PCBS IN BUILDING MATERIALS

SPOKANE RIVER REGIONAL TOXICS TASK FORCE

MYLES PERKINS

OCTOBER 2021

DEPARTMENT OF ECOLOGY
State of Washington

https://www.google.com/url?sa=i&url=http%3A%2F%2Fwww.esslaboratory.com%2Fservices%2FPCBs-in-caulk.aspx&psig=AOvVaw3H3Vi0R0CNsWaVVZonm934&ust=1612978232805000&source=images&cd=vfe&ved=0CA0QjhxqFwoTCNDf8aeq3e4CFQAAAAAdAAAAABAP

AGENDA

- The Issue
- Project Background
- Goals and Objectives
- Work-to-Date
- Next Steps

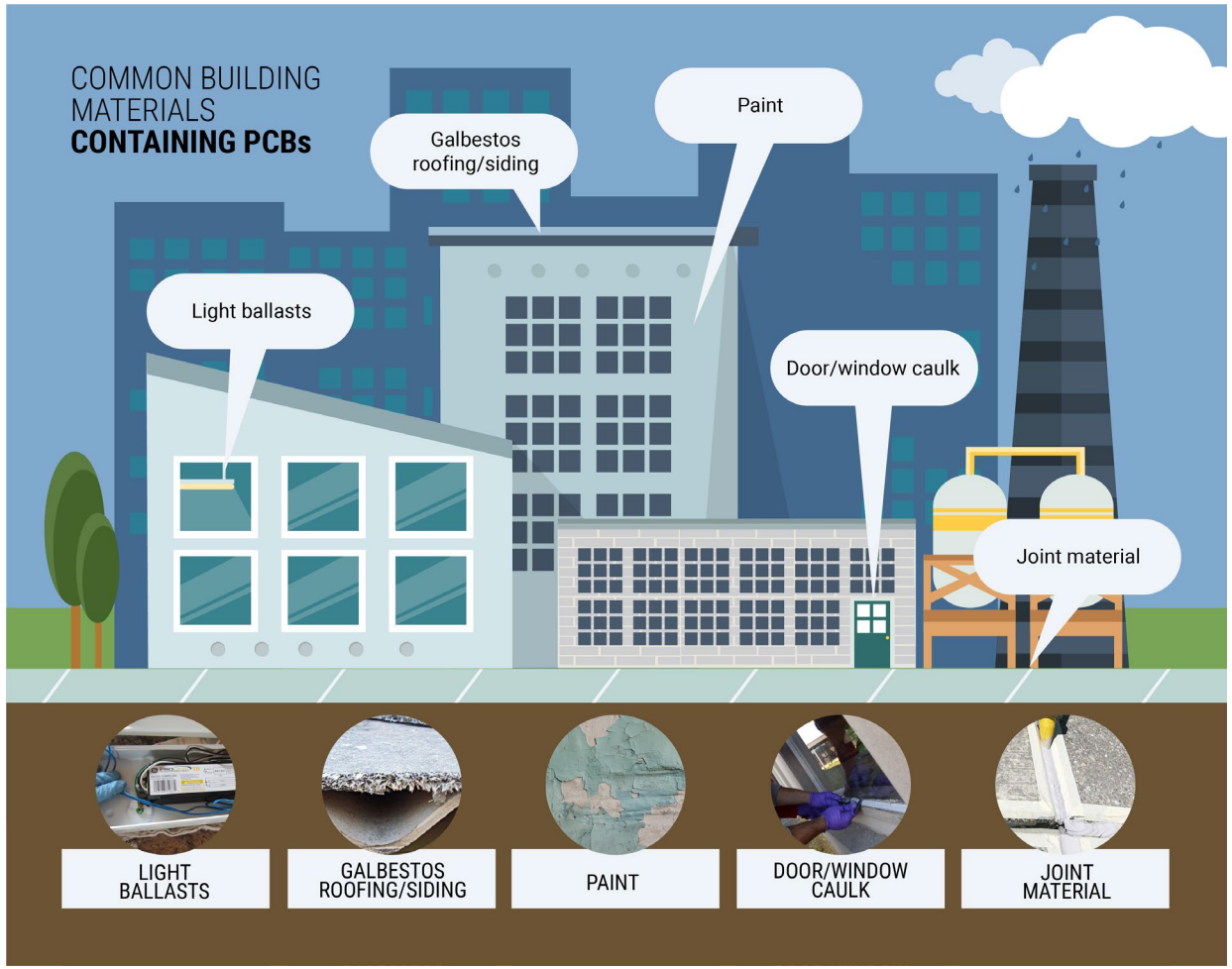
https://www.google.com/url?sa=i&url=http%3A%2F%2Febcne.org%2Fwp-content%2Fuploads%2F2018%2F07%2F07-17-18-MASTER-Managing-PCBs-in-Building-Materials.pdf&psig=AOvVaw3H3Vi0R0CNsWaVVZonm934&ust=1612978232805000&source=images&cd=vfe&ved=0CA0QjhxqFwoTCNDf8aeq3e4CFQAAAAAdAAAAABAD

