A growing world population with intensive economies, global markets and increasing transport is creating enormous piles of waste. Up to 2015, over 6 billion tonnes of plastic waste were produced by humans, which is equivalent to 60 million blue whales. While wastewater treatment plants and incinerators exist as waste management strategies, materials and chemicals that do not degrade easily are still being produced. How do we deal with all that waste? What kind of chemicals end up in the waste (water) or recycled products? Can we recycle waste to safe consumer products in circular economies? What are the effects of chemicals in waste (water) on our environmental resources and our health?

Following two earlier successful symposia, the VU department of Environment & Health is organizing a symposium on 3 December 2019 under the title Waste – a Matter of Taste to discuss these issues with scientists, authorities and industry representatives. The full-day program is designed to pose thought-provoking questions and will provide ample discussion and networking opportunities with scientists, health professionals and other stakeholders. Online registration is mandatory and free.

**INFORMATION**

**When**
Tuesday 3 December, 9:30-16:30, followed by drinks & including lunch

**Location**
Auditorium, ground floor, O|2 Building
Faculty of Science, Vrije Universiteit
De Boelelaan 1108
1081 HZ Amsterdam

[Click here](#) for travel directions.

**Questions?** Please contact the E&H secretariat

Topics include: chemicals in consumer products, waste, recycled products and waste water, as well as waste management and circular economy

[click here](#) for updates
[click here](#) to register

The symposium ‘Waste – a Matter of Taste’ is hosted by the Department of Environment and Health, Vrije Universiteit

[www.science.vu.nl/environmentandhealth](http://www.science.vu.nl/environmentandhealth)

Program can be found on the next page
PROGRAM

9:30  REGISTRATION AND COFFEE

10:15  Opening and welcome - Jacob de Boer - Director of the department of Environment and Health (E&H), Vrije Universiteit (VU)

SESSION 1 - WASTE WATER

10:30  Risk-based monitoring in the water cycle - Corine Houtman - Het Waterlaboratorium

10:55  Environmental risks of pharmaceuticals: filling the gaps in the global map - Rik Oldenkamp - Amsterdam Institute for Global Health and Development (AIGHD)

11:20  Fit-for-purpose guidelines and monitoring to stimulate intended waste water reuse - Milou Dingemans - Watercycle Research Institute (KWR)

11:45  The development of a bacterial bioassay to screen for antibiotics in effluents - Tim Jonkers - Dept. of E&H, VU

12:10  Discussion

12:20  LUNCH

SESSION 2 - CONSUMER PRODUCTS, RECYCLING AND WASTE

13:20  KEYNOTE Recycling PBDEs to new products including toys and consumer products - Natsuko Kajiwara - National Institute for Environmental Studies (NIES), Japan

14:00  Fast screening methods for additives in plastic consumer products - Sicco Brandsma - Dept. of E&H, VU

14:25  Exposure and health assessment of persistent organic pollutants (POPs) at e-waste recycling site among workers in the informal sector in Nigeria - Willie Peijnenburg - Centrum Institute of Environmental Sciences (CML), Universiteit Leiden

14:50  Discussion

15:00  TEA/COFFEE BREAK

SESSION 3 - CIRCULAR ECONOMY

15:30  Circular chemistry to enable a circular economy - Chris Slootweg - Van ’t Hoff Institute for Molecular Sciences, Universiteit van Amsterdam

15:55  Circular quality - Julia Verhoeven - Centre for Safety of Substances and Products, National Institute for Public Health and the Environment (RIVM)

16:20  Discussion

16:30  DRINKS

Venue: Auditorium, ground floor, D12 Building
Contact: secretariaat.eh.BETA@vu.nl
Department of Environment and Health Vrije Universiteit
www.science.vu.nl/environmentandhealth