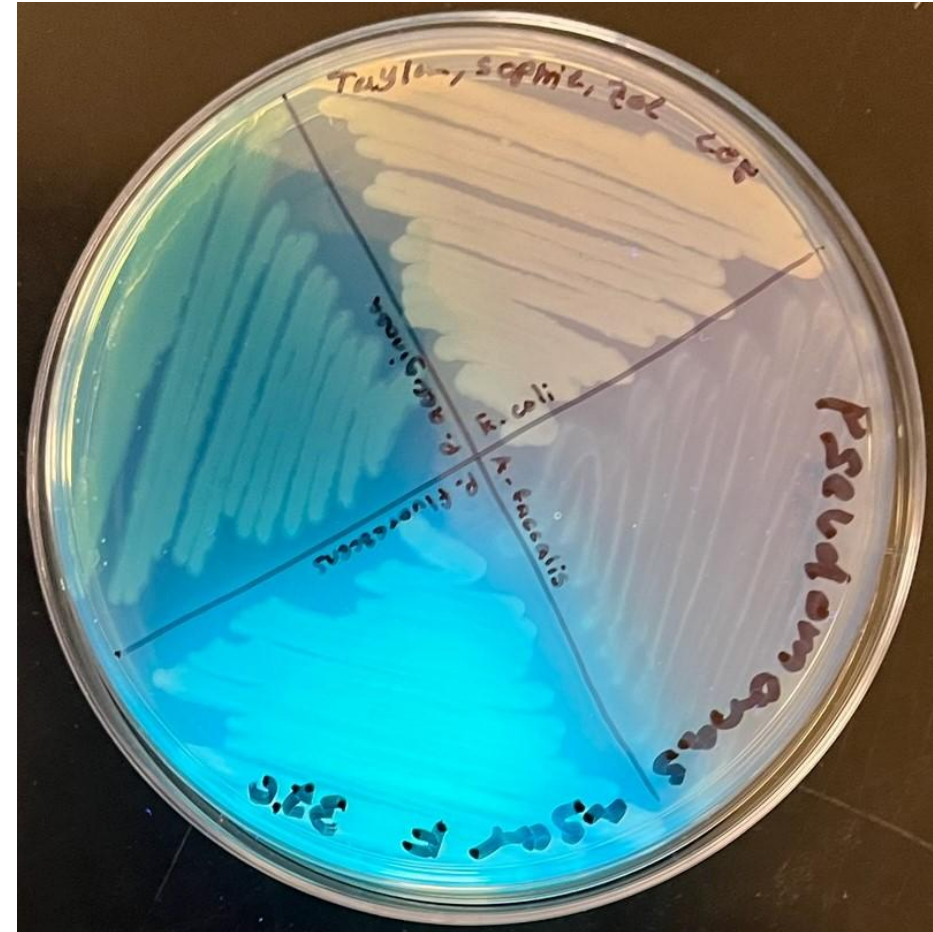
Liquid Flow Through Biofilm Channels
Stoodley et al, 1994 *Appl. Environ. Microbiol.* 60:2711-16
deBeer and Stoodley, 2000 in *The Prokaryotes*



ISOLATES V. CONSORTIUM

New and novel testing and destructive technologies

- Stable isotope probing
- Metagenomics
- Transcriptomics
- Metabolomics
- New genes
- Carbon tagging/
biodegradation





Genomic Sequencing Report

Microbac Oak Ridge WO#

3/13/2024

Client: Kent Armstrong

Sample Project:

Sample ID: DWH-Z

Sample Collected: 1/30/2024

Sample 16S Biomass: 2.9 X 10¹¹ gene copies/g

NCBI Taxonomy Browser to look up "Taxonomy Id"

