



Initiative on Children's Environmental Health of the Collaborative on Health and the Environment



Biweekly Bulletin August 26, 2009

This bulletin lists upcoming events plus recent announcements, news and journal articles, calls for proposals and other items related to children's environmental health. They are archived and searchable on our website:

http://www.healthandenvironment.org/working_groups/childrens_health/bulletins.

ICEH Highlights

Children's Environmental Health Forum

Early bird registration for the October 1 - 2 forum in Tukwila, Washington, continues through September 9th. Proposals for abstracts for posters at the forum will be accepted until September 4th. Speakers include many regional experts and the following national leaders:

- Ted Schettler, MD, MPH, Science & Environmental Health Network
- Bruce Lanphear, MD, MPH, Simon Frazier University
- Michael Skinner, PhD, Washington State University
- Shanna Swan, PhD, University of Rochester



Moderators include Elise Miller, MEd, formerly executive director of the Institute for Children's Environmental Health and currently the director of the Collaborative on Health and the Environment. Visit the [forum web page](#) for more information.

Upcoming Events

Online Calendar. These and more upcoming events are listed in a searchable calendar: <http://www.healthandenvironment.org/cgi-bin/searchevents.cgi>

1) Facilitation Skills for Scientists and Resource Managers

Tuesday through Thursday, September 1 - 3, 2009

8:30 a.m. - 5:00 p.m.

Sacramento, California

at the Hilton Sacramento Arden West, 2200 Harvard Street

Sponsor: EOS Alliance

This course is intended to be a practical approach to improving group meetings. It is oriented specifically to the needs of scientists and resource managers. After core facilitation skills are practiced, the class will be tailored to the students' development needs. Participants will be asked to complete a pre-workshop skills profile. Students are presented with a wide array of tools and opportunities to practice new facilitation skills. The class includes continuing education units.

Price: \$695, or \$595 for Native American tribes; government employees; nonprofits; students; and NAEP, NEBC, NWAEP members

[Visit the website](#)

Contact: Northwest Environmental Training Center, 206-762-1976

2) National Breastfeeding Conference

Friday through Sunday, September 4 - 6, 2009
Canberra, Australian Capital Territory Australia

Sponsor: Australian Lactation Consultants Association Ltd (ALCA)

The topic for this conference is "Breastfeeding: A Key Public Health Issue." More information will be made available at the website below.

Price: unknown

[Visit the website](#)

Contact: Jennifer James, info@alca.asn.au

3) 2009 Southeast Symposium: Children's Environmental Health

Tuesday and Wednesday, September 8 - 9, 2009

noon - 5:30 p.m. on Tuesday and 8:00 a.m. - 5:00 p.m. on Wednesday

Atlanta, Georgia

at Rita Anne Rollins Room, Eighth Floor, Rollins School of Public Health, Emory University, 1518 Clifton Road

Sponsor: Southeast Pediatric Environmental Health Specialty Unit at Emory University; collaborating agencies are US Environmental Protection Agency, Region 4; Department of Health & Human Services; Centers for Disease Control and Prevention; and Agency for Toxic Substances and Disease Registry

The topic for Tuesday is "Break the Cycle of Environmental Health Disparities", and Wednesday's topic is "Safe and Healthy School Environments." Speakers include Howard Frumkin, MD, MPH, DrPH; Leslie Rubin, MD; Robert Geller, MD; Robert O. Wright, MD, MPH, and many others.

Price: Tuesday's session is free; Wednesday's session is \$30 and includes lunch and materials

[Visit the website](#)

4) Environmental Awareness: Maintaining a Green Planet

Wednesday September 9, 2009

6:30 - 8:00 p.m.

Milwaukee, Wisconsin

at the Milwaukee LGBT Community Center

Sponsor: Milwaukee LGBT (Lesbian, Gay, Bisexual and Transgender) Community Center

This first session is titled "Series Introduction: The Environmentally Friendly Home", and the topic for the October 21st session is "Healthy, Earth-Friendly Interiors." Monthly sessions are being scheduled at least through August 2010. Each workshop session will provide participants with a site tour of a facility or examination of products, a question-and-answer period, a special hands-on activity, and resource and referral lists. Sessions will be limited to twenty participants on a first-registered, first-served basis.

Price: free

[Visit the website](#)

Contact: Patrick Price, 414-292-3065 or pprice@mkelgbt.org

5) A Critical Link: The Environment and Women's Health

Thursday September 10, 2009

9:00 a.m. - 5:00 p.m.

