



Initiative on Children's Environmental Health

[of the Collaborative on Health and the Environment](#)



Biweekly Bulletin June 15, 2011

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

Toxicant and Disease Database Updated

The Collaborative on Health and the Environment has just completed an update of our popular Toxicant and Disease Database, adding new information from several sources, including the International Agency for Research on Cancer (IARC); the National Toxicology Program; and California's Office of Environmental Health Hazard Assessment (OEHHA), which administers the Proposition 65 program. [Visit the database](#).

Announcements

A daily news feed with articles and announcements is available on CHE's website:

<http://www.healthandenvironment.org/news/announce>.

[Call for abstracts: 11th Annual New Partners for Smart Growth Conference.](#)

Session proposals are being accepted until June 30th for this conference to be held February 2 - 4, 2012 in San Diego.

[New report: Climate Change and Your Health: Rising Temperatures, Worsening Ozone Pollution.](#)

Ground-level ozone pollution exacerbates lung diseases such as asthma and can cause breathing difficulties even in healthy individuals. This report from the Union of Concerned Scientists explores the resulting expected health consequences in 2020 and 2050, and examines the anticipated economic costs of these health impacts in 2020.

[Call for papers: Health Affairs.](#)

Health Affairs journal seeks to capture the best contemporary research, analysis, and thought on solutions to the rapid rise of both type 1- and type 2-diabetes. Abstracts are due June 22nd.

[New substances added to HHS Report on Carcinogens.](#)

The US Department of Health and Human Services today added eight substances to its Report on Carcinogens, a science-based document that identifies chemicals and biological agents that may put people at increased risk for cancer.

[Call for papers: Journal of Health and Pollution.](#)

The journal invites submissions that inform scientists and policymakers about the impact of toxic pollution on under-five mortality and morbidity in poor and middle income countries. Submissions are due by July 1st.

[Action Agenda released.](#)

The Action Agenda, authored by the National Conversation Leadership Council, includes clear, achievable recommendations to help government agencies and other organizations

strengthen their efforts to protect the public from harmful chemical exposures.

[EPA removes confidentiality claims for more than 150 chemicals.](#)

In order to ensure the public has as much information as possible about the health and the environmental impacts of chemicals, the U.S. Environmental Protection Agency has made public the identities of more than 150 chemicals contained in 104 health and safety studies that had been claimed confidential by industry.

[See a related announcement: [EPA establishes National Tribal Toxics Committee to address risks from toxic chemicals](#)]

[EPA challenges software developers to create app that puts environmental and public health information at citizens' fingertips.](#)

The challenge invites the information technology community to create applications that help people make informed decisions about environmental issues that can affect their health.

[Grow Smart Grow Safe: A consumer guide to lawn and garden products.](#)

This guide offers safer methods for solving garden problems and ranks pesticide options by human and environmental health effect.

[EPA unveils next generation of fuel economy labels.](#)

The labels will also contain easy-to-read ratings of how a model compares to all other models for smog emissions and emissions of pollution that contribute to climate change.

[Call for proposals: School Integrated Pest Management Grants.](#)

Approximately \$1 million is available for assistance agreements to further through research, development, monitoring, public education, training, demonstrations, or studies the adoption of verifiable integrated pest management (IPM) by the nation's kindergarten to 12th grade public and tribal schools.

[Job opening: Woodland Hills, California.](#)

The California Wellness Foundation seeks a president and CEO with significant expertise in public health, health care and related policy issues who will provide leadership in the foundation's eight prioritized health issues.

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

Safer Chemicals, Healthy Families is looking for a full-time, savvy and experienced online communications activist to maintain and grow a strong web and social media presence to raise public awareness and mobilize grassroots action to demand safer products and safer chemicals policy reform.

