



Get ready for Earth Month! April is Earth Month and we are very excited to announce Dr. Roman Lanno, OSU Associate Professor, as the April speaker for Columbus Science Pub.

Roman received his PhD in 1991 in Canada at the University of Waterloo studying the toxic effects of thiocyanate and cyanide on freshwater fish. In the 90s he worked at OSU - Oklahoma State University that is, as director of the Water Quality Research Laboratory. Now, as an Associate Professor at our OSU and the Associate Director of the Subsurface Energy Resource Center, Roman is interested in the effects of chemical exposure both on land and in water so he has a lot of research projects. So many projects, in fact, that he can't decide what to talk about all on his own! He has narrowed it down to 4 choices and is leaving it up to you to vote. Voting will happen at science pub by a show of hands after a brief introduction of topics which could include:

- 1) Function of the federal EPA-what does the EPA actually do? What the implications of down-sizing or abolishing the EPA might actually have on environmental and human health?
- 2) Environmental effects of hydraulic fracturing – As usual, the truth may lie somewhere between the environmental catastrophe claimed by environmental groups and the “trust us, it's safe” attitude of industry.
- 3) Plastics in the environment (from micro to macro) – A recent addition to environmental worries, or not? Plastics are pervasive in the environment, even more than people thought, but are they actually a problem and are all plastics the same?
- 4) How are environmental quality guidelines (e.g., Pb in drinking water, as in Flint, MI) developed? – This is part of what the EPA does, develop and set environmental quality guidelines, including drinking water standards.