To help keep people healthy and safe, the Agency for Toxic Substances and Disease Registry (ATSDR): • Gathers as much information as possible about chemicals that might be dangerous. 
• Publishes this information as Toxicological Profiles, or ToxProfiles™

What are ToxProfiles?
• ToxProfiles give information on how hazardous (poisonous) substances may affect health.
• Each ToxProfile includes a Public Health Statement, a summary chapter that outlines the ToxProfile’s information on hazardous substances and its potential health effects. A shorter, more reader-friendly version of the profile, known as a ToxFAQs, is also available.
• Many toxicologists (scientists who study harmful chemicals) rely on ToxProfiles to do their work.

Prioritize toxic substances.
We develop the Substance Priority List (SPL), which lists hazardous substances found at hazardous waste sites on the National Priorities List (NPL). 
• The NPL is a list of important hazardous waste sites that the Environmental Protection Agency (EPA) is cleaning up.

Select ToxProfiles.
We select ToxProfiles based on:
• The SPL
• New scientific research
• Individual organizations, or agencies have requested a ToxProfile

Conduct a comprehensive literature review.
We gather and review all the published scientific research available to form a complete picture of each substance.

Did you know?
• The past 10 years, ATSDR has developed more than 300 ToxProfiles.
• ToxProfiles are recognized nationally and internationally as credible sources of information for public health professionals.
• We select high-priority ToxProfiles each year, as well as new substances, and choose several to update or create.

Conduct independent peer review.
• Non-government independent experts review the profile.
• Profiles are reviewed (as needed) based on peer review comments.
• Peer review comments are posted on the web.

Did you know?
• We post a draft of the ToxProfile and invite comment on it at www.regulations.gov.

Anyone can suggest a ToxProfile.
Every year, we request nominations for profiles. Members of the public, government agencies, or private organizations can tell us which chemicals they are worried about.

Did you know?
• Other government agencies (inter-agency review)
• Experts within CDC/ATSDR

We summarize all comments and concerns received during the public comment period and revise the profile as needed.
• Comments are available for viewing on regulations.gov.
• Our response to public comments is available from the public docket.

We post a draft of the ToxProfile and invite comment on it at www.regulations.gov.
• The public comment period is 90 days.
• We announce the release of the draft or public comment profile via Federal Register announcement and on our website.

Review and respond to public comments.
• We summarize all comments and concerns received during the public comment period and review the profile as needed.
• Comments are available for viewing on regulations.gov.
• Our responses to public comments is available from the public docket.

Select ToxProfiles.
We select ToxProfiles based on:
• The SPL
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Conduct independent peer review.
• Non-government independent experts review the profile.
• Profiles are reviewed (as needed) based on peer review comments.
• Peer review comments are posted on the web.

Develop Health Guidance Values (HGVs).
Once we have reviewed the draft ToxProfile and decide on Minimal Risk Levels (MRLs) for that substance:
• MRLs estimate how much of a certain kind of exposure (contact) to a hazardous substance will likely not make people sick (like by breathing toxic fumes or drinking contaminated water).
• MRLs can help public health professionals know who’s at risk of getting sick in a certain location.

Complete additional intra-agency review, peer review, and clearance.

After final review and agency clearance, we post the final ToxProfile online.
We announce on our website that a new ToxProfile is available.
• We let people know about it via a Federal Register Notice.
• All the profiles are free for the public to access and use at: http://www.atsdr.cdc.gov/toxprofiles/index.html.