Upcoming Events

Online Calendar. These and more upcoming events, including requests for proposals and abstracts, are listed in a searchable calendar:

<http://www.healthandenvironment.org/cgi-bin/searchevents.cgi>

1) Cumulative Impacts on Health: New Community-Based Research Projects, Part 2

Thursday June 16, 2011

11:00 a.m. Pacific / 2:00 p.m. Eastern time

Sponsor: Collaborative on Health and the Environment

Multiple aspects of the environment in which we live, learn, work and play can impact our health. However, the general practice of governmental agencies and policymakers responsible for protecting public health and the environment is to focus on one factor at

a time, and more specifically, one chemical contaminant at a time. For many years, the environmental justice movement and local communities have advocated for the consideration of multiple exposures and cumulative impacts in environmental policy and regulatory decisions. The emerging science, in fact, affirms what these advocates have been calling for—explicitly, the need to take into account interacting concerns, such as socioeconomic, nutritional and psychosocial factors along with multiple toxic exposures, if we are to improve public health. This conference call will feature researchers recently funded by the US EPA who are working with poor and underserved communities to determine how multiple stressors, such as hazardous chemicals, poor nutrition, and lower socioeconomic status, undermine their health as well as what interventions could be implemented to create healthier, more resilient communities. The call will be recorded for archival purposes. This is the second call in a two-part series featuring EPA-funded researchers and their community partners discussing cumulative impacts research projects on a community level.

Price: free

[Visit the website](#)

Contact: CHE, info@healthandenvironment.org

2) "The Toxies"

Thursday June 16, 2011

4:00 p.m. PDT red carpet; 5:00 p.m. awards ceremony; 6:00 - 8:00 p.m. afterparty

Los Angeles, California and virtual

at the Egyptian Theater in Hollywood

Sponsor: Californians for a Healthy and Green Economy (CHANGE) and led by Physicians for Social Responsibility-Los Angeles

"The Toxies" is a satirical awards ceremony highlighting "bad actor chemicals." This 2nd annual event, created by the statewide coalition Californians for a Healthy and Green Economy (CHANGE) and led by Physicians for Social Responsibility-Los Angeles (PSR-LA), has now come together with groups across the country to share the concept of "bad actor chemicals" by bringing them to life with a Hollywood spin. Those who are not in Los Angeles at the time can host or join a remote viewing party.

Price: free

[Visit the website](#)

Contact: see the [Contact page](#)

3) EH@Home Workshop

Friday June 17, 2011

10:00 a.m. - 2:00 p.m.

Bend, Oregon

at Deschutes County Health Services, 2577 NE Courtney Drive

Sponsor: Oregon State University Environmental Health Sciences Center

EH@Home is a professional development workshop from the Oregon State University Environmental Health Sciences Center. EH@Home will focus on common environmental health concerns found in residential settings. Anyone who works in the residential setting or communicates with the public, older adults, families or parents is welcome to attend. OSU Faculty will present the latest research findings on key environmental health issues. Workshop participants will be able to recognize common problems, identify risk reduction strategies, and know when to use specialists for further assistance. Lunch will be provided along with a certificate of attendance.

Price: unknown; preregistration is required

[Visit the website](#)

Contact: Naomi Hirsch, 541-737-8105 or naomi.hirsch@oregonstate.edu

4) National Environmental Health Association 2011 Annual Educational Conference & Exhibit

Saturday through Monday, June 18 - 20, 2011
Columbus, Ohio
at the Hyatt Regency Columbus (Arena District)

Sponsor: National Environmental Health Association

This conference is a nexus for environmental health training, education, networking, learning and advancement. Environmental health professionals attend to acquire practical and real-world information and expertise. A list of the educational tracks is on the website.

Price: see the [Registration page](#)

[Visit the website](#)

Contact: NEHA, 866-956-2258 or staff@neha.org

5) 2011 National Healthy Homes Conference

Monday through Thursday, June 20 - 23, 2011
Denver, Colorado
at the Colorado Convention Center

Sponsor: US Department of Housing and Urban Development, Healthy Homes, US Department of Health and Human Services, US Centers for Disease Control and Prevention, US Environmental Protection Agency, US Department of Energy, US Department of Agriculture

This year's theme, "Leading the Nation to Healthy Homes, Families, and Communities," reflects the growing demand for building and sustaining housing and communities that are healthy, safe and green for America's families. The conference will offer over 100 educational sessions covering eight topic areas.

