Urban Stormwater Runoff Contamination Associated with <u>Gutter and Pipe Material Us</u>

Olga Ogburn<sup>1</sup> and Robert Pitt<sup>2</sup> <sup>1</sup> Graduine Student; Civil, Construction, and Environmental Engineering Department; The University of Alabama <sup>2</sup> Ph.D., P.E., BCEE, D.WRE Cudworth Professor of Urban Water Systems; The University of Alabama

## The Goal

□ To determine how stormwater quality is affected by the type of gutter and pipe materials, environmental parameters causing degradation of the material, time of contact, and interactions of those factors.

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# **Prior Research**

- Contribution of rooftop material to runoff water quality, for example:
  - Zinc concentrations from uncoated galvanized metal ranged between 3.5 and 9.8 mg/L (Clark, Long et al., 2008).
  - Zinc concentrations from coated galvanized metal were below 0.5 mg/L (Clark, Long et al., 2008).

□ Effect of pipe material and environmental parameters on drinking water quality, for example:

 Iron concentration from PVC pipes reached 0.058 mg/L after 3 days of exposure (Lasheen M.R., Sharaby, C.M., et. al, 2008).

## **Experimental Design**

A series of long-term static leaching testsEight roof and pipe materials

Low and high pH condition

Natural storm water was collected in the city of Tuscaloosa from downspouts and from storm drain inlets.

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#### Materials:

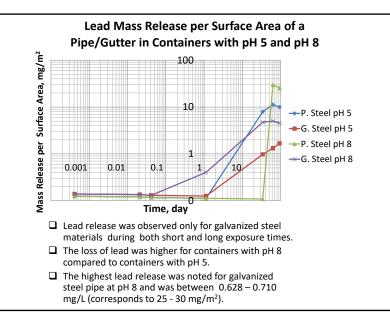
- Gutter Materials: vinyl, aluminum, copper, and galvanized steel.
- □ Pipe Materials: concrete, HDPE, PVC, and galvanized steel.
- □New materials

Concrete pipes - 15 cm long

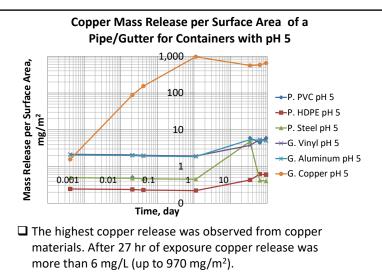
The rest of pipes - 30 cm long



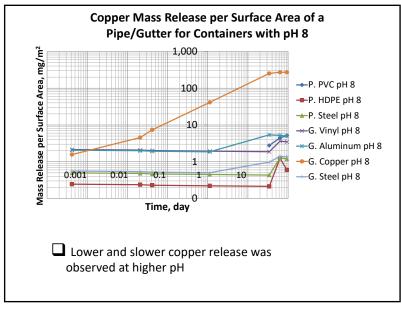
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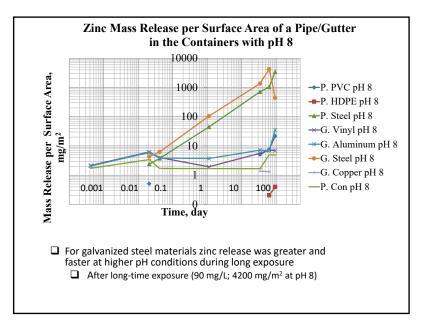


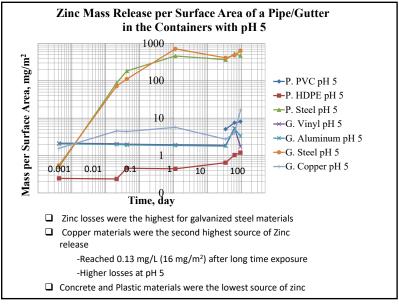
- Experimental Design
  Containers with pH values of 5 and 8 (using Na<sub>2</sub>HPO<sub>4</sub> \* 2H<sub>2</sub>O and KH<sub>2</sub>PO<sub>4</sub> to create buffers)
  Sampling times: time zero, 0.5 hr, 1 hr, 27 hr, 1 mo, 2 mo, 3 mo
  Measured Parameters:
  Metals (cadmium, chromium, lead, copper, zinc, aluminum, and iron)
  Toxicity (Microtox)
  pH
  Nutrients (ammonia nitrogen, total nitrogen, nitrate) and COD
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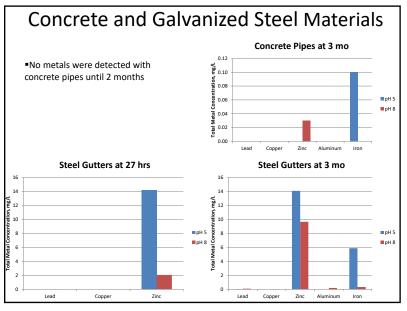


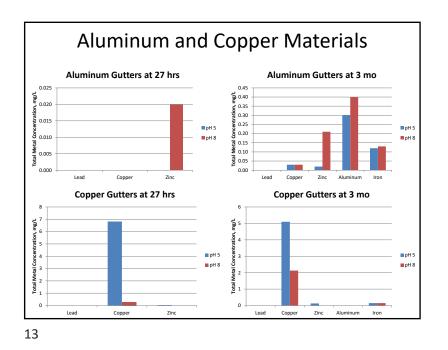
Copper release was also found in containers with other materials but in much lower concentrations.





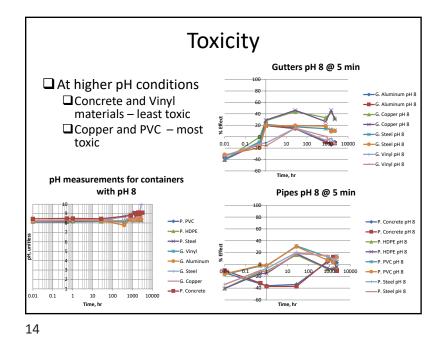






Conclusions

- The greatest source of lead, zinc, and iron were galvanized steel materials, while copper materials were the highest source of copper.
- Lead and Zinc release was detected during both short and long exposure .
- During short exposure time copper releases were detected only for copper materials at both low and high pH
- Copper and aluminum materials had the highest toxicity, while concrete materials were least toxic.



#### References

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- Lasheen M.R., C.M. Sharaby, N.G. El-Kholy, I. Y. Elsherif, S. T. El-Wakeel, 2008. Factors influencing lead and iron release from some Egyptian drinking water pipes. *Journal of Hazardous Materials*. 160 (2008) 675-680
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# Acknowledgements

NSF EPSCoR

# Thank you!

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