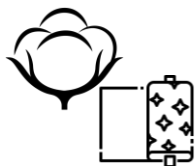


FASHION AND WATER POLLUTION: Changing The Clothing Dyeing Process

By: Klara Hupel, Brianna Klein, Douwe Johannes Borren, Aylin Yasgul, and Alex Simpson



The harmful pesticides releases high levels of toxic chemicals into bodies of water



Chemicals from dyes are released into water systems

Microfibers from washing and chemicals from dry cleaning are released into the water system



- In China about 70% of the river and lakes are contaminated by **2.5 billion gallons of wastewater** produced by the textile industry.
- Tanneries in Hazaribagh discharge about **22,000 cubic meters of untreated liquid toxic waste** into the rivers daily.
- In 2015, the fashion industry consumed nearly 80 billion cubic meters of water, which is enough to fill **32 million Olympic size swimming pools**.
- The polluted water causes about **75% of diseases and over 100,000 deaths** annually in China.



ZARA	H&M	Wrangler	Levi's	girlfriend collective
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Dumping untreated wastewater in local lakes and waterways • Impacts on health, including cases of cancer and birth deformities 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Viscose has contributed to the pollution of China's largest lake, killing all aquatic life • Water around manufacturing is undrinkable 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Indigos, foam-dyed, water free process • Reduction of chemicals • 28% recycled cotton 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • 5 discarded shirts to make new fiber • 98% less water in production • Reduced water at cotton growing stage 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Use eco-friendly dyes • Treat their dye water before releasing it • Sell products to collect micro-fibers during washing

WHICH BRANDS BUY DIRTY VISCOSE?



The part of a garments life cycle that pollutes the most water is the dyeing process

We recommend that all dyeing houses, tanneries and manufacturers that use dyes switch to eco-friendly dyes and treat the polluted water before releasing it. This change will decrease freshwater contamination and pollution, two factors that greatly affect communities surrounding dyeing plants.

The price to install a small water treatment process can cost anywhere from \$250,000 - \$2 million and a large one can cost \$25-50 million. Clothing retailers and manufacturers need to be held accountable for their impact for this change to happen.