Burlington, Vermont

at Main Street Landing Performing Arts Center

Sponsor: Planned Parenthood of Northern New England with funding from Seventh

Generation, Main Street Landing Performing Arts Center, Planned Parenthood Federation of America, The John Merck Fund and The Ceres Trust

In recent years there has been an increased awareness of the connections between environmental contaminants, fertility, and health - and a growing body of evidence supporting these concerns that link reduced fertility to pregnancy loss, adverse birth outcomes, reproductive tract abnormalities, learning disabilities in children, and various cancers to environmental contaminants. It is becoming increasingly clear to those of us who work for women's health that we must begin to turn our attention to the environmental toxicants that are affecting the ability of couples to become pregnant, have a healthy pregnancy, and give birth to healthy children. At Planned Parenthood of Northern New England, we feel a responsibility as a health-care organization to help our patients and communities make the link between human health and the products we put in our bodies, and in our homes and schools. The keynote address will be given by Dr. Sandra Steingraber.

Price: \$60, students \$35, \$80 if CEUs are awarded.

[Visit the website](#)

Contact: see [the contact page](#)

6) 7th Annual Children's Environmental Health Conference

Friday September 11, 2009

Baltimore, Maryland

at the Mt. Washington Conference Center

Sponsor: Mid-Atlantic Center for Children's Health and the Environment (MACCHE)

This conference enables MACCHE to advance its goals of working with regional partners to mitigate the adverse impact of environmental pollutants on the health of children within the Mid Atlantic states and beyond.

Price: unknown

[Visit the website](#)

7) Saving Our Kids, Healing Our Planet

Saturday and Sunday, September 12 - 13, 2009

Newark, New Jersey

at the University of Medicine and Dentistry New Jersey Medical School

Sponsor: University of Medicine and Dentistry of New Jersey, The Autism Center, The Institute for Complementary and Alternative Medicine, Vital Interventions Accessible

Saving Our Kids, Healing Our Planet is at the forefront of a new movement focused on sustainable living practices and safe and effective methods for preventing and recovering our children from ADHD, autism, allergies, asthma, obesity, diabetes etc. It is a forum where parents, teachers, therapists and physicians gather and learn from leading experts about safe and effective methods for preventing and treating many of the chronic conditions affecting our children today. Continuing education credits are available.

Price: \$10 in advance or \$15 at the door; children 15 and under are free

[Visit the website](#)

Contact: Maureen McDonnell, RN, 609-240-1315

8) 46th Congress of the European Societies of Toxicology

Sunday through Wednesday, September 13 - 16, 2009

Dresden, Germany

at the MARITIM Hotel & International Congress Center Dresden

Sponsor: European Societies of Toxicology

The EUROTOX Scientific Programme Committee has prepared an attractive scientific programme which covers all important and relevant topics in the field of toxicology.

Price: see [the registration page](#)

[Visit the website](#)

9) Ninth International Healthy Buildings Conference and Exhibition

Sunday through Thursday, September 13 - 17, 2009

Syracuse, New York

at the Oncenter Complex

Sponsor: International Society of Indoor Air Quality and Climate, Syracuse Center of Excellence in Environmental and Energy Systems

This conference will provide a forum for exchange of leading research and technology developments, a unique opportunity to share information on your company's innovative products and services, and an extraordinary venue to network with national and global leaders and professionals in the fields of indoor air quality and healthy built environments.

Price: see the [registration page](#)

[Visit the website](#)

Contact: see the [Contacts page](#)

10) A Tale of Three Neurotoxins: Lead, Tobacco, and Maternal Depression

Tuesday September 15, 2009

2:00 - 3:00 p.m. Eastern time

Sponsor: American Association on Intellectual and Developmental Disabilities' Environmental Health Initiative

This presentation reviews what is known, and what we recognize that we still do not know, about the effects of low-level lead exposure, prenatal tobacco and postnatal secondhand smoke exposure, and maternal depression on child behavior and development. Although the research and knowledge bases concerning these extremely common childhood exposures with extensive negative effects have developed separately, with different investigators and publications in disparate literatures and fields, their epidemiology (distribution, determinants and consequences) are quite similar, and even more worrisome, they tend to cluster and co-occur in the same children. At the end of this presentation the audience will have a much better appreciation of the risks for being exposed to, and the consequences of each of these exposures, as well as strategies for prevention and treatment. The speaker will be Michael Weitzman, MD, professor of pediatrics and psychiatry at New York University School of Medicine.

