Mine waste contains up to 70 times more lead, cadmium, and zinc than urban soils

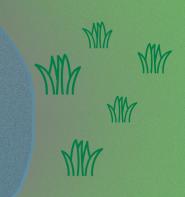
> Lead and zinc sediment concentrations exceed thresholds above which adverse health effects are expected

These trace metals travel downstream and distribute throughout the environment...

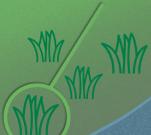
Abandoned metal mine sites contain high concentrations of toxic trace metals, such as lead, cadmium, and zinc

While lead and zinc sediment concentrations are halved 4 km downstream, they still exceed

the expected adverse health effects thresholds



Grasses growing in fields downstream of mine sites have lead concentrations that exceed safe animal forage thresholds



And contaminating food products



Eating more than three eggs a day risks adverse health effects



Eating more than two rhubarb stems a day risks adverse health effects

Posing a toxic threat to animals



Average blood lead concentration is more than 7 times higher than the lead toxicity threshold



Average bone lead concentration is more than 80 times higher than that of control mice



Developed a lead-associated respiratory disease, and had tissue lead levels indicative of toxicity