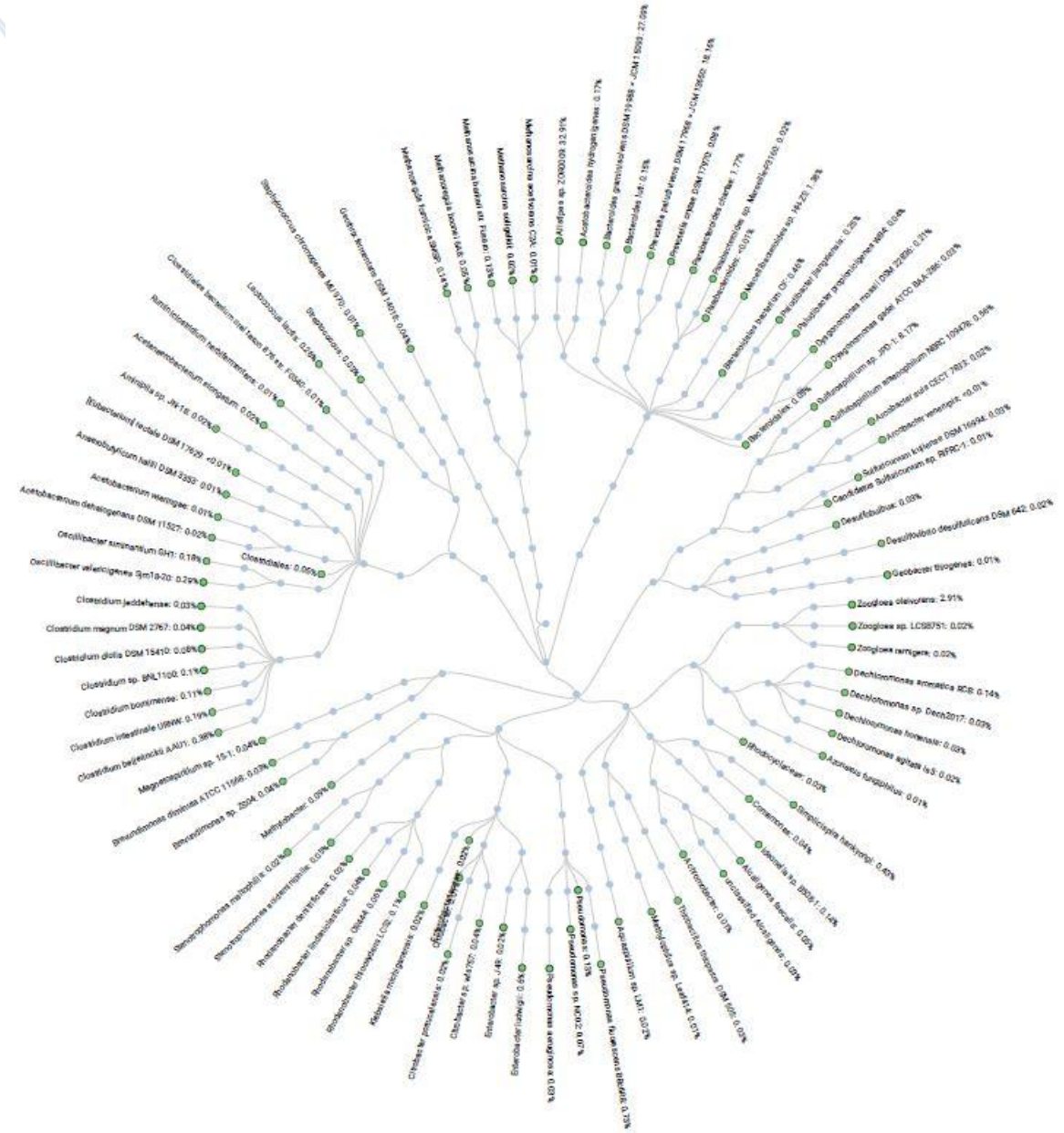
<https://www.ncbi.nlm.nih.gov/Taxonomy/Browser/wwwtax.cgi> add number in "Search for" in upper left box.

Summary:

- There were 13.737 Million reads for this sample and the file size was 2.93 GB.
- There were 91 identifications (ID's) in the bacterial data set.
- There were 0 identifications in the virus data set.
- There were 4 identifications in the protists data set.
- There were 5 identifications in the fungal data set.
- There were 21 identifications in the Combined Kingdom data set.
- There were 3 identifications in the Antimicrobial Resistance data set.
- There were 22 identifications in the Virulence Factors data set.
- There were 11 identifications in the phages data set.
- There were 81 identifications in the Dark Matter (Beta) data set.