Price: free

[Visit the website](#)

Contact: Laura Abulafia, Laura@aaidd.org

11) Healthy Homes Conference

Tuesday through Thursday, September 15 - 17, 2009

Boise, Idaho

at the WGI Auditorium, 720 Park Boulevard

Sponsor: Idaho Healthy Homes Network

The Healthy Homes Conference brings together presenters to discuss the connection between health and housing and how to take a comprehensive approach to identify and resolve problems; new federal regulations requiring control of lead-based paint hazards

during renovation, repair and painting; special considerations for children's health; health concerns related to housing, including radon and mold; public and private program funding for health and housing programs; housing code development and enforcement; relationship between green, energy-efficient and healthy housing; collaboration between health, housing and environmental professionals to develop state and local healthy homes programs. The conference is designed for professionals or students working in the areas of affordable housing, community service delivery, and environmental public health; people who provide health or inspection services of any type; agency, department, and division heads; child-care providers; Head Start agencies; community police officers; code officials; builders/renovators and others

Price: \$36

[Visit the website](#)

12) Biology and Control of Insects and Rodents

Monday and Tuesday September 21 - 22, 2009

Okoboji, Iowa

at the Arrowwood Resort & Conference Center

Sponsor: Environmental Health Services Branch of CDC's National Center for Environmental Health

This program includes lecture and group discussion on the biology of insects and rodents of public health significance; effective physical and chemical insect and rodent control methods (including integrated pest and sanitation management); and insect and rodent-borne diseases of public health significance, including possible Bio-terror agents. This course is offered as a preconference workshop for the Region IV NEHA Conference. Deadline to register is September 4th.

Price: free

[Visit the website](#)

Contact: Susan Jerles, sjerles@neha.org

13) Fifth International Conference on the Impact of Environmental Factors on Health

Monday through Wednesday, September 21 - 23, 2009

New Forest, England United Kingdom

at the Wessex Institute, Ashurst Lodge

Sponsor: Wessex Institute of Technology: Transactions on Biomedicine and Health

Health problems related to the environment have become a major source of concern all over the world. The conference aims to provide a forum for the dissemination and exchange of information on the diverse aspects of the impact of environmental factors on health across different disciplines.

Price: unknown

[Visit the website](#)

Contact: Rachel Swinburn, 44-0-238-029-3223 or rswinburn@wessex.ac.uk

14) North American Congress of Clinical Toxicology

Monday through Saturday, September 21 - 26, 2009

San Antonio, Texas

at the Grand Hyatt

Sponsor: American Academy of Clinical Toxicology, American Association of Poison Control Centers

This annual conference provides an opportunity for physicians, pharmacists, nurses and

scientists from around the world to participate in the sharing of information on a wide variety of toxicological issues. In addition to platform and poster sessions, the program will offer a number of symposia, workshops, as well as other traditional and novel special sessions.

Price: unknown

[Visit the website](#)

Contact: 800-377-7707 or nacct@cforums.com

15) 2009 Region IV NEHA Conference

Wednesday and Thursday, September 23 - 24, 2009

Okoboji, Iowa

at the Arrowwood Resort & Conference Center

Sponsor: National Environmental Health Association Region 4, Iowa Environmental Health Association

This conference offers two days of continuing education and networking opportunities for environmental health professionals. Conference tracks and sessions include food safety, housing and health, disinfection, environmental public health tracking and more.

Price: see the [registration form](#)

[Visit the website](#)

16) 2009 Rachel Carson Legacy Conference

Friday September 25, 2009

Pittsburgh, Pennsylvania

at the Bidwell Training Center, 1815 Metropolitan Street

Sponsor: The Rachel Carson Homestead Association

The conference theme is "When Chemicals Disrupt: Managing Our Risks." This conference will address the dichotomy between critical protection of the environment (and our bodies and those of the next generations) from endocrine disrupting contaminants and the unbridled economic interest of those who produce substances which directly or indirectly act as endocrine or developmental disruptors. We seek an open dialogue with the objective of identifying a set of mechanisms that can have rapid effect on the control of endocrine disrupting substances flowing into the environment as bio-accumulating contaminants. Mounting scientific evidence on a global scale compels immediate and effective action. However, there is widespread disagreement on the best course of action, and in particular, on the role of regulation in accomplishing change. The conference will approach the topic of endocrine disruptors in three parts: policy, science and remedies. Speakers to date include Linda Birnbaum, PhD, MPH; Terry Collins, Ken Cook and many others.

