

**A woman's lifetime risk for developing breast cancer is one in eight.**

**Are you ready to do something about it?**



## **Environmental Health Science and Breast Cancer: A Training for Advocates, Educators and Community Activists**

**The Collaborative on Health and the Environment, in partnership with the California Breast Cancer Research Program, invites you to apply for a training on environmental health science and breast cancer.** The training is designed for those without a formal or advanced scientific background who are working as health advocates, educators, and community activists on breast cancer issues. The goal is to deepen your basic scientific understanding of environmental links to breast cancer so you can be a more effective champion for a healthier world.

We don't have to be expert scientists to be successful advocates. But a better grounding in science can help us be better communicators, better grant reviewers, more credible authorities, and more effective change-makers. **The training will present evidence-based science in lay language that you can use in your work.** The training is not structured to take a position on specific pieces of legislation nor to compel participants to a specific political view.

**We are offering three of these trainings in 2011: May 2–4, September 27–29, and November 7–9.** They will be held at Commonweal ([www.commonweal.org](http://www.commonweal.org)), a health and environmental research and education institute in Bolinas, California, an hour north of San Francisco. Commonweal's retreat center overlooks the Pacific Ocean—an ideal place for active learning away from the demands of day-to-day responsibilities. The trainings, as well as room and board, will be offered free of charge, in a comfortable and supportive environment.

## Training Topics

- Overview of healthy breast development.
- Origins of breast cancer.
- Exposures to toxic chemicals throughout the human life cycle, and how they can increase risk for disease.
- The use of biomonitoring (measuring environmental chemicals in the body) as an education and advocacy tool.
- The “web of causality” that makes breast cancer etiology so complex to fully understand.
- How to respond effectively when there is not scientific certainty—also referred to as the precautionary principle.
- Practical exercises using your scientific understanding to strengthen your advocacy efforts.
- Suggestions for steps in your daily life that can reduce risk.

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**To apply, please fill out the application at the end of this announcement.** Priority consideration will be given to applications received by these deadlines:

- For May 2–4, 2011, applications received by March 18, 2011.
- For September 27–29, 2011, applications received by August 1, 2011.
- For November 7–9, 2011, applications received by September 5, 2011.



The Collaborative on Health and the Environment (CHE) is a diverse partnership of individuals and organizations working collectively to advance scientific knowledge and effective action to address growing concerns about the links between human health and environmental factors. It is a program of Commonweal.



CALIFORNIA  
Breast  
Cancer  
Research  
PROGRAM

The mission of the California Breast Cancer Research Program is to eliminate breast cancer by leading innovation in research, communication and collaboration in the California scientific and lay communities.

*The Collaborative on Health and the Environment is grateful to Susan G. Komen for the Cure®, the Kresge Foundation, the Cedar Tree Foundation and an anonymous donor for their generous support of this program.*

# Questionnaire and Application

## Environmental Health Science and Breast Cancer: A Training for Advocates, Educators and Community Activists

If you are interested in applying, please respond to the following questionnaire and email it to Davis Baltz of Commonweal at [dbaltz@igc.org](mailto:dbaltz@igc.org) (phone 510-848-2714). Acceptance into the training is based, in part, on a commitment to apply what you learn to your work. Questions 10–11 are for information only and will not be used in determining acceptance for the training.

1. Which training would you like to attend? Please rank preference if you are available for more than one.  
May 2–4, 2011 \_\_\_\_\_  
September 27–29, 2011 \_\_\_\_\_  
November 7–9, 2011 \_\_\_\_\_  
Any which have space \_\_\_\_\_
2. Please let us know your:  
Name:  
Organizations you are affiliated with (if any):  
Address:  
Phone number(s):  
Email:
3. Why are you interested in this training? What would you like to get out of it?
4. How familiar are you with environmental health science in general?
5. How familiar are you with the biology of breast cancer?
6. What is your experience doing advocacy and/or public education and/or organizing at the local, state, national or international level (it does not need to be specific to environmental health)?
7. Are you currently active in environmental health advocacy of any sort?
8. What is your experience reviewing research proposals?
9. How do you think you might use a training that primarily focuses on the environmental health science of breast cancer?
10. There are limited funds to support travel scholarships. Please let us know if you would like to be considered for a travel scholarship.
11. How did you hear about these trainings?