Bacteria
Radial Tree Chart

Taxa
Filterset: Total





Genomic Sequencing Report

Microbac Oak Ridge WO#

3/13/2024

Client: Kent Armstrong

Sample Project:

Sample ID: DWH-Z

Sample Collected: 1/30/2024

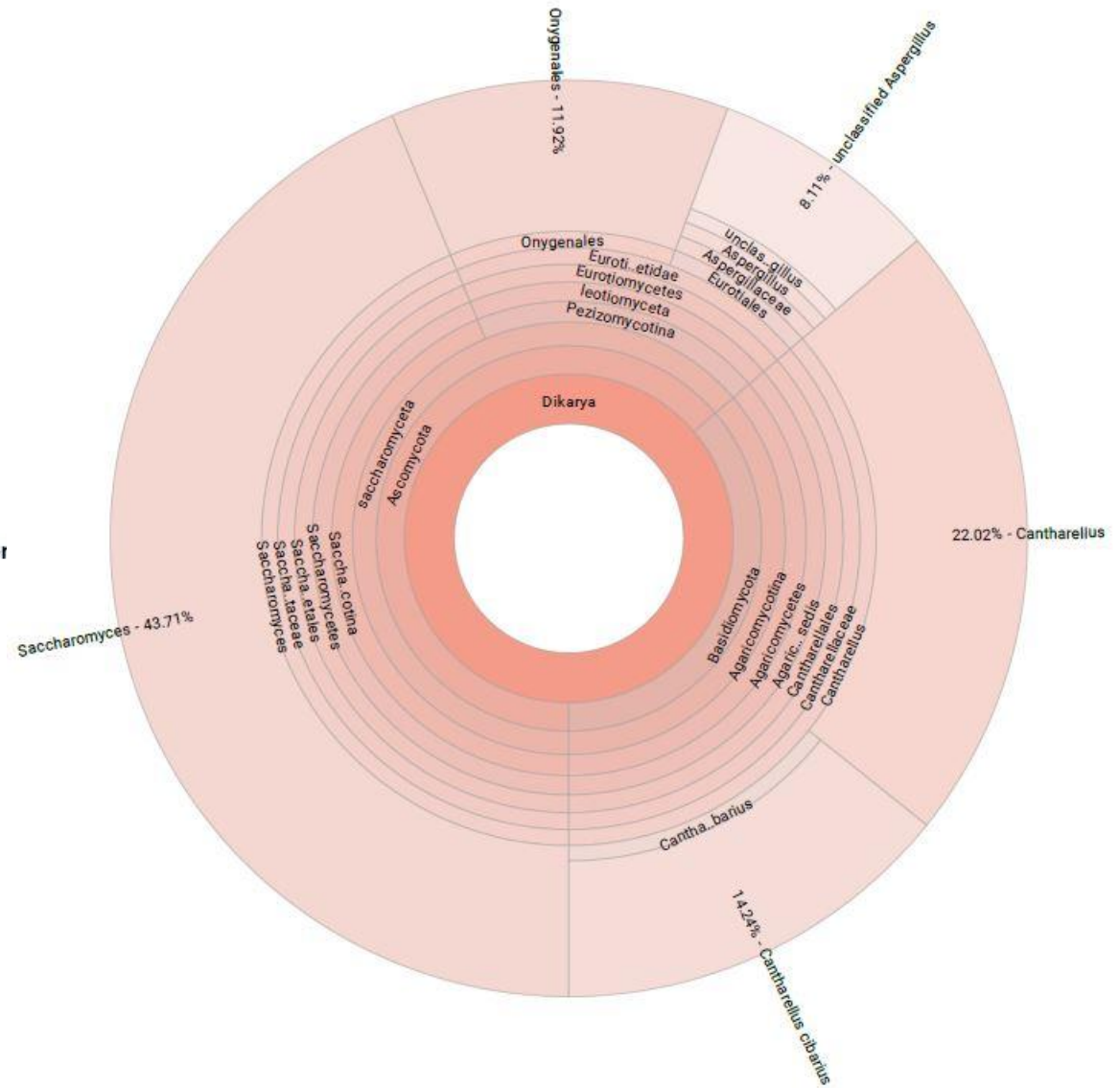
Sample 16S Biomass: 2.9×10^{11} gene copies/g

NCBI Taxonomy Browser to look up "Taxonomy Id"

