

1,2-Dichloropropane (C₃H₆Cl₂)

What is 1,2-Dichloropropane?

1,2-Dichloropropane is a colorless, flammable liquid with a chloroform-like odor. It is moderately soluble in water and readily evaporates into the air. It does not occur naturally in the environment.

It has been used as a soil fumigant, chemical intermediate, and industrial solvent and was found in paint strippers, varnishes, and furniture finish removers. Most of these uses have been discontinued. Today, almost all of the 1,2-dichloropropane is used as a chemical intermediate to make polyethylene and several other related chlorinated chemicals.

Does 1,2-Dichloropropane have any additional names?

1,2-DCP

What are the known health effects?

Some people who drink water containing 1,2-Dichloropropane in excess of the MCL over many years may have an increased risk of getting cancer.

How does exposure occur?

Most people are not likely to be exposed to 1,2-Dichloropropane because of its limited use. People who live near a waste site containing 1,2-Dichloropropane could be exposed by drinking contaminated ground water, breathing vapors released to the air, or getting contaminated soil on their skin.

Is this contaminant regulated?

Yes, and water supplied to Mount Laurel MUA customers is in compliance with USEPA and NJDEP requirements. The maximum concentration of 1,2-Dichloropropane permitted in drinking water is 5 ppb; 1,2-Dichloropropane is not currently detected in water supplied to MLTMUA customers.

How can I reduce exposure?

1,2-Dichloropropane can be removed from drinking water by Granulated Activated Carbon filtration or reverse osmosis.

Additional information regarding 1,2-Dichloropropane, including the information referenced, can be found at:

<https://www.atsdr.cdc.gov/toxprofiles/tp134.pdf>

https://cfpub.epa.gov/ncea/iris/iris_documents/documents/subst/0601_summary.pdf