Price: \$90; preregistration and prepayment is required

[Visit the website](#)

Announcements & Articles

A daily news feed with these articles and announcements is now available on CHE's website: <http://www.healthandenvironment.org/news/announce>.

Casting Call for 'Planet Green.'

This project is a grassroots "how to" show on busting illegal polluters and other perpetrators of environmental crime: How to identify possible crimes; how to investigate, monitor and collect evidence against the perpetrators; and how to bring that evidence to the proper authorities for enforcement, or bring a citizens lawsuit against the offender under the Clean Water Act, Clean Air Act, etc. We are looking for candidates who live within the greater metropolitan New York or Los Angeles areas, and we are looking for

them as soon as possible. Contact David Kirby immediately with a bio and a head shot: dkirby@nyc.rr.com

[Job opening: Washington, DC.](#)

The nationally accredited journalism program of The School of Communication at American University is seeking an experienced journalist with a strong record/expertise in health, science, and/or environmental journalism for a tenure-track position beginning in August 2010.

[Job opening: Richmond, California.](#)

Sequoia Foundation is seeking a full-time project coordinator for the California Environmental Contaminant Biomonitoring Program (CECBP) within the California Department of Public Health. The project coordinator will coordinate a variety of complex administrative activities to be conducted by the collaborating groups under a federally funded grant.

[Job opening: Richmond, California.](#)

Sequoia Foundation is seeking a full-time field investigations coordinator (FIC) for the California Environmental Contaminant Biomonitoring Program (CECBP) within the California Department of Public Health. The FIC will facilitate and manage a variety of biomonitoring field investigations to be conducted by the CECBP under a federally funded grant.

[Smart Guide: Hormones in the Food System](#)

The Institute for Agriculture and Trade Policy has released a new Smart Guide examining the prevalence of synthetic hormones in the food system -- and the risks such hormones may pose to human health.

[Request for comments: Perchlorate regulatory determination.](#)

EPA is considering a broad range of alternatives for interpreting the available data on the level of health concern, the frequency of occurrence of perchlorate in drinking water, and the opportunity for health-risk reduction through a national primary drinking water standard. The agency specifically requests comment upon alternative approaches for considering perchlorate exposure to different life stages and sensitive populations including pregnant women and children. EPA will consider the comments before making a final regulatory determination for perchlorate. Comments must be received on or before September 18, 2009.

[CDC Environmental Public Health Leadership Institute applications open.](#)

EPHLI is a one-year program of seminars and workshops, special projects and individual study. Each year, approximately 30 practicing environmental public health professionals participate. Applications for the class of 2010-2011 will be accepted until October 31, 2009.

[EPA seeks comment on options to reduce air pollution coming from Four Corners power plants.](#)

The US Environmental Protection Agency is seeking public comment on its technical analysis and options for reducing air pollution from two power plants in the Four Corners area that affect air quality and visibility at nearby national parks, wilderness areas, and national monuments.

[Housekeeping channel partnership to improve home cleanliness and health.](#)

The Housekeeping Channel (HC) and the National Environmental Health Association (NEHA) have announced a collaboration that will bring consumers the research necessary to help them make informed decisions to keep their homes clean and healthy.

[EPA makes preliminary toxics release data available to the public.](#)

The US Environmental Protection Agency has published preliminary data on the release of toxic chemicals occurring in the United States between Jan.1 and Dec. 31, 2008.

[The Researcher's Perspective.](#)

Environmental Health Perspectives now publishes a new podcast series, "The

Researcher's Perspective." Hear about the motivation and vision behind the research as well as the implications for human health -- all direct from the source.

[CHEJ releases PVC-free back-to-school guide.](#)

CHEJ has created a Back-to-School Guide to PVC-Free School Supplies to empower you to make smarter, healthier shopping choices for a toxic-free future. There's also a wallet-sized version of the guide. Center for Health, Environment & Justice.

[Call for proposals: Materials Management Assistance Grants.](#)

The U.S. Environmental Protection Agency (EPA), Region 10 is soliciting proposals to fund projects that address solid waste reduction, stewardship and materials management. Proposals are due October 5, 2009, and an informational webinar will be held on Thursday September 17, 2009.

[Call for proposals: Pesticide Safety Program.](#)

EPA's Office of Pesticide Programs (OPP) is soliciting applications to support a national and international pesticide safety program to assess and develop health and safety programs aimed at reducing exposure to pesticides for agricultural workers, pesticide applicators, growers, health providers, pesticide producers and retailers, as well as local, state, national and international organizations and government agencies, and other members of the agricultural community. Applications are due October 2, 2009.