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MICROBIAL CONSORTIUMS

environmental
microbiology

Environmental Microbiology (2022) 24(7), 2882–2889

DOI: 10.1002/rem.21645

PRACTICE NOTE

Comparing PFAS to other groundwater contaminants: Implications for remediation

WILEY



Wells¹ | David T. Adamson¹ | Poonam R. Kulkarni¹ |
Beribe¹ | Hans Stroo²

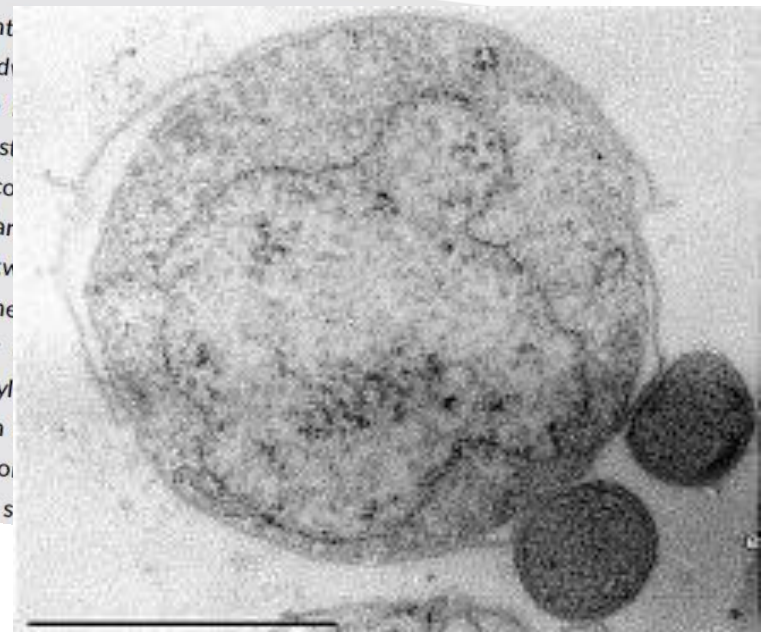
doi:10.1111/1462-2920.15990

Houston, Texas
Oregon

Environmental Inc.,
Houston, TX 77098.

Abstract

Established groundwater contaminants such as hydrocarbons have impacted groundwater resources in the United States and have been associated with high remediation expenditures. An important question is whether emerging contaminant class compounds (PFAS) will be a smaller, similar class of groundwater contaminants. A two-part question is addressed in this paper. First, nine PFAS were used to compare PFAS to four other groundwater contaminants: benzene, 1,4-dioxane, and methyl tert-butyl ether. The prevalence of the contaminants in groundwater, remediation technology, and research intensity. Second, remediation were evaluated to see s



Opinion

Pseudomonas: versatile biocatalysts for PFAS

Lawrence P. Wackett *

¹Microbial Engineering Program, University of Minnesota, Minneapolis, MN.

²Biotechnology Institute, University of Minnesota, Minneapolis, MN.

³Department of Biochemistry, Molecular Biology and Biophysics, University of Minnesota, Minneapolis, MN.

20% of new drugs and pharmaceutical compounds contain fluorine and many are polyfluorinated aromatic compounds (Han *et al.*, 2021; Ogawa *et al.*, 2021).

All classes of organofluorine compounds present similar challenges for microbial metabolism. Those include the chemical strength of the C-F bond, enzyme induction given that C-F compounds present different binding interactions compared to C-H and C-Cl analogues, and the inherent toxicity of fluoride following defluorination (Wackett, 2022). The lack of any known polyfluorinated natural products (Murphy *et al.*, 2003; Fincker and Spormann, 2017) suggests that defluorination capabilities will be rare in nature. In laboratory studies, *Pseudomo-*

Scope

Many believe in the concept expressed by the old saying, 'A byrd in hand – is worth ten flye at large.'

FLUORIDE EFFECT

environmental microbiology Applied Microbiology International

RESEARCH ARTICLE

Role of the CrcB transporter of *Pseudomonas putida* in the multi-level stress response elicited by mineral fluoride

Patricia Calero | Nicolás Gurdo | Pablo I. Nikel 

The Novo Nordisk Foundation Center for Biosustainability, Technical University of Denmark, Kongens Lyngby, Denmark

Correspondence

Pablo I. Nikel, The Novo Nordisk Foundation Center for Biosustainability, Technical University of Denmark, 2800 Kongens Lyngby, Denmark.
Email: pabnik@biosustain.dtu.dk

