



# news release

Ministry  
of the  
Environment

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**THE TOXIC TWENTY-ONE:  
CANDIDATE LIST OF SUBSTANCES PROPOSED FOR BAN OR PHASE-OUT**

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Today Environment Minister Ruth Grier released a list of 21 hazardous substances as candidates for possible ban or phase-out in Ontario. This list includes contaminants that are present or discharged to the Ontario environment and are inherently hazardous based on three criteria: persistence, bioaccumulation potential and toxicity.

Ministry scientists also developed a secondary list of 46 substances. The secondary list of candidate substances includes substances that are toxic and either persistent or bioaccumulative, or are both persistent and bioaccumulative but less toxic than those on the primary list. The secondary list will be considered in the next stage for bans or phase-outs.

"We have taken the lead in doing the scientific work to identify the most hazardous substances. Today we are offering our candidate list to the federal government. The federal government has already initiated a consultation process on bans or phase-outs that includes industry and the public," Environment Minister Ruth Grier said.

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