[Call for proposals: Brownfields Assessment, Revolving Loan Fund and Cleanup Grant.](#)

These grants may be used to address sites contaminated by petroleum and hazardous substances, pollutants, or contaminants (including hazardous substances co-mingled with petroleum). The proposal deadline is October 16, 2009. US Environmental Protection Agency.

[Brain experts check suntan nanos.](#)

Tuesday, August 25, 2009

University of Ulster scientists are to examine a link between some man-made nanoparticles, such as those found in sunscreens, and Alzheimer's disease. BBC.

[Nicotine in cars adds support for ban against smoking and driving: study.](#)

Tuesday, August 25, 2009

Nicotine levels are "strikingly higher" in smokers' cars than in non-smokers' vehicles, and even exceed those found in public or private indoor spaces where tobacco use is allowed, a study has found. Canadian Press.

[No mercury in most children's vaccines.](#)

Monday, August 24, 2009

After hearing the warnings about the mercury we ingest when eating fish, it might seem like a bad idea to use mercury in vaccines. But some scientists say that the mercury used with some vaccines is much different than the methyl mercury that comes from fish. Pittsburgh Post-Gazette, Pennsylvania.

[See a related article: [Gulf War toxins in swine flu vaccine](#)]

[Radioactive wreckage, landmines blight Iraq: minister.](#)

Monday, August 24, 2009

Radioactive wreckage and tens of millions of landmines still blight Iraq after decades of war and the deadly violence that engulfed the nation after the 2003 invasion, the environment minister has said. Agence France-Presse.

[Impact of energy intake, physical activity, and population-wide weight loss on cardiovascular disease and diabetes mortality in Cuba, 1980-2005.](#)

Sunday, August 23, 2009

Results suggest that population-wide measures designed to reduce energy stores, without affecting nutritional sufficiency, may lead to declines in diabetes and cardiovascular disease prevalence and mortality. American Journal of Epidemiology.

[Illinois pollution enforcement hampered by politics.](#)

Sunday, August 23, 2009

Toxic sludge oozed out of rusty barrels, soaked through cardboard boxes and spilled over frothy vats inside a west suburban warehouse raided by state inspectors in January 2008. Even though the Illinois EPA had plenty of evidence to file charges, top agency officials sat on the case for more than a year. Chicago Tribune, Illinois.

[Clock ticks down on a deadly chemical stockpile.](#)

Sunday, August 23, 2009

The aging arsenal at the Blue Grass Army Depot contains 523 tons of liquid VX and sarin -- lethal nerve agents produced during the Cold War -- and mustard, a blister agent that caused horrific casualties in World War I. Los Angeles Times, California. 23 August 2009.

[Getting the lead out.](#)

Sunday, August 23, 2009

Some of Evansville's oldest and poorest neighborhoods are on the verge of becoming a Superfund site targeted for a widespread cleanup of soils contaminated with lead from the smokestacks of factories long gone. Evansville Courier & Press, Indiana.

[BPA industry fights back.](#)

Sunday, August 23, 2009

Faced with the prospects of tighter government regulation of bisphenol A, the industry has launched an unprecedented public relations blitz that uses many of the same tactics -- and people -- the tobacco industry used in its decades-long fight against regulation. Milwaukee Journal Sentinel, Wisconsin.

[Debating how much weed killer is safe in your water glass.](#)

Saturday, August 22, 2009

New research suggests that atrazine may be dangerous at lower concentrations than previously thought. Recent studies suggest that, even at concentrations meeting current federal standards, the chemical may be associated with birth defects, low birth weights and menstrual problems. New York Times.

[See related articles : [Lawsuit questions safety of herbicide](#) and [Atrazine acts in the brain to disrupt the hormones that trigger ovulation](#)]

[Research shows why low Vitamin D raises heart disease risks in diabetics.](#)

Saturday, August 22, 2009

Diabetics deficient in vitamin D can't process cholesterol normally, so it builds up in their blood vessels, increasing the risk of heart attack and stroke. Washington University in St. Louis.

[Cholesterol in fried foods worse for arteries.](#)

Saturday, August 22, 2009

Cholesterol that is oxidized in foods by frying or other high-heat cooking methods may be substantially worse for the arteries, according to results of an animal study. MedPage Today.

