Tox Town PowerPoint Presentation: Script
September 2006

Overview:
 The purpose of this PowerPoint demonstration is to introduce users to the Tox Town
 Web site for teachers and students at the high school and college level and the
 interested public.

Talking Points	On-Screen
INTRODUCTION Introduce yourself.	Slide 1 (Title Page)
Tox Town introduces users to toxic chemicals and environmental health risks encountered in every day life. There are four "scenes" to choose from – town, city, US-Mexico border, or the newest - farm.	Slide 2
The primary target audience is educators, students middle school level and above, and the general public. Tox Town can be used for enrichment of regular curriculum or for homework help and projects.	Slide 3
First, the scene includes information on toxic chemicals that you might encounter in everyday places (you can see some of the chemicals listed across the bottom).	Slide 4
Notice that there are several ways to navigate your way through the City. You can click on several of the locations within the city scene such as the school or factory, or you can click on the name of a location or chemical at the bottom of the screen to see where it might appear in the environment. There is also sound as you hover over different elements on the screen. The sound can be turned off if preferred. The menu on the right-hand side offers several choices of information to explore related to "Pests". The City repeats some of the same environmental concerns seen in the Town, like drinking water, but has new locations like brownfields, construction, and air travel.	Slide 5
Some of the locations that are unique to the Farm scene are: urban sprawl, logging, barns and silos, and large scale animal feeding operations. Again some of the same environmental concerns like outdoor air and drinking water are repeated.	Slide 6
New locations in this scene include: auto shop; trash burning; illegal tire dumps; factories along the border called maquiladoras; and colonias – housing developments that lack city services.	Slide 7

These are just some of the health concerns addressed in Tox Town.	Slide 8
Chlorine, Diesel, Ethylene Glycol, Formaldehyde, Gasoline, Natural Gas, PCBs, Perchloroethylene, Propane, and Solvents have recently been added.	Slide 9
This is an example of a real life situation where mercury was taken from a Washington, DC school science lab in 2003.	Slide 10
Tox Town provides unbiased, authoritative information with appropriate reading levels for middle school and high school students.	Slide 11
When you point the mouse to Mercury, Tox Town displays labels showing where mercury might be found. A one line description of mercury is also given.	Slide 12
When you click on Mercury – you will see a page of links.	Slide 13
Users can look at "What is Mercury" to get basic information and a description of mercury.	Slide 14
You can also click on the Mercury page from MedlinePlus. MedlinePlus is a great compilation of consumer level materials. MedlinePlus, from NLM, has over 700 health topic pages in English and Spanish. About 40 are on environmental health concerns.	Slide 15
More examples of Mercury information from EPA, Purdue University.	Slide 16
When you roll over Mercury on the chemical list, Tox Town shows where one can find mercury in the town. The school is labeled so you can click on mercury and see where it might be found – in the science lab or possibly as a contaminant in drinking water. On this inside view of the school, you can scroll over a chemical on this list and its possible location will be shown by the blinking red bull's eye.	Slide 17
Resources are also available in Spanish.	Slide 18
At this point, it might be fun to pass out some questions. Your task will be to use Tox Town to find the answers. We can then share our search results. [Note to presenter: develop your own questions or you can use the questions and search strategies listed in the Activities section of the Tox Town Teacher page.]	Slides 19 – 26

Feel free to contact the Specialized Information Services Division, National Library of Medicine if you have any questions.	Slide 27