Price: see the [Registration page](#)

[Visit the website](#)

Contact: 888-644-2586 or info@healthyhomesconference.org

6) A European Perspective: How Key Research on Endocrine Disrupting Chemicals Is Expected to Inform Policy Developments

Tuesday June 21, 2011
11 a.m. Pacific / 2:00 p.m. Eastern / 7:00 p.m. UK / 8:00 p.m. Brussels time

Sponsor: Collaborative on Health and the Environment

The European Union (EU) has had an official strategy to address endocrine disrupting chemicals (EDCs) since the end of 1999. The strategy has helped instigate major funding of EU research projects on EDCs, and two historic new pieces of legislation that will govern and in some cases ban the use of certain EDCs—namely, the REACH law on industrial chemicals management and the reformed EU Pesticides law. Deriving from these, the approach and assessment by which EDCs are identified are in the process. The European Commission has commissioned a report from one of the leading researchers on EDCs, Professor Andreas Kortenkamp, and his team to assess the state of knowledge about mixtures of chemicals. In addition, the Commission has asked him to provide an updated analysis of the state of knowledge about EDCs. These two reports will inform overlapping strands of policy work. On this call, Andreas Kortenkamp, PhD, will present some of the latest EU funded research on EDCs and implications for policy makers from a scientific perspective. Gwynne Lyons, PhD, will speak on the challenges and opportunities related to translating the science into policy and highlight CHEM Trust's public interest work in this area. Genon Jensen will speak about the NGO work being done on EDCs, highlighting recent developments in France and Denmark.

Price: free

[Visit the website](#)

Contact: CHE, info@healthandenvironment.org

7) Connect the Dots: An Early Learning Exchange

Thursday June 30, 2011

9:00 a.m. - 4:00 p.m.

Seattle, Washington

at Seattle Public Library, Microsoft Auditorium, 1000 4th Avenue

Sponsor: Foundation for Early Learning

Join us for a cutting-edge event featuring brief lectures from education leaders and community advocates. Each will talk about their passion for early learning. With a high-pace format similar to the popular TED lecture series, speakers will give presentations ranging from 12 to 18 minutes in length on various topics related to early learning. This conference will bring together unique perspectives and encourage networking between speakers and attendees.

Price: \$38 - \$100; see the website for details

[Visit the website](#)

Contact: Erin Okuno, 206-525-4801 x23 or erin@earlylearning.org

8) Navigating the Science: Evaluating Research Quality

Thursday June 30, 2011

1:00 p.m. Pacific / 4:00 p.m. Eastern time

Sponsor: Collaborative on Health and the Environment

Scientific evidence on the health effects of environmental contaminants continues to mount. The range of research available is, however, of variable quality and largely unfamiliar to health care professionals. Researchers at the University of California San Francisco's Program on Reproductive Health and the Environment, along with multiple partners, have developed a methodology called the Navigation Guide that links evidence-based medicine and environmental health evaluation. As recently described in the journal *Health Affairs*, the Navigation Guide is a valuable tool to evaluate the quality of evidence and to support evidence-based decision making by clinicians, patients, professional organizations and governmental agencies for environmental chemicals. Join the CHE Fertility Working Group on this CHE Partnership call for an important discussion on the development of the Navigation Guide and its practical applications. Dr. Tracey Woodruff from UCSF will present the theoretical basis for the methodology. Dr. Jeanne Conry of ACOG District IX will explain how to use the tool to find the best available evidence to make clinical decisions and recommendations. Dr. Kristina Thayer of the National Toxicology Program will describe the contribution of this methodology to the field of risk assessment. To round out the discussion, Dr. Kate Guyton of the US EPA will discuss the relevance of the Navigation Guide to policy making human health risk assessments of environmental chemicals at US EPA.

