

# Whales and Contaminants



**Many contaminants are harmful to the health of whales.**

Contaminants are chemicals that are known or suspected to enter the environment as a result of human activity.

## Products

Some household products that contain harmful contaminants are: paints, paint thinners, car fluids, chargers, electronics, and pharmaceuticals and personal care products.

## Exposures to whales

Contaminants are released by municipal and industrial wastewater, urban and agricultural runoff, landfill sites, and other processes. They can then end up in the ocean and in the food whales eat.

## Did you know you can help protect whales?



Properly dispose of household products - use local recycling and takeback programs as well as hazardous waste disposal depots.



Use pesticides properly and safely following all labels, check with your municipality for pesticide by-laws.



Do not flush medications down the toilet or sink, or throw into the garbage - return them to local pharmacies.



Consider purchasing ecofriendly products.

Support conservation efforts and policies that protect whales and the environment.

Find out more about what Canada is doing here:

[Reducing the threat of contaminants to Southern Resident Killer Whales - Canada.ca](https://www.ec.gc.ca/baleines-contaminants-whales)

For further information, please contact us at:

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