



UFZ-Seminar

Research Unit



Water Resources and Environment



16 May 2019, 3 p.m.

Seminar Room 1, Brückstr. 3a, Magdeburg

Eric von Elert

University of Cologne

will give a talk on:

Decoding the scent of death: Chemical communication among fish and *Daphnia*

by Eric von Elert, Christoph Effertz & Meike Hahn

Predation is a major force structuring aquatic communities. It is therefore highly adaptive for prey to perceive the presence of predators. In zooplankton, the perception of predators largely is achieved by infochemicals released by fish. In my talk, I will focus on *Daphnia*, which has become a textbook example for inducible defences against predators.

Infochemicals released from fish induce spectacular changes in behaviour, life-history and in the phenotype of *Daphnia*. Each of these inducible defences comes with costs. In this talk I will illustrate how *Daphnia* co-ordinate the onset of these various defences in order to avoid multiple costs without additional benefits. And I will shed light on the chemical identity of the hitherto unknown infochemical released from fish.