Price: free

[Visit the website](#)

Contact: CHE, info@healthandenvironment.org

9) Mercury Effects on Human Health

Wednesday July 13, 2011

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

Seattle, Washington

at the Holiday Inn Cascade Room

Sponsor: EOS Alliance

Both organic and elemental mercury create a wide spectrum of human health concerns.

Mercury spills cost public and private entities millions of dollars a year in cleanup and health care costs. This series of courses addresses concerns mercury causes by providing participants with a foundation in the science of environmental mercury and presents solutions for mitigating the impacts of this ubiquitous contaminant.

Price: \$250 (\$200 before May 21, 2011)

[Visit the website](#)

Contact: Northwest Environmental Training Center, 425-270-3274

News and Journal Articles

[First Nations conditions dismal.](#)

Friday, June 10, 2011

Despite the billions of federal dollars spent each year on programs to improve unsafe housing, high unemployment and polluted water, living conditions on Canada's First Nations reserves are getting worse, according to Canada's interim auditor general. Ottawa Citizen.

[Hong Kong orders GSK to recall plastic additive product.](#)

Friday, June 10, 2011

Hong Kong has ordered GlaxoSmithKline Plc (GSK) to recall an pediatric antibiotic manufactured in France over the presence of a plasticizer in the product, raising safety and quality concerns. Reuters.

[See another article related to plastics: [Experts warn against PVC plastic wrap](#)]

[Why smokers are skinny.](#)

Friday, June 10, 2011

Nicotine binds to receptors, which then send a signal throughout the rest of the brain, signaling satiety. It's indistinguishable from the signal the brain propagates after eating a large meal. Science.

[The Environmental Polymorphism Registry -- a unique resource that facilitates translational research of environmental disease.](#)

Friday, June 10, 2011

The EPR is a "phenotype-by-genotype" resource designed to facilitate translational studies of environmental disease. Environmental Health Perspectives.

[Lifelong gap in health between rich and poor set by age 20, Canadian study finds.](#)

Thursday, June 09, 2011

Canadians who are less educated and have a lower income start out less healthy than their wealthier and better-educated compatriots, and remain so over the course of their lives, according to a new study.

[See another article about socio-environmental contributors to health across the lifespan: [Active social, spiritual and physical life helps prevent health decline in seniors. study finds](#)]

[Moderate to intense exercise may protect the brain.](#)

Thursday, June 09, 2011

Older people who regularly exercise at a moderate to intense level may be less likely to develop the small brain lesions, sometimes referred to as "silent strokes," that are the first sign of cerebrovascular disease, according to a new study. ScienceDaily.

[Roundup birth defects: regulators knew world's best-selling herbicide causes problems, new report finds.](#)

Thursday, June 09, 2011

Industry regulators have known for years that Roundup, the world's best-selling herbicide produced by U.S. company Monsanto, causes birth defects, according to a new report released Tuesday. Huffington Post.

[See other articles and announcements about pesticides: [DEET repels bugs, worries consumers](#); [Acute pesticide illnesses associated with off-target pesticide drift from agricultural applications -- 11 states, 1998-2006](#); [Pesticides on playing fields](#); [EPA takes](#)

[major actions to reduce Americans' risks from mouse and rat poisons; EPA proposes policy on nanoscale materials in pesticide products; Additivity of pyrethroid actions on sodium influx in cerebrocortical neurons in primary culture and Apples top most pesticide-contaminated list\]](#)

[Pollution worsens kids' asthma, but efforts to cut it split Congress.](#)

Thursday, June 09, 2011

Summer air pollution could trigger more asthma attacks for children who live in industrial cities, and the Environmental Protection Agency would like stricter rules to cut smog. But Congress is split on the agency's proposal. McClatchy Newspapers.

