

**Research Translation Plan for  
University of Washington Superfund Research Program  
Project 4**

PI: Rebecca Neumann

Co-PI: James Gawel

May 22, 2018

**Research translation goals:**

1. To understand and communicate the ecological and human health risks associated with arsenic in lakes.
2. To identify and communicate specific (often common-sense) measures that can be taken to minimize risks associated with exposure to arsenic in lakes.

**Intended audience:**

- Lake residents as represented by various local Lake Associations including the Killarney Lake Association, Steel Lake Association, and North Lake Association.
- Environmental Protection Agency Region 10.
- Washington Department of Ecology.
- Washington Department of Fish and Wildlife.
- Local health organizations.

**What might interest the intended audience about this research:**

- The ecological and human health implications of arsenic in lakes.
- How arsenic moves around in the lake system.
- Recommendations for how to minimize risks associated with exposure to arsenic in lakes.

**Three main points:**

1. Arsenic is bioavailable in shallow urban lakes and can enter the food chain.
2. Adding minerals and nutrients to a lake that will promote the growth of plants and algae can increase the availability of arsenic in urban lakes.
3. Lake management plans should take arsenic mobility into account.

**Opportunities to engage:**

- Providing updates to Lake Associations (in meetings and newsletter stories).
- Organizing meetings to communicate with city-run associations and municipal agencies.

**Next steps:**

- Follow up with Steel and North Lake Associations.
- Schedule the next meeting for city and municipal agency folks (July 30-August 2).
- Develop story for Lake Association Newsletter.

**Impacts on audience:**

- Ecology is considered when management decisions are made.
- Lake Associations have the information they need to keep lake treatments from exacerbating problems associated with arsenic availability.
- Arsenic availability is considered when granting permits.

**Impacts on scientists:**

- Learn how to frame scientific results in ways that are useful to citizens.
- Become more comfortable communicating science in a non-science setting.
- Have trainees become more comfortable presenting to the public.

**Gathering feedback:**

- Asking in advance about how the audience would like the information tailored.
- Paper surveys at the end of meetings.

**Responding to feedback:**

- Addressing short-comings.
- Building on strengths.
- Example: Lake Associations like having trainees involved in research translation.