THE ISSUE

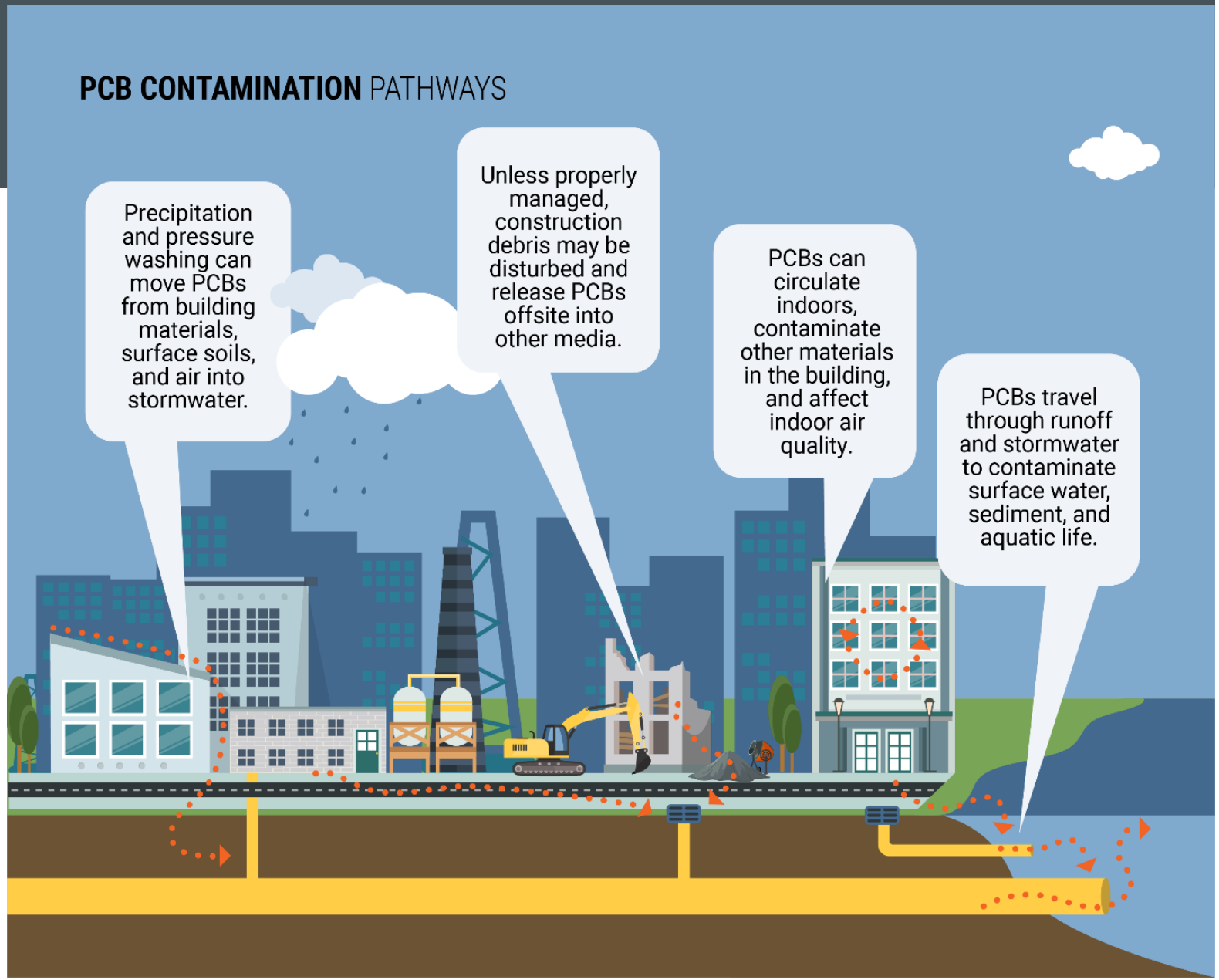
Buildings built or renovated between 1950 – 1979 may contain and release PCBs

