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Huron  
River  
Watershed  
Council

## August Update

### Toxic Chemical Discharged to the Wixom Wastewater Treatment Plant Found to be Below Levels of Concern in the Huron River.

It is with great relief that most of the hexavalent chromium solution that Tribar Technologies released into Wixom's Wastewater Treatment Plant two weeks ago did not reach the Huron River. Michigan's EGLE and DHHS, the City of Ann Arbor, Wixom and others made significant efforts to determine the timing, amount, and fate of the toxic chemical that was released between July 29 -31. Most of the hexavalent chromium was captured and retained at the wastewater treatment plant.

As a result, on August 12, the "no contact" advisory for the portion of the Huron River system between Wixom and Kent Lake was lifted. Monitoring the river sediments and water column will continue for several weeks to ensure the safety of the river and Ann Arbor's drinking water, which is sourced from the Huron River. Head to HRWC's [Hexavalent Chromium landing page](#) to track what happened and for links to the full details in EGLE's report of the spill.

While we are incredibly fortunate to have avoided what could have been a horrific ecological and human health disaster, we cannot lose sight of what ALMOST happened.



HRWC is committed to pursuing solutions that provide more protections for the Huron River and rivers throughout Michigan. We will advocate for accountability by Tribar Technologies, consider legal action with partners, push for stronger cleanup laws and demand that industry stop using hexavalent chromium. We will continue to serve as a trusted source of information during a crisis to help our community stay safe.

*Rebecca Esselman*  
Executive Director

[READ Rebecca's full post HERE](#) where you can sign a petition calling on the automotive industry to stop using hexavalent chromium and learn about polluter pay bills currently introduced in the Michigan

Legislature.

*Photo: Press event and protest at Heavner Canoe Rental, Aug. 10, 2022*

## Join us September 8 for Suds on the River!

As we consider the hard-hitting take homes of a near-disaster for the river resulting from a toxic chemical release, we are grateful for the strong and coordinated response of the larger Huron River community.

Join us on September 8, when we will raise a glass to everyone who works tirelessly to keep the river clean. Suds on the River is HRWC's annual fundraising event, and it's our time to celebrate the river, and YOU!

It's an evening under the stars with gourmet food and craft brews, live music around a campfire, fly-fishing demos, and great friends. Funds raised at Suds help support HRWC's work to respond to emerging urgent concerns like hexavalent chromium.

Join us at Suds on the River 2022, Thursday, September 8, 6-9pm at Delhi Metropark.

Visit [HRWC.org/suds](https://hrwc.org/suds) to purchase Suds tickets and for more information.

## Stay in touch with us!

Our [CALENDAR](#) lists upcoming events, volunteer opportunities and meetings.

Read our [BLOG](#) for current news.

Follow us on [TWITTER](#) or [INSTAGRAM](#), like us on [FACEBOOK](#) or check out our [YOUTUBE](#) channel.

**Donate**

You can help protect the Huron River. Every donation makes a difference.

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