Funding information

H2020 Environment, Grant/Award Number: 814418; Novo Nordisk Fonden, Grant/Award Numbers: NNF18OC0034818, NNF20CC0035580, NNF21OC0067996; Cystic Fibrosis Trust, *Strategic Research Centre Award*–2019–SRC017; Danish Council for Independent Research Natural Sciences, Grant/Award Number: 8021-00039B

Abstract

The presence of mineral fluoride (F^-) in the environment has a natural and anthropogenic origin, and the halide has affected virtually all living organisms. While the evidence that fluoride salts on the metabolism and physiology of various species supports this notion, a systematic analysis of the mechanisms and physiology of fluoride resistance has been underexplored thus far. In this work, we investigated the fluoride resistance mechanisms deployed by the model species *Pseudomonas putida* KT2440 against NaF. By adopting systems biology approaches, functional genomics and metabolomics, we identified several genes involved in halide tolerance at different regulatory levels under control of the CrcB transporter. *Tn*-Seq screening—among which *crcB* was shown to play the predominant role—revealed that the CrcB metabolomics, combined with the associated cellular pH values and quantitative physiology

nature communications 

Perspective

<https://doi.org/10.1038/s41467-024-49018-1>

The link between ancient microbial fluoride resistance mechanisms and bioengineering organofluorine degradation or synthesis

Received: 10 January 2024

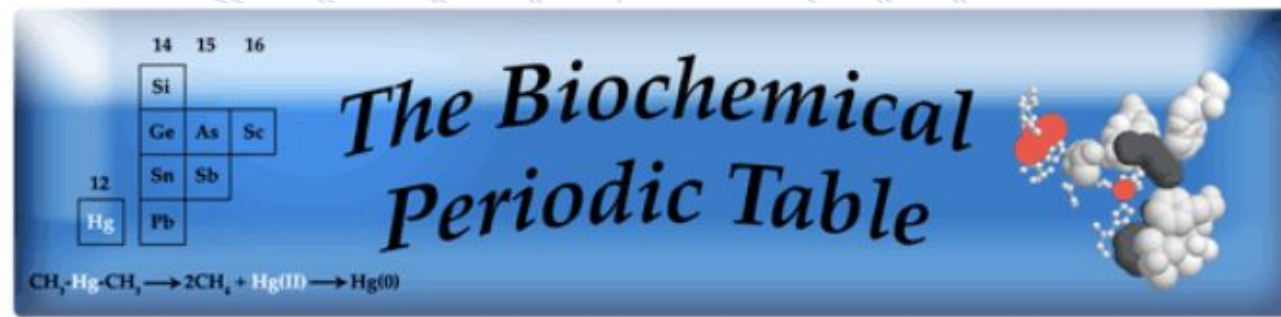
Randy B. Stockbridge  & Lawrence P. Wackett 

Accepted: 20 May 2024

Published online: 30 May 2024

 Check for updates

Fluorinated organic chemicals, such as per- and polyfluorinated alkyl substances (PFAS) and fluorinated pesticides, are both broadly useful and unusually long-lived. To combat problems related to the accumulation of these compounds, microbial PFAS and organofluorine degradation and biosynthesis of less-fluorinated replacement chemicals are under intense study. Both efforts are undermined by the substantial toxicity of fluoride, an anion that powerfully inhibits metabolism. Microorganisms have contended with environmental mineral fluoride over evolutionary time, evolving a suite of detoxification mechanisms. In this perspective, we synthesize emerging ideas on microbial defluorination/fluorination and fluoride resistance mechanisms and identify best approaches for bioengineering new approaches for degrading and making organofluorine compounds.



Group 1 2 3 4 5 6 7 8 9 10 11 12 13 14 15 16 17 18

Period

Key	Biologically relevant elements colored
	Major, essential, all life
	Major anions, all life
	Major cations, all life
	Essential, trace, all life
	Major biological transition metals
	Specialized uses, some life
	May be bound, transported, reduced, and/or methylated
	Inert or unknown biological function

