## Environmental Contaminants in the Lake Huron to Erie Corridor: Effects on Zebrafish



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## The Detroit River- Huron to Erie corridor



# Investigating occurrence and effects of environmental contaminants in Detroit waterbodies

<u>Objective 1</u>: Identify concentrations of select ECs at the urban field stations and other Areas of Concern.

<u>Objective 2</u>: Evaluate the effect(s) of exposure to incoming raw water at the GLWA Water Works Park Pilot Plant using the zebrafish model.

<u>Objective 3</u>: Laboratory zebrafish studies to further examine health effects and gene expression changes of individual contaminants.





## Objective 1: Identify concentrations of select ECs at the urban field stations and other Areas of Concern.







Sources of pollution:

- Urban and industrial development
- Combined sewer overflows
- Municipal and industrial discharges
- Storm water runoff and tributaries













#### **PFAS Surface Water Analysis**

#### PFAS that were detected at one of

#### <u>more sites:</u> PFH<sub>x</sub>A PFOS PFBA PFOA PFBS

#### **PPCP\_Surface Water Analysis**

#### PPCPs that were detected at one of more sites:

Acesulfame-K Acetaminophen Atenolol Caffeine Carbamazepine Cotinine DEET Diltiazem Gemifibrozil Meprobamate Naproxen Nicotine Paraxanthine Primidone Sucralose Sulfamethoxazole Triclocarban Trimethoprim Tris(chloropropyl) phosphate

2,4-D Atrazine DACT DEA DIA Iohexol <u>Objective 2</u>: Evaluate the effect(s) of exposure to incoming raw water at the GLWA Water Works Park Pilot Plant using the zebrafish model.



## Wayne State University – GLWA Drinking Water Treatment Plant Field Station











<u>Objective 2</u>: Evaluate the effect(s) of exposure to incoming raw water at the GLWA Water Works Park Pilot Plant using the zebrafish model.



#### **Evaluate endpoints:**

- Embryonic/developmental toxicity
- Reproductive toxicity
- Sex ratios
- Fertility
- Gene expression changes



## What is a zebrafish?

- Danio rerio
- Common aquarium fish
- Easy and inexpensive to care for
- Fast development and reproduction
- Sequenced genome
- NIH accepted model for human health
- 84% gene homology with human disease



## **Translational Model**





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## <u>Objective 3</u>: Laboratory zebrafish studies to examine health effects and gene expression changes





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### Larval Abnormalities (Day 5)

Spinal deformity	Unhatched
ali	
C.	T. Martin -
Yolk sac	Cardiac
edema	edema

	Skeletal	Swim Bladder	Yolk Edema	Heart Edema	Total with Abnormalities
4-nonylphenol					
Atrazine		$\checkmark$			$\checkmark$
Bisphenol	$\checkmark$	$\checkmark$			$\checkmark$
Chlorpyrifos					
Dieldrin	√	√	$\checkmark$		$\checkmark$
Estrone	✓	√			$\checkmark$
Metformin		√	✓	✓	✓
Triclocarban	$\checkmark$	$\checkmark$	$\checkmark$		$\checkmark$
Triclosan					

### **Behavioral Analysis (Day 5)**

## <u>Objective 3</u>: Laboratory zebrafish studies to examine health effects and gene expression changes

#### DIFFERENTIALLY EXPRESSED GENES



■ 4-nonylphenol ■ Atrazine ■ BPA ■ Chlorpyrifos ■ Dieldrin ■ Estrone ■ Metformin ■ Triclocarban ■ Triclosan

## Summary and Conclusions

- Many ECs identified in the Lake Huron to Lake Erie corridor
- Growth and fertility are severely affected by chronic exposure to Detroit river water
- Genes of interest have been identified and are in the process of being more closely evaluated

## **Future Directions**

- Continue to determine health effects of relevant contaminants and mixtures
- Windows of susceptibility
- Adult-onset and transgenerational disease
- Population level effects on wild fish populations













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