

Following up after VPIRG Presentation

Chair Sheldon and Members of the House Committee on Environment, Thank you once again for giving VPIRG the opportunity this morning to provide an overview of some of our work that relates to your committee. Paul and I appreciated the thoughtful questions raised during the conversation. I wanted to follow up with additional information that at least begins to address those questions. We look forward to discussing these topics further in the weeks to come.

PFAS Health Impacts

For more details on the health effects of PFAS, I'm sharing a journal article originally published in *Environmental Toxicology and Chemistry Journal*. Figure #1 in this article is particularly insightful. You can access the article here: <https://academic.oup.com/etc/article/40/3/606/7734619>.

Fracking Chemicals

The NRDC released a "[Fracking 101](#)" guide that outlines the toxic chemicals commonly used in fracking, including methanol, ethylene glycol, and propargyl alcohol. These chemicals, along with many others in fracking fluids, are recognized as hazardous to human health.

PVC

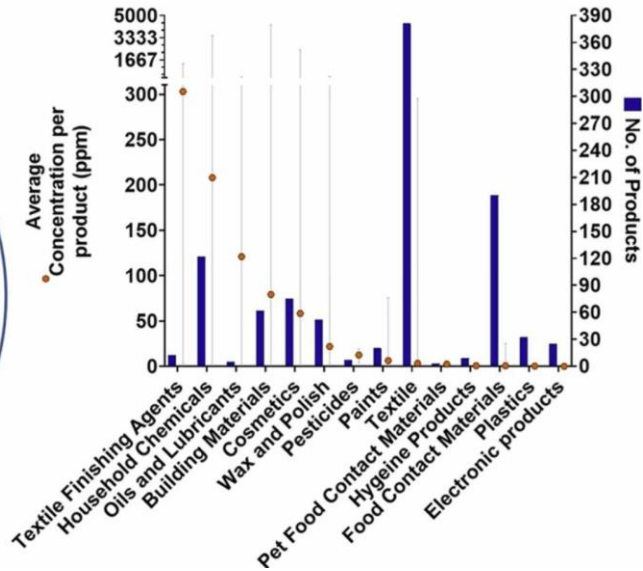
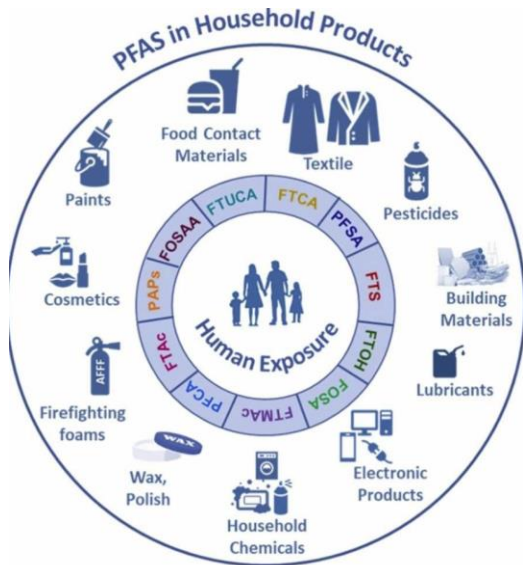
Regarding the question of health risks associated with PVC, there are many sources of information available. For instance, here is [one scientific study](#) with a fairly comprehensive overview of the topic. Paul also mentioned a report from Beyond Plastics, which highlights potential health risks associated with drinking water from PVC service lines. It also recommends that communities be informed of these risks. You can download the report here: [Beyond Plastics Report](#).

Microplastics in Lake Champlain

The data used to make the graphic we presented on microplastics in Lake Champlain comes from the Rozalia Project, a nonprofit dedicated to marine cleanups and data collection. They've previously [presented to the state legislature](#) if you're interested to learn more. This UVM research post further elaborates on the issue of microplastics in Lake Champlain: [Research blog post](#).

PFAS in Consumer Products

In response to Representative North's question regarding PFAS in consumer products, I've found the following graphic particularly useful. I've sourced it from this research article: [Per- and polyfluoroalkyl substances \(PFAS\) in consumer products](#).



It's clear that certain product categories, such as textiles, wax, and textile finishing agents, contain higher levels of PFAS. Most of these consumer product categories are already addressed by Vermont's Act 131 and Act 36. Other products identified in ANR's report (e.g., dental floss, upholstered furniture, and cleaning products) may have lower PFAS levels, but banning intentionally- added PFAS in these items could still have a meaningful impact on public health and environmental contamination. The ANR report (which I've attached) explains that the selected categories were chosen because they either represent significant sources of PFAS or present potential human exposure pathways. Thank you again for the opportunity to meet with you today. Please let us know if you have further questions.

Best regards,
Anna Seuberling