[See other articles about asthma: [Use of a total traffic count metric to investigate the impact of roadways on asthma severity: a case-control study](#); [Kids with bad asthma may have food allergy](#) and [Moldy home tied to kids' asthma, allergies](#)]

[Tropical diseases spread due to global warming, insanitation: docs.](#)

Wednesday, June 08, 2011

Experts discussed the impact of global warming on tropical and epidemic diseases like malaria, cholera, dengue, kala-azar, chikungunya etc, at a meet held at Indian Medical Association, Kanpur, on Tuesday. New Delhi Times of India, India.

[See other articles about climate and health: [Climate extremes and the length of gestation](#); [Civil rights leaders: heat can have disproportionate impacts](#) and [Another climate change concern: indoor air](#)]

[People with disabilities: experts call for changing how research is done.](#)

Monday, June 06, 2011

Scientific evidence shows that health-related differences do exist between men, women and minorities. Williams suspects such differences will surface for the 47.5 million disabled, who make up 22 percent of the American population, according to the U. S. Centers for Disease Control and Prevention. ScienceDaily.

[Radiation danger in decoration.](#)

Monday, June 06, 2011

More than 80 percent of buildings checked by the Shanghai Environmental Protection Industry Association showed excessive radiation -- especially from granite, ceramic tiles and sanitary fittings. Shanghai Daily, China.

[How high-fat diet during pregnancy increases risk of stillbirth.](#)

Saturday, June 04, 2011

The new data show eating a typical American diet, which is high in fat, decreases blood flow from the mother to the placenta, the temporary organ that nourishes the unborn fetus. ScienceDaily.

[See other articles about diet and health: [My Plate replaces food pyramid](#); [Carb reduction lowers deep belly fat without weight loss: UAB study](#); [Study confirms safety, cancer-targeting ability of nutrient in broccoli, other vegetables, researchers say](#); [Undernourishment in pregnant, lactating females found key to next generation's disease](#) and [Dietary changes appear to affect levels of biomarkers associated with Alzheimer's disease](#)]

[For preschoolers, food is primary source of BPA exposure.](#)

Saturday, June 04, 2011

Researchers have detected bisphenol A in the environment and urine of young children, revealing that preschoolers absorb the chemical primarily through the food they eat. Chemical & Engineering News.

[See other articles about BPA: [China bans BPA in babies' bottles](#); [Bill barring chemical fails](#); [EU bans sale of baby bottles containing Bisphenol A](#); [Exposure routes confound BPA debate](#); [Debating BPA's toxicity](#); [Study: BPA chemical exposure is underestimated](#); [Bisphenol A](#); [Fetal exposure to BPA changes development of uterus in primates, study suggests](#) and [BPA: Confused about bisphenol A? Here's why](#)]

[The price of clean air.](#)

Friday, June 03, 2011

Does the Clean Air Act hurt or help the US economy? It's not nearly as hard to calculate as you might think. Neither is acting on the data. Bloomberg News.

[See other articles about air quality and standards: [Oil refinery group sues EPA over request for emissions data](#); [Tougher air rules worry industry](#); [Acute respiratory inflammation in children and black carbon in ambient air before and during the 2008 Beijing Olympics](#); [Egyptian mummies hold clues of ancient air pollution](#); [Kampala chokes on pollution](#); [Study: affordable housing tenants exposed to toxic heating oils](#); [Air pollution in China, with Junfeng \(Jim\) Zhang](#); [Impact of reduced maternal exposures to woodsmoke from an introduced chimney stove on newborn birth weight in rural Guatemala](#); [Pollution portrait: the fourth National-Scale Air Toxics Assessment](#); [Air quality worsened by road paving, strip malls, subdivisions: NSF](#); [EPA's tests of air outside schools find problems](#); [Latino groups push Obama on ozone standards](#); [Metro rolling out cleaner, greener buses](#); [Judge rejects Exxon attempt to end lawsuit over refinery pollution](#); [Three measures of forest fire smoke exposure and their associations with respiratory and cardiovascular health outcomes in a population-based cohort](#); [Health study targets major Calif. rail yard](#); [AEP: New rules would lead to shutdowns, job cuts](#); [You only need to breathe to get cancer](#); [In-traffic air pollution exposure and CC16, blood coagulation, and inflammation markers in healthy adults](#); [EPA improves clean-air permitting in Indian country](#); [Intervention to lower household woodsmoke exposure in Guatemala reduces ST-segment depression on electrocardiograms](#); [Clinton takes role in fighting domestic killer](#); [Breathing uneasy: air pollution crisis in South Seattle](#); [Quebec overhauls its 32-year-old air quality law](#) and [Curb soot, smog to help keep Earth cool](#)]