[Chips and science out of sync.](#)

Saturday, August 22, 2009

Mobile phone shields can be expensive and do little to protect people from radiation. Sydney Australian, Australia.

[Minorities underrepresented in EPA outreach on Dow dioxin.](#)

Friday, August 21, 2009

Black and Latino residents are less likely to know about dioxin fish advisories but more likely to fish for and eat the most contaminated varieties of fish such as catfish and carp. Michigan Messenger, Michigan.

[See a related article about industrial pollution's effects on a minority community: [The fire this time](#)]

[What is wrong with estrogen-mimicking hormones?](#)

Friday, August 21, 2009

A host of common chemicals is feminizing males of every class of vertebrate animals,

from fish to mammals, including humans. Collingwood Enterprise Bulletin, Ontario.
[See a related article: [The new normal in puberty](#)]

[Cigarette packaging may still mislead consumers.](#)

Friday, August 21, 2009

While many countries have banned terms like "light" and "low-tar" from cigarette packs, other aspects of the products' packaging may also be misleading consumers, a new study suggests. Reuters Health.

[CDC: Lead dust in cars source of kids' poisoning.](#)

Friday, August 21, 2009

Some childhood lead poisonings in Maine last year came from an unusual source -- lead dust tracked into the family car. Government health officials said Thursday the six cases are the first ever attributed to lead dust on childhood safety seats. Associated Press.

[California unveils new goal for controversial carcinogen in water.](#)

Friday, August 21, 2009

In a long-awaited move designed to protect people from cancer, California officials on Thursday proposed a new health goal for chromium 6 in drinking water that is thousands of times lower than the amount contaminating some water supplies. The recommendation culminates a decade of debate among scientists trying to decide what concentration is safe to drink. Environmental Health News.

[Green groups sue Chevron Phillips over pollution.](#)

Thursday, August 20, 2009

Two environmental groups have filed a lawsuit against Chevron Phillips Chemical Co LP over alleged violations of the U.S. Clean Air Act at its Cedar Bayou plant, located east of Houston, representatives of the groups said on Wednesday. Reuters.

[Doing more harm than good.](#)

Thursday, August 20, 2009

Why let hazardous, toxic, and even carcinogenic chemicals into your home every day? Here is a list of the 10 products to ban from your home forever, along with suggested alternatives. Vancouver North Shore News, British Columbia.

[Sharp rise in liver cancer blamed on binge drinking and obesity.](#)

Thursday, August 20, 2009

Cases of liver cancer have tripled over the last three decades, according to figures published today by Britain's leading cancer charity. London Guardian, United Kingdom.

[Candle use linked to cancer risk.](#)

Thursday, August 20, 2009

South Carolina State University experts analysed the fumes released by burning candles in lab tests. They found paraffin wax candles gave off harmful fumes linked to lung cancer and asthma -- but admitted it would take many years' use to risk health. BBC.

[Scientists uncover new ocean threat from plastics.](#)

Thursday, August 20, 2009

Scientists have identified a new source of pollution released by the huge amounts of plastic rubbish floating in the oceans of the world. A study has found that as plastics break down in the sea they release potentially toxic substances [such as bisphenol A polystyrene-based (PS) oligomers] not found in nature. London Independent, United Kingdom.

[Mercury contaminates all fish tested in river study, U.S. says.](#)

Thursday, August 20, 2009

Mercury contaminated every fish studied in 291 U.S. streams and rivers tested by scientists, and one in four had levels unsafe for people who eat average amounts of fish, a government report said today. Bloomberg News.

[See related articles: [Great Salt Lake stands out -- for mercury pollution](#), [Two studies show extent of mercury in environment and how it becomes toxic](#) and [DEQ to help polluter seek federal break on mercury emission](#)]

[Discontinued pajama flame retardant detected in baby products and house dust.](#)

Thursday, August 20, 2009

The new paper documents the presence of tris(1,3-dichloro-2-propyl) phosphate (TDCPP or TDCP) in the foam padding of products intended for use by children, as well as in dust from U.S. homes. Environmental Science & Technology.

[Urogenital abnormalities in men exposed to diethylstilbestrol in utero: a cohort study.](#)

Wednesday, August 19, 2009

These results indicate that prenatal exposure to DES increases risk of male urogenital abnormalities and that the association is strongest for exposure that occurs early in gestation. Environmental Health.

[Ill by mouth: smokeless tobacco risks multiply.](#)

Wednesday, August 19, 2009

The discovery of a new range of cancer-causing chemicals [PAHs] in smokeless tobacco has backed up advice that it's not a "safe" alternative to cigarettes. New Scientist, United Kingdom.

