

Special Issue

Microplastics in Marine and Freshwater Environments

Message from the Guest Editor

Microplastics are synthetic polymer particles less than 5 mm in diameter. The physical characteristics of these pollutants make them bioavailable to aquatic organisms and may therefore produce toxic effects. In very recent years, different laboratory and field experiences have confirmed that: i) aquatic organisms ingest and uptake these materials; ii) microplastics are accumulated and the chemicals they contain induce adverse effects; iii) they interact with the toxic effects of other environmental pollutants and stressors; and iv) there is trophic transfer of these pollutants and the chemicals associated with them. These findings raise concerns regarding biomagnification of these pollutants, increasing the risks and toxic effects associated to this process. In addition, in aquatic ecosystems, microplastics have been detected also in surface waters and sediments.

For this Special Issue of IJERPH, we are looking for research articles on different aspects of microplastic pollution, including uptake quantification in organisms, water and sediment levels, toxicity assessment, etc. We welcome research papers as well as reviews and meta-analysis.

Guest Editor

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Message from the Editor-in-Chief

Addressing the environmental and public health challenges requires engagement and collaboration among clinicians and public health researchers. Scientific discoveries and advances in this research field play a critical role in providing a rational basis for informed decision-making toward control and prevention of human diseases, especially the illnesses that are induced from environmental exposure to health hazards.

IJERPH provides a forum for discussion of discoveries and knowledge in these multidisciplinary fields. Please consider publishing your research in this high quality peer-reviewed journal.

Editor-in-Chief

Prof. Dr. Paul R. Ward

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