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**Urban watersheds and their impact on inner city communities and communities of color.**

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Polluted watersheds are a major problem in the world today. Watersheds are defined as 'areas peripherally bound by a divide that ultimately drain to a body of water'. Examples of local watersheds are the Hudson River and the Patroon Creek. Exposure to polluted watersheds increase the risk of reproductive, developmental, endocrinal defects, and carcinogenic effects.

This study aims to determine the impact on the health of inner city communities and communities of color from a combination of the following factors: A)exposure to pollutants from the Hudson River/Patroon Creek B) lifestyle C)personal (including hereditary) health.

Assessment of knowledge, lifestyle and personal health was collected with a questionnaire among a sample of residents in the North Albany/ Arbor Hill area. Analysis of the questionnaire will culminate in the development and dissemination of culturally competent educational material to the residents of the sampled area. This material will highlight the potential health risks associated with proximity to a watershed, consumption of fish from the watershed, and recreational usage of the watershed.