[Back to school - and healthy, too.](#)

Tuesday, August 18, 2009

As a parent you do your best to make sure your child stays safe and healthy at home...then you send them off the school and hope for the best. The Health Show.

[UVA/B-induced formation of free radicals from decabromodiphenyl ether.](#)

Tuesday, August 18, 2009

Our findings strongly suggest the potential of negative consequences due to radical formation during UV exposure of PBDEs in biological systems. Environmental Science & Technology.

[Popular herbicide more deadly to liver cells than its active chemical alone.](#)

Tuesday, August 18, 2009

Very low doses of some types of the herbicide Roundup can disrupt human liver cell function; the formulations' toxicity may be tied to their "inactive" ingredients rather than the active weed-killing ingredient glyphosate. Environmental Health News.

[Study links Great Lakes fish and diabetes.](#)

Monday, August 17, 2009

Epidemiologists have been studying a group of sport fishers and charter boat captains, who eat a lot of Great Lakes fish. Mary Turyk of the University of Illinois at Chicago measured the contaminants in their blood, and tracked their health over the years. Chicago Public Radio.

['The clunkers of the power-plant world.'](#)

Monday, August 17, 2009

If a climate-change bill drives up the cost of opening new plants, but provides free emissions allowances or potential carbon offsets for existing facilities, companies could have an incentive to squeeze even more power out of their old plants, many of which are running well below capacity. Washington Post.

[State bans BPA in plastics.](#)

Monday, August 17, 2009

Gov. M. Jodi Rell Tuesday visited an infant and toddler day care center in West Hartford to highlight the signing of new legislation that will ban a chemical used in plastics and packaging -- bisphenol-A, that has been linked to health risks in humans, especially in the very young. Darien Times, Connecticut.

[See related articles: [Another BPA ban OK'd](#), [FDA to reconsider BPA's use in food packaging](#) and [Time to dump your bisphenol-A baby bottle?](#) about a bottle swap in Los Angeles]

[China plant stormed over lead poisoning of children.](#)

Monday, August 17, 2009

Chinese protesters on Monday broke into a smelting works they blame for the lead poisoning of hundreds of children, smashing trucks and tearing down fences, state news agency Xinhua said. Reuters.

[See related articles: [Lead poisoning scare spreads to central China](#) and [Q+A -- China's pressing pollution problem](#)]

[Rise in thyroid cancer may be tied to radiation.](#)

Monday, August 17, 2009

A medical mystery: As overall cancer rates fall, why are thyroid cancer rates rising? Diagnoses of cancer in this gland in the neck are increasing about 6% a year, faster than cancers found anywhere else, according to one National Cancer Institute analysis. USA Today.

[Leasing space for cell towers is lucrative and controversial.](#)

Sunday, August 16, 2009

Federal law says towns and cities have to allow wireless companies to provide coverage, and it also bars them from using health concerns to deny a project. Metro West Daily News, Massachusetts.

[A gritty problem.](#)

Sunday, August 16, 2009

As New Bedford is belatedly learning, the more you look for pollution in old brownfields, the more you are likely to find. Costs escalate, yet no cleanup or amount of testing may ever be thorough enough to make people feel safe, especially when children are involved. Boston Globe, Massachusetts.

[See a related article: [Redeveloping brownfield sites a complicated process](#)]

[Air pollution, aeroallergens and emergency room visits for acute respiratory diseases and gastro-enteric disorders among young children in six Italian cities.](#)

Saturday, August 15, 2009

Air pollution is associated with triggering of wheezing and gastro-enteric disorders in children aged 0-2 years. Environmental Health Perspectives.

[Timing of toxic exposures crucial to disease.](#)

Saturday, August 15, 2009

During early childhood, humans are most vulnerable to even small amounts of environmental toxins. What's more troubling is that some of the effects of these exposures may only be seen or felt much later on in life. Philippine Daily Inquirer, Philippines.

[AstroTurf to eliminate lead from fields.](#)

Saturday, August 15, 2009

AstroTurf agreed to reformulate its products, replace lead-tainted fields and playground surfaces installed over the last five years and pay thousands in fines, according to a settlement the California Attorney's General's Office will announce Friday. USA Today.

[Fatty foods affect memory and exercise.](#)

Friday, August 14, 2009

Eating fatty food appears to take an almost immediate toll on both short-term memory and exercise performance, according to new research on rats and people. New York Times.