1	1 H																	2 He
2	3 Li	4 Be										5 B	6 C	7 N	8 O	9 F		10 Ne
3	11 Na	12 Mg										13 Al	14 Si	15 P	16 S	17 Cl		18 Ar
4	19 K	20 Ca	21 Sc	22 Ti	23 V	24 Cr	25 Mn	26 Fe	27 Co	28 Ni	29 Cu	30 Zn	31 Ga	32 Ge	33 As	34 Se	35 Br	36 Kr
5	37 Rb	38 Sr	39 Y	40 Zr	41 Nb	42 Mo	43 Tc	44 Ru	45 Rh	46 Pd	47 Ag	48 Cd	49 In	50 Sn	51 Sb	52 Te	53 I	54 Xe
6	55 Cs	56 Ba	71 Lu	72 Hf	73 Ta	74 W	75 Re	76 Os	77 Ir	78 Pt	79 Au	80 Hg	81 Tl	82 Pb	83 Bi	84 Po	85 At	86 Rn
7	87 Fr	88 Ra																

Lanthanoids

57 La	58 Ce	59 Pr	60 Nd	61 Pm	62 Sm	63 Eu	64 Gd	65 Tb	66 Dy	67 Ho	68 Er	69 Tm	70 Yb
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Actinoids

89 Ac	90 Th	91 Pa	92 U	93 Np	94 Pu	95 Am	96 Cm	97 Bk	98 Cf	99 Es	100 Fm	101 Md	102 No
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INTENSE FINANCIAL PRESSURE

DoD	Investigate	Cleanup
2019	\$256.5M	\$245.1M
2020	\$242.5M	\$28.8M
2021	\$174.1M	\$77.3M
2022	\$181.7M	\$78.5M

¹ Current removal cost equal to rate of production estimated \$20 to \$7,000 trillion/yr

² PFAS drinking water removal \$3.2 - \$5.7 billion/yr

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DRINKING WATER TREATMENT

PFAS remediation spending forecasted to triple by 2030

A new report from Bluefield Research anticipates that infrastructure investments, amid a changing regulatory environment, will drive a significant increase in national spending on PFAS treatment systems.

May 17, 2022



¹ A.L., Ling Univ. St. Thomas, Mar-2024
American Water Works Association

PFAS SOURCE REDUCTION

SECTIONS | 🔍

★ StarTribune

LOCAL

By 2032, almost anything you buy in Minnesota will come in recyclable, compostable or reusable packaging. Here's why.

Environmental groups and Twin Cities leaders say requiring packaging be recyclable is key to reducing the growing amount of waste.

By Christopher Magan Star Tribune | JUNE 4, 2024 — 9:29AM



ELIZABETH FLORES, STAR TRIBUNE

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NEWS 12.15.23

Minnesota's Ban on PFAS in Food Packaging Becomes Effective Jan. 1



Minnesota's ban on intentionally added per- and polyfluoroalkyl substances (PFAS) in food packaging becomes effective on January 1, 2024. (See Minn. Stat. § 325F.075.) The ban was included in an omnibus environment, natural resources, and tourism bill that was signed into law on June 29, 2021. We previously reported on the law [here](#).

This PFAS-in-food packaging law defines "food package" as "a container applied to or providing a means to market, protect, handle, deliver, serve, contain, or store a food or beverage." The Minnesota Department of Agriculture takes a broad view of the scope of products encompassed by the law.

Earlier this year, the Food & Drug Administration tested for PFAS in a variety of foods. While the sample sizes were small and may not reflect typical contamination levels, here's what the FDA found.



Natural Resources Defense Council scorecard (Apparel)

<https://www.nrdc.org/resources/going-out-fashion-us-apparel-manufacturers-must-eliminate-pfas-from-their-supply-chains>

Green Science Policy Institute (Corporate PFAS evaluation)

<https://pfascentral.org/pfas-free-products/>

Center for Environmental Health (Foodware)