[Social disparities in nitrate contaminated drinking water in California's San Joaquin Valley.](#)

Friday, June 03, 2011

Our findings suggest that in smaller water systems, CWS serving larger fractions of Latinos and renters receive drinking water with higher nitrate levels. This suggests an environmental inequity in drinking water quality. Environmental Health Perspectives.

[See other articles about water contamination: [Chicago river cleanup required](#); [A toxic river improves, but still has far to go](#); [Cleanup of Sheboygan River gets under way](#); [Water salinity and maternal health](#); [Skagit County's Samish Bay shellfish beds deserve better protection, say federal, state and county officials](#); [Dioxin pollution lingers](#); [University of Arizona trying to stop arsenic from getting to our drinking water](#); [Airplane chemical in Great Lakes surface water, fish](#); [Coalition to sue U.S. over toxic farmland runoff](#); ['MEW knew about pollution of water sources since last year'](#); [Study: the perils of a heavy bottled-water habit](#); [PG&E required to supply water to Hinkley residents and Are the drugs we take ending up in our rivers?](#)]

[Sleep loss dramatically lowers testosterone in healthy young men.](#)

Thursday, June 02, 2011

This study found that skipping sleep reduces a young man's testosterone levels by the same amount as aging 10 to 15 years. ScienceDaily.

[See another article about fertility: [Special report: the new boys' health scare](#)]

[Indoor exposure of phthalates harmful to children.](#)

Thursday, June 02, 2011

Recent controversy over the discovery of clouding agents containing the banned chemical DEHP in beverages has caused public concerns. Bradenton Herald, Florida.

[See another article about phthalates: [The association between semen quality in workers and the concentration of di\(2-ethylhexyl\) phthalate in polyvinyl chloride pellet plant air](#)]

[Sierra Club finds mercury in hair.](#)

Thursday, June 02, 2011

The local chapter said all of the 70 Minnesotans who agreed to share their test results had at least some mercury in their hair. Minneapolis Star Tribune, Minnesota.

[See another article about mercury: [Phasing out mercury use, products](#)]

[Poor areas to get help with lead.](#)

Thursday, June 02, 2011

Federal housing officials sent \$2.1 million to Ohio yesterday to help remove lead paint from low-income houses in 36 counties. Columbus Dispatch, Ohio.

[See other articles about lead contamination: [U.P. to pay EPA \\$25 million](#); [Lead contamination complicates E.C.'s demolition plans](#); [Labels warn of lead in kids' clothes](#); [New clinic for testing lead poisoning](#); [China lead pollution outbreak poisons 103 children](#) and [Lead in the soil: what every urban gardener should know](#)]

[The toxins in baby products \(and almost everywhere else\).](#)

Thursday, June 02, 2011

With the potential health hazards of widely used synthetic chemicals coming under increasing scrutiny, and with a growing call from medical and scientific professionals for policies that protect children from such hazards, the question of what takes the place of a threatening chemical has become increasingly important. The Atlantic.

[See another article about toxics: [Are there toxins in your compost?](#)]

[Health impact assessment of waste management facilities in three European countries.](#)

Thursday, June 02, 2011

There are several uncertainties and critical assumptions in the assessment model, but it provides insight into the relative health impact attributable to waste management. Environmental Health.

