

# Tracking Chemical Pollutants



**Todd Anderson**  
Professor and Chair, Environmental Toxicology

## CURRENT RESEARCH

### Understanding where chemicals flow to protect the environment

It has become common to perceive man-made things as harmful, and natural things as innately harmless. However, chemicals harmful to our bodies such as the perchlorate, also found on Mars, are produced both commercially and naturally, and identifying the origin and the progression of these chemicals will help derive appropriate solutions. Dr. Todd Anderson, Presidential Research Excellence Professor of Environmental Toxicology at Texas Tech University, studies how fugitive chemicals, or pollutants, behave in the environment. By understanding how these pollutants move in the environment and into organisms, Dr. Anderson hopes to gain insight into their consequences and provide a solid scientific basis for people to make informed and objective decisions for themselves and the environment.

In order to address the risks associated with chemical manufacturing processes and other activities that unfortunately release harmful chemicals in the environment, Dr. Anderson focuses on the fate and transport of fugitive chemicals. His department consists of a team of 14 faculty members, creating a robust, interdisciplinary research team that is very collaborative and interactive. He and his lab of 2-4 graduate students and a postdoctoral fellow also work frequently with faculty colleagues across the university, particularly in Environmental Engineering, to examine the multiple pollutants floating in the various environmental compartments of water, air, and soil, and has even helped small businesses deal with contamination in previous research. At Texas Tech, Dr. Anderson has received the Bernie Rushing Faculty Distinguished Research Award (2018), President's Excellence in Teaching Award (2003), the...

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## AFFILIATION



Texas Tech University

## EDUCATION

- Ph.D. in Environmental Toxicology 1991, The University of Tennessee, Knoxville

## AWARDS

- Provost's Integrated Scholar, 2014
- Champion of Women in Science (COW) Award, 2009
- SERDP Environmental Restoration Research Project of the Year 2007
- Fellow, American Association for the Advancement of Science (AAAS) 2005
- Environmental Science & Technology Environmental Science Paper of the Year, 2005

## RESEARCH AREAS

Environment, Ecology

## FUNDING REQUEST

Your contributions will support Dr. Todd Anderson and his team at Texas Tech University as they study chemical pollutants in the environment. Donations will help train the next generation of scientists to address environmental issues, and support students committing their time to be mentored and to make an impact. Dr. Anderson has always maintained that he can do great things even with small amounts of funding; partner with his team to create data-driven solutions that will help make informed decisions about chemical risks.