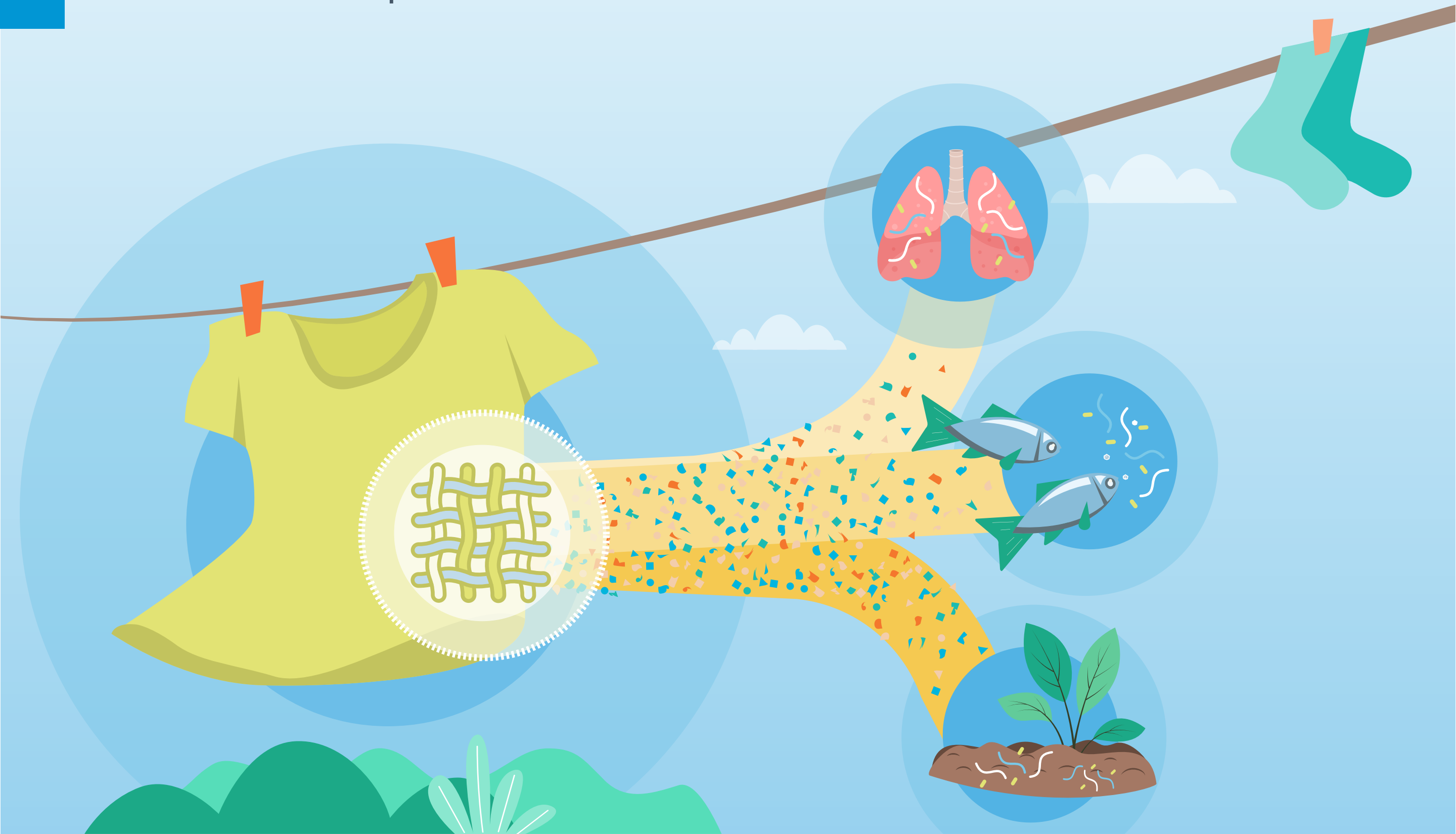


Microplastics from clothes

Synthetic clothing fibres such as polyester, nylon, acrylic, or elastane are made from plastic polymers. These plastics can shed and break down into microplastics when clothes are made, washed, or thrown away - even just simply wearing the product can shed microplastics.



Recommendation



Introduce performance-based limits on microplastics loss for clothing, based on standardised test methods, e.g. ISO 4484.

Ecodesign measures to prevent and reduce microplastic emissions from apparel

Pre-washing clothes

Textiles shed microplastics the most during early washes due to the release of loose fibres.



Recommendation



Mandate industrial pre-washing before clothing is placed on the EU market. Manufacturing facilities should have functioning effluent treatment plants, with appropriate sludge disposal, to capture microplastics from wastewater.

Ecodesign measures to prevent and reduce microplastic emissions from apparel

Plastic in our clothes

Consumers are not always aware if their clothes are made of plastic and that microplastics can shed during everyday wear.



Recommendation



Clothing made with synthetic fibres must display mandatory labelling to explain that products are made from plastic and can release microplastics.

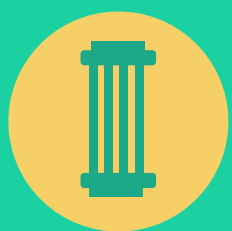
Ecodesign measures to prevent and reduce microplastic emissions from apparel

Washing at home

Microplastics can shed when agitated during washing and enter wastewater systems.



Recommendation



Install microplastic filters in washing machines.

Ecodesign measures to prevent and reduce microplastic emissions from apparel