



water

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Microplastics in Aquatic Environments and Wastewater Treatment

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Message from the Guest Editors

Microplastics are contaminants in aquatic environments originating both from intentional production or fragmentation of larger plastics. Their accumulation and persistence in the environment and their potential to interact with other pollutants and organisms, as well as to change the abiotic characteristics of ecosystems, can lead to environmental consequences. Source identification and mapping are priorities, as they are critical steps for the reduction of microplastic inputs. It is estimated that over 80% of plastic pollution originates inland, being carried by rivers to the oceans. However, limited knowledge is available on the contribution of rivers to (micro)plastic pollution and its impact on the concentration found in coastal areas. Therefore, more research is needed in order to understand inland contributions to microplastic pollution. Manuscripts regarding all aspects related to microplastic pollution, including analytical methodologies for sampling, characterization and analysis of microplastics, ecotoxicological evaluation of microplastic impacts, and microplastics as vectors of environmental contaminants and microorganisms, will be considered for publication.



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Message from the Editor-in-Chief

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