<https://ceh.org/wp-content/uploads/2021/08/foodware.jpg>

NOTHING LASTS FOREVER



QUESTIONS

Keith B. Rapp

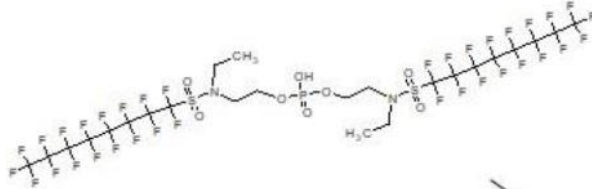
krapp@baywest.com

(612) 382-3763

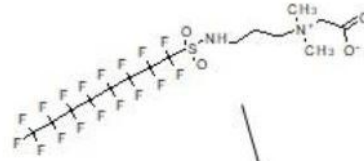


BIOTRANSFORMATION PATHWAYS

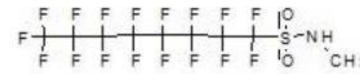
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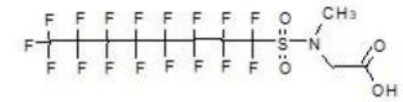
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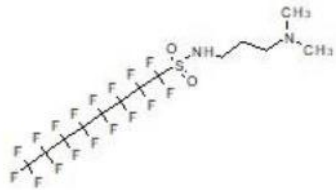
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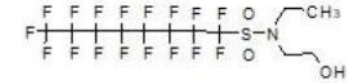
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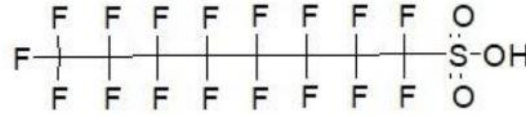
PFOSAm 13417-01-1



N-EtFOSE 1691-99-2



PFOS 1763-23-1



N-EtFOSA 4151-50-2



PFOS 1652-63-7

N-EtFOSAA 2991-50-6



FOSAA 2806-24-8



PFOSA 754-91-6



Article

PFAS Biotransformation Pathways: A Species Comparison Study

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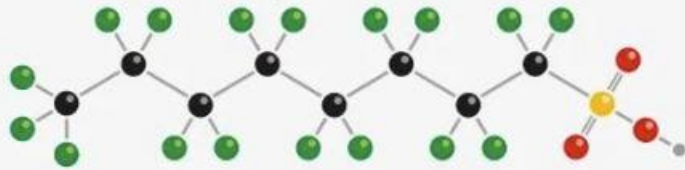
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'OLD PFAS'

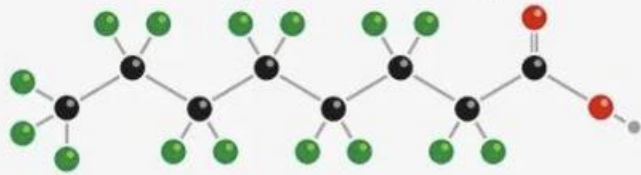
● Carbon ● Fluorine ● Sulfur ● Oxygen ● Hydrogen ● Nitrogen

PFOS (8-carbon chain)



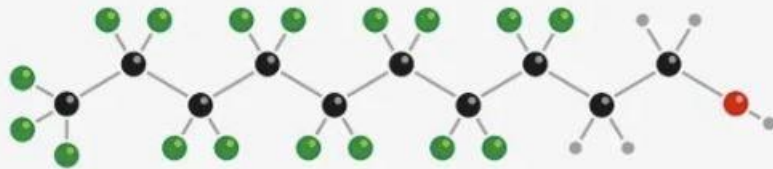
Production now heavily restricted.

PFOA (8-carbon chain)



Expected to be similarly restricted this year.

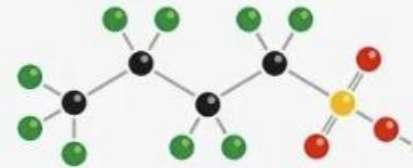
8:2 FTOH (10-carbon chain)



Hundreds of precursor compounds can degrade into PFOS or PFOA in the environment.

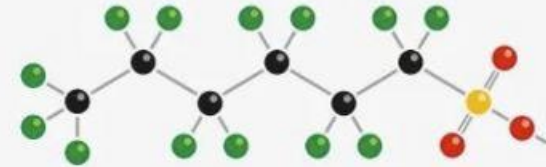
'NEW GEN PFAS'

PFBS



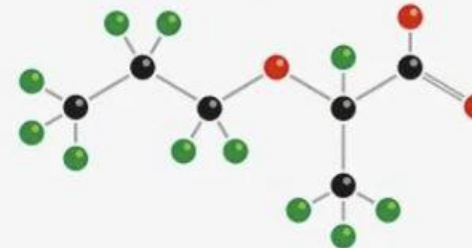
Variations in chain length and branching produce dozens of variant structures.

PFHxS



A Stockholm Convention committee is reviewing whether to ban this substance.

'GenX'



US chemical firm Chemours is being sued over the presence of this chemical in North Carolina water supplies.