

SEMINAR

Impacts of fluorochemical production and use on drinking water quality in North Carolina

Dr. Detlef R.U. Knappe
Professor, Dept. of Civil, Construction
and Environmental Engineering
North Carolina State University

Friday, April 20th
3:00–4:00pm

Avedisian Hall (Pharmacy Building)
Room 240
University of Rhode Island

Because of their persistence, bioaccumulation potential, and (eco)toxicity, long-chain perfluoroalkyl substances (PFASs) are being replaced with short-chain PFASs and fluorinated alternatives. Perfluoroalkyl ether carboxylic acids (PFECAs) are one important class of fluorinated alternatives. However, almost no information exists about the occurrence of PFECAs and their behavior during drinking water treatment. Dr. Knappe will discuss his results on levels of PFASs, PFECA, and PFECA GenX in the Cape Fear Watershed, and compare those levels to the US Environmental Protection Agency's lifetime health advisory level (70 ng/L). The implications of his findings on policy and on drinking water quality in affected communities will be touched upon as well.

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**This lecture is co-sponsored
by STEEP, INBRE, and RI ESPCoR**

STEPP is funded by the Superfund Research Program, National Institute of Environmental Health Sciences under award number P42ES027726. RI-INBRE is supported by grant # P20GM103430 from the National Institute of General Medical Sciences of the National Institutes of Health. The Rhode Island Consortium for Coastal Ecology Assessment, Innovation, and Modeling is funded by NSF EPSCoR Track-I, award # EPS-1655221.