- Door and window caulking
- Paint
- Galbestos roofing and siding
- Fluorescent light ballasts
- Other forms of sealants and joint materials

Issue was highlighted in the 2015 PCB Chemical Action Plan



AFFECT ON PEOPLE AND ENVIRONMENT



REGULATORY CONTEXT

Remediation waste vs. *bulk product waste*

- PCB remediation waste due to spills or releases are cleaned up and disposed under WA State MTCA
- PCB bulk product waste derived from manufactured products are disposed under 40 CFR 761.62 (Toxic Substances Control Act - TSCA)
  - Must address once characterized ≥50ppm
  - Almost no regulatory mechanism requires owners to characterize prior to abated/renovated building materials
  - If characterized, could trigger further investigation once source is identified

Water Quality

- Unlawful for any discharges to cause pollution to waters of the state (RCW 90.48.080)
- Surface waters must be protected for their designated use, like recreation, aquatic life (WAC 173-201A)

PROJECT BACKGROUND

Awarded $373K by the Puget Sound Partnership Fall 2020:

- Establish PCBs in Buildings Taskforce
- Work with EPA to promote awareness of issue

Project approved December 2020:

- Developed Advisory Committee comprised of Ecology, EPA, Seattle Public Utilities, and University of Washington Staff

PUGET SOUND
National Estuary Program

ADVISORY COMMITTEE

Advisory Committee:

- Core Group – Paul Bianco (HWTR), Myles Perkins (HWTR), Mike Jeffers (SPU), Amy Leang (HWTR), Jessica Huybregts (WQ), Emily Sidley (HWTR), Huckleberry Palmer (HWTR), Valerie Cramer (HWTR)
- Larger Committee – Rachel McCrea (WQ), Richard Thomas (TCP), Kathleen Compton and Michelle Mullin (EPA R10), Karl Rains (WQ), Sean Smith (HTWR), Elaine Snouwaert (HWTR), John Wallace (UW), Ivy Anderson (AGO)

GOALS AND OBJECTIVES

1. Develop WA State guidance for property owners to identify, characterize, remove, and dispose safely
2. Estimate the cost range to characterize and address
3. Design and propose a PCBs in Building Materials Abatement Program
   - Support local governments and property owners

EFFORT SO FAR

Narrative Review

- Investigative research and summary of impacts
- Building material identification
- Exploration of existing regulations
- EPA tools and the abatement process
- How PCBs affect local communities
- Data gaps, limitations, and next steps