[See related articles: [Battling inflammation, disease through food](#) and [Mediterranean diet, physical activity linked with lower risk of Alzheimer disease](#)]

[Battle over chemical used to make non-stick pans heats up.](#)

Friday, August 14, 2009

The tug-of-war between the state of New Jersey and DuPont over perfluorooctanoic acid, PFOA, in drinking water has reached a critical stage, according to documents posted Wednesday. Environmental News Service.

[Environmental health 101: Should I remove asbestos from my home?](#)

Friday, August 14, 2009

EPA does not recommend removing asbestos containing building materials if they are intact and will not be disturbed. Examiner.com.

[Methyl iodide, a fumigant under fire.](#)

Friday, August 14, 2009

California just completed an assessment which indicates that the pesticide methyl iodide presents significant health risks to farm workers. The U.S. EPA approved the use of methyl iodide in 2008, after ignoring calls from leading scientists for an independent review. Environmental Science & Technology.

[New lead limits take effect for small businesses.](#)

Friday, August 14, 2009

Tighter limits on the amount of lead the government allows in children's products and a requirement for new tracking labels are stirring fear among small business owners, already hurting in a tough economy. Associated Press.

[See a related article about regulations relating to house renovations: [Lead-paint regs bring friction](#)]

[Biomonitoring data for 2,4-dichlorophenoxyacetic acid in the US and Canada: Interpretation in a public health risk assessment context using biomonitoring equivalents.](#)

Thursday, August 13, 2009

This case study demonstrates the value of biomonitoring data in assessing population exposures in the context of existing risk assessments using the BE approach.

Environmental Health Perspectives.

[Sacramento judge tentatively rules against bid to list styrene as carcinogenic.](#)

Thursday, August 13, 2009

A Sacramento judge sided with the styrene industry and against state environmental officials on Wednesday in ruling that the chemical doesn't have to be listed under Proposition 65 as a cause of cancer. Sacramento Bee, California.

[Iron nanoparticles can be toxic to human lung cells.](#)

Wednesday, August 12, 2009

Iron nanoparticles that are poised for use in large-scale pollution remediation can rapidly react with oxygen and cause lung cells to die. Environmental Health News.

[The severity of autism is associated with toxic metal body burden and red blood cell glutathione levels.](#)

Wednesday, August 12, 2009

This study demonstrates a significant positive association between the severity of autism and the relative body burden of toxic metals.

[Toxic water a genuine threat.](#)

Wednesday, August 12, 2009

A tide of toxic water laced with carcinogenic heavy metals, sulphates and radioactive uranium seeping into our water and food supply; radioactive dust particles carried on the wind -- these are a daily reality caused by more than a century of mining in South Africa. Johannesburg Citizen, South Africa.

[Author speaks on toxins in the home.](#)

Wednesday, August 12, 2009

Authors Rick Smith and Bruce Laurie say their goal is to increase understanding of the chemicals so the public can avoid them, but also so the government will regulate what can and can't make its way into human bodies. And the campaign is working. Minden Times, Ontario.

[Pesticides in your peaches: Tribune and USDA studies find pesticides, some in excess of EPA rules, in the fragrant fruit.](#)

Wednesday, August 12, 2009

Five of the more than 50 pesticide compounds found on domestic and imported peaches headed to U.S. stores exceeded limits set by the EPA, while six of the compounds

present are not approved for use on peaches in the United States. Chicago Tribune, Illinois.

Most of the news articles above come from Environmental Health News, <http://www.environmentalhealthnews.org/>

The Collaborative on Health and the Environment offers this information as a service but does not endorse any of the events, articles or announcements.

Companion bulletins are available for different audiences:

- For those interested in environmental health as it relates to learning and developmental disabilities: <http://www.iceh.org/LDDIbulletins.html>
- For those interested in environmental health in Washington State and the Pacific Northwest: <http://washington.chenw.org/bulletins.html>

While there is overlap with this bulletin, there are some events and announcements unique to those bulletins.

If you would like to join the Collaborative on Health and the Environment (CHE) and the ICEH Working Group, please complete the application on the CHE website: <http://www.healthandenvironment.org/application> Joining CHE means receiving up to four email messages a month from the CHE National listserv. CHE costs nothing to join and the benefit is shared information and opportunities for further engagement, if you choose. Be sure to mark that you want to join the Initiative on Children's Environmental Health Working Group at the bottom of the application.

Nancy Snow
Collaborative on Health and the Environment

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