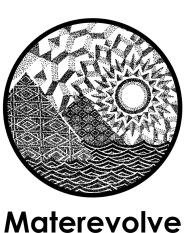


The United States Federal Plan to Address Microfiber Pollution





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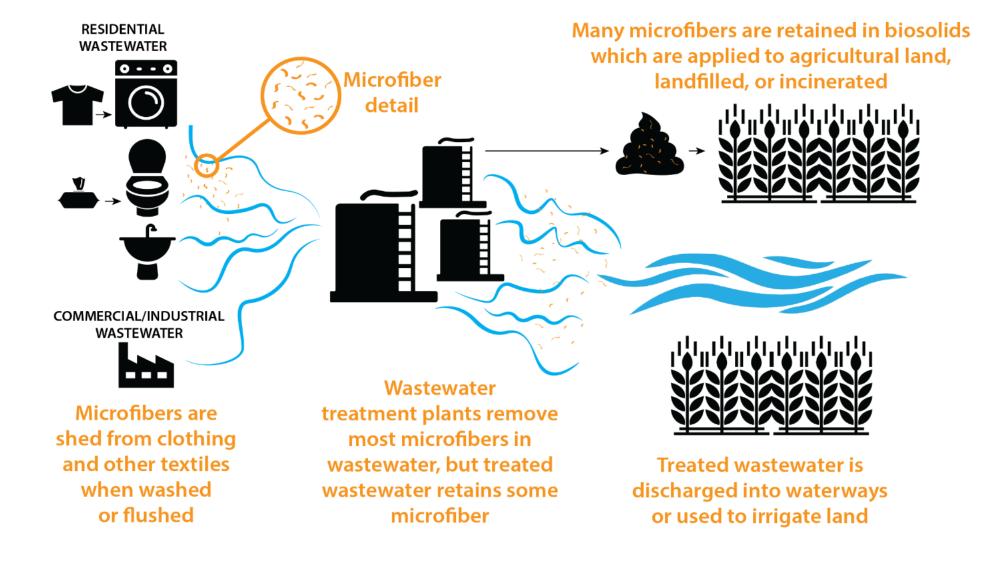
¹Materevolve

²United States Environmental Protection Agency, Office of Water, Office of Ground Water and Drinking Water ³National Oceanic and Atmospheric Administration, National Ocean Service, Office of Response and Restoration, Marine Debris Program ⁴United States Environmental Protection Agency, Office of Water, Office of Wetlands, Oceans and Watersheds, Trash Free Waters Program

THE ISSUE: Microfibers released into the environment

- Where do they come from? Clothing, cigarette butts, fishing/boating gear, personal care products, other fiber-based items
- Where are they found? Freshwater, marine, and terrestrial habitats, biota, sediments, indoor/outdoor air and dust, humans

Wastewater as a pathway for microfiber pollution





Stormwater as a pathway for microfiber pollution

- Why are they a problem? Growing concerns about their prevalence, persistence, impact in the environment and people
- What is being done? Congressionally mandated report on Microfiber Pollution, includes a Federal Plan to address microfibers

TIMELINE:

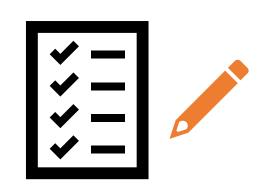


THE PLAN: Via workshops, representatives from 12 federal agencies identified actions the U.S. Government can take:

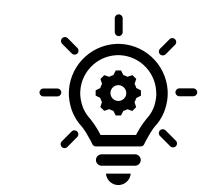
Adopt definition



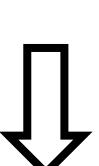
Goal 1: Support microfiber research



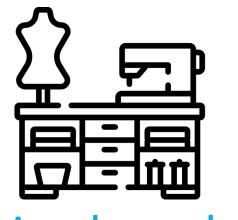




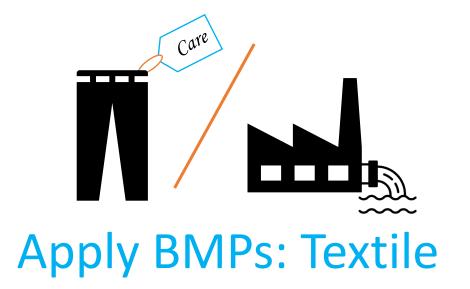
Improve knowledge



Goal 2: Prevent & reduce microfibers



Design low-shed textiles



care & production

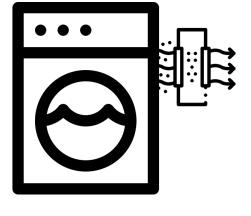
Improve circular economy



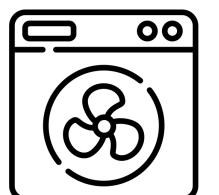
Mitigate non-textile microfibers



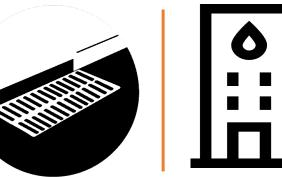
Goal 3: Capture microfibers



Utilize filters

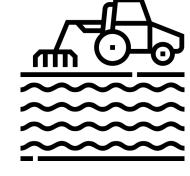


Minimize dryer emissions





Contain microfibers





Goal 4: Minimize microfiber toxicity



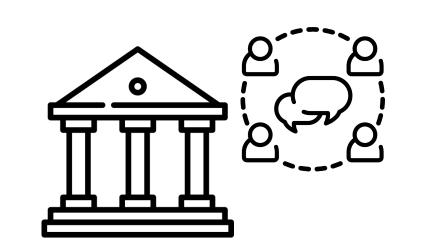
Minimize chemicals



Develop nontoxic degradable textiles



Goal 5: Share microfiber knowledge



Coordinate across agencies



Create outreach

NEXT STEPS:

- Federal Plan implementation driven by agency resources (funding, staff, time)
- Explore stakeholder partnerships: academia, NGOs, industry (textile, other)

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