

WATER FACTS

October - Healthy Streams & Healthy Selves

Antibacterial Products and Triclosan

A new ruling bans triclosan, commonly found in antibacterial products, from some consumer products like antibacterial soaps. The Environmental Protection Agency (EPA) identifies triclosan as a pesticide and is reviewing data on potential environmental and health effects, including developmental/reproductive toxicity, endocrine effects, and risks for aquatic life.

Triclosan will still be found in hand sanitizers, toothpaste, and household plastic products. The Food and Drug Administration (FDA) recommends using plain soap and water or alcohol-based sanitizers instead of antibacterial products, stating they do not have scientific evidence that antibacterial soaps are more effective.



National Cancer Institute

Healthy Tips and Resources

Beyond washing your hands, take these preventative actions to stay healthy:

- Get vaccinated - register on CLIQ for a flu shot Oct. 24 or Nov. 10 with the Wellness Center
- Clean frequently-used surfaces and objects
- Use your own comb, toothbrush, razor, and utensils
- Cover your nose/mouth with a tissue when you cough or sneeze, and throw it out afterwards
- Handle, prepare, cook, and store food safely



Sources: EPA <http://bit.ly/epatriclosan>
FDA <http://bit.ly/fdatriclosan>
<http://bit.ly/fdapressrelease>
Wellness Center <http://dickinson.edu/wellnesscenter>

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