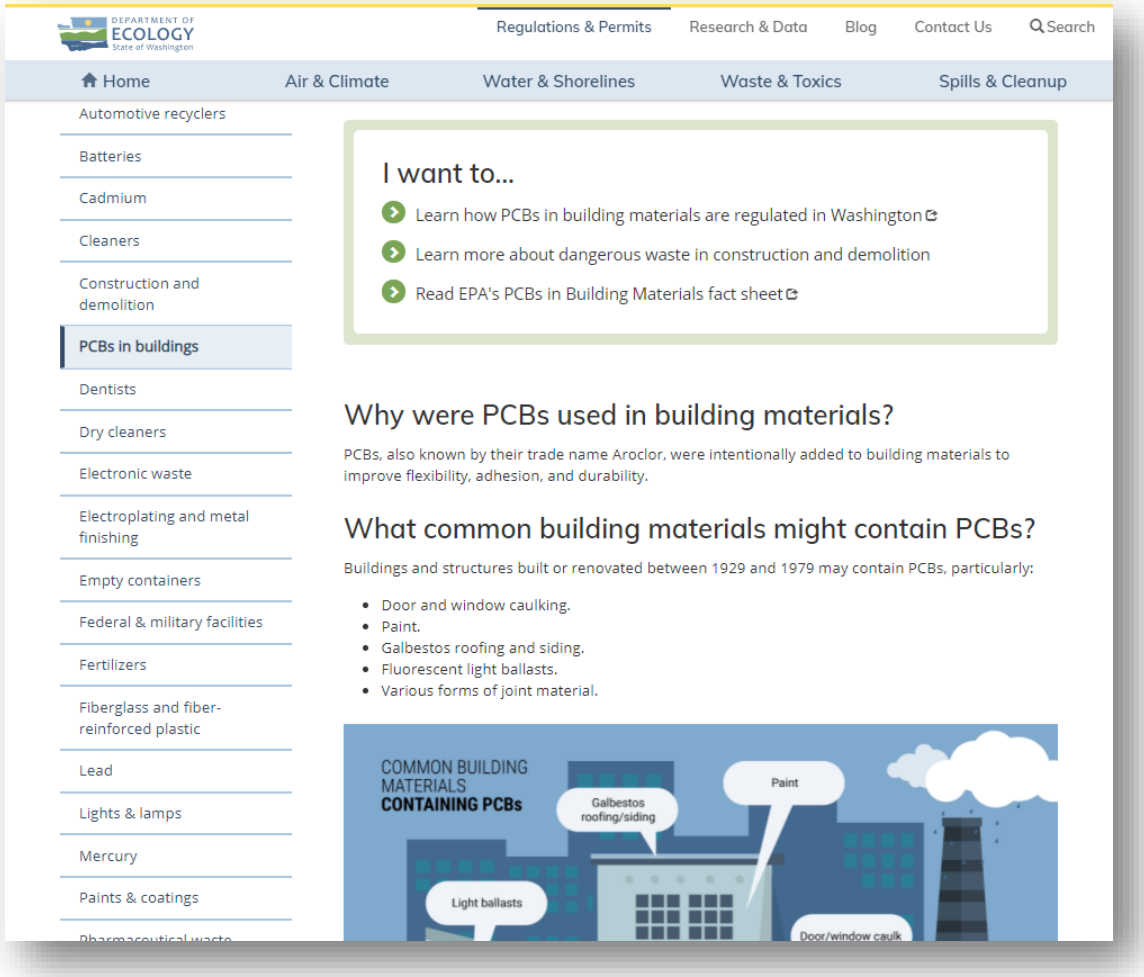
EFFORT SO FAR

Focus Sheet

- Summary of impacts
- Regulations
- Interim tips for building owners

Webpage

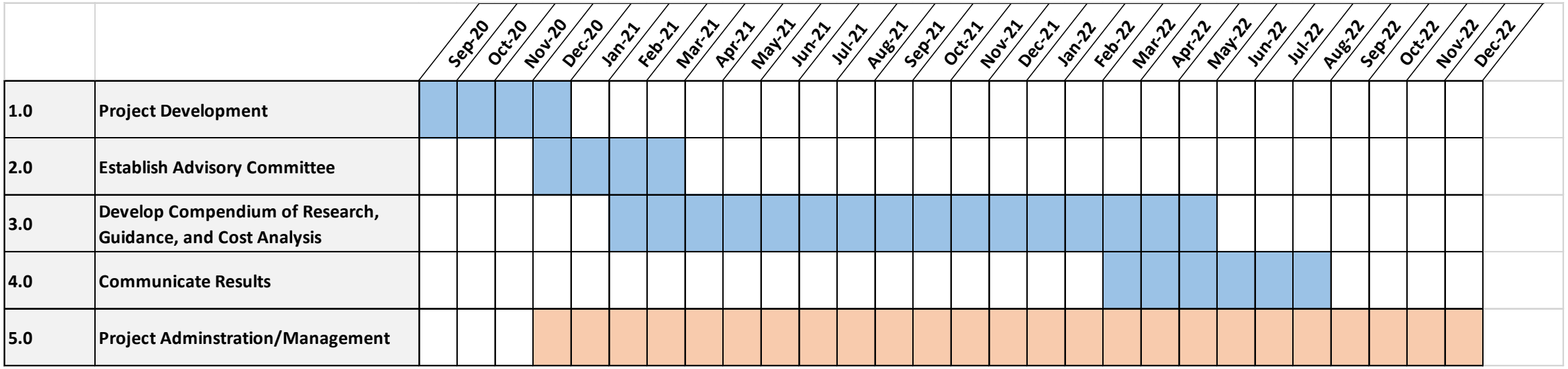
- Shares our concerns
- Links resources
- Lets others know we are developing guidance



NEXT STEPS

- Contract costing estimates
- Develop guidance
- Propose PCBs in Building Materials Abatement Program
  - Solidify approach to Environmental Justice component

TIMELINE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1.0
Project Development
2.0
Establish Advisory Committee
3.0
Develop Compendium of Research, Guidance, and Cost Analysis
4.0
Communicate Results
5.0
Project Adminstration/Management

QUESTIONS?

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