

Mythbusting: Little understood facts to calm chemophobia

All too often the use of the word “chemicals” in the [news](#), in [advertising](#) and in common usage has the implication that they are bad. You never hear about chemicals that fight infections, help crops grow or lubricate engines. That is because the chemicals doing that job are called antibiotics, fertilisers and engine oil, respectively.

As a result of the emotive language often used in conjunction with “chemicals”, a series of myths have emerged. Myths that [Sense about Science](#) and the [Royal Society of Chemistry](#) are debunking with the publication of Making Sense of Chemical Stories. Here are five of the worst offenders.

1. You can lead a chemical-free life

Despite the many products that claim otherwise, using the term “chemical-free” is [plain nonsense](#). Everything, including the air we breathe, the food we eat and the drinks we consume, is made of chemicals. It doesn't matter if you live off the land, following entirely organic farming practises or are a city-dweller consuming just processed food, either way your surroundings and diet consists of nothing but chemicals.

The GLP aggregated and excerpted this blog/article to reflect the diversity of news, opinion and analysis. Read full, original post: [The truth about the chemicals you breathe, eat and drink](#)