[How vitamins and minerals may prevent age-related diseases.](#)

Wednesday, June 01, 2011

A new research published online in the FASEB Journal, however, may change this thinking as it examines moderate selenium and vitamin K deficiency to show how damage accumulates over time as a result of vitamin and mineral loss, leading to age-related diseases. ScienceDaily.

[Native American teenagers' have legacy of PCB pollution.](#)

Wednesday, June 01, 2011

Decades after fish and wildlife advisories went into effect, industrial pollutants found in the blood of Native American youth and young adults show that the younger generation is still at risk from long-banned contaminants. Environmental Health News.

[See other articles about contaminated food: [Mercury-contaminated fish flop onto local tables](#); [Chambliss pushes for new fish guidelines](#); [New form of MRSA found in cows' milk and human flesh wounds](#); [Impacts of traditional food consumption advisories: compliance, changes in diet and loss of confidence in traditional foods](#); [Toxic marine microalgae and shellfish poisoning in the British Isles: history, review of epidemiology, and future implications](#); [Microbe outbreak panics Europe](#) and [Pfizer suspends sales of chicken drug with arsenic](#)]

[Multiple sclerosis triggered by gene-environment link.](#)

Wednesday, June 01, 2011

Researchers have elucidated the mechanism by which environmental factors such as lack of sunlight act on genes associated with multiple sclerosis, according to an article published online in Nature Communications on 31 May. Epoch Times.

[See other articles about exposures and disease risk: [Tie between 'biomarkers,' disease often overstated, scientists say](#); [Williams discusses the effects of neonatal phytoestrogen exposure](#); [Questions persist: environmental factors in autoimmune disease](#); [Occupational exposure to asbestos and ovarian cancer: a meta-analysis](#); [Toxics in the 'clean rooms': are Samsung workers at risk?](#); [B-cell lymphoma: new research provides breakthrough in understanding common cancer](#); [Serum perfluorinated compound concentration and attention deficit/hyperactivity disorder in children aged 5 to 18 years](#) and [Asbestos deaths expected to spike in Asia](#)]

[Report reveals toxic pollution at numerous US military bases in South Korea.](#)

Wednesday, June 01, 2011

Analysis of an environmental contamination report obtained by the Hankyoreh on

Tuesday of 22 U.S. military bases returned to South Korea showed the discovery of high concentrations of materials such as phenol and benzene at some of the bases. Seoul Hankyoreh, South Korea.

[See a related article: [U.S. bases blamed for oil-tainted groundwater in S. Korea](#) and other articles about contaminated sites: [The painful evacuation of a Japanese village](#); [Coal mining in China's Inner Mongolia fuels tensions](#); [Nearly 200 communities awarded \\$76 million in EPA grants to clean up, redevelop industrial sites](#) and [Cleanup of industrial dumping ground finally complete](#)]

Smoking could kill 8 million a year by 2030: WHO.

Wednesday, June 01, 2011

Tobacco will kill nearly six million people this year, including 600,000 non-smokers, because governments are not doing enough to persuade people to quit or protect others from second-hand smoke, the World Health Organization (WHO) said on Tuesday. Reuters.

[See other articles about tobacco use: [Thirdhand tobacco smoke: emerging evidence and arguments for a multidisciplinary research agenda](#); [Argentine law targets smoking in enclosed public spaces](#); [Cigars are tobacco of choice of middle schoolers in Cuyahoga](#); [A new fight over tobacco regulation](#) and [In Indonesia, rampant smoking begins at early age](#)]

Cellphones possibly carcinogenic, WHO says.

Wednesday, June 01, 2011

An international panel of experts has weighed in on the controversy about cellphone safety -- and come to a conclusion that falls far short of recommending that consumers put down the devices, although it may make them more anxious. Washington Post.

[See other articles about cell phones: [Cellphone study raises profile on safety lawsuits](#); [House approves package warning for cell phones](#); [Amid new health concerns, cell phone users are talking less](#); [Warning of cellphones' possible cancer risk is falling lightly on users in US](#); [Mobile phone-cancer connection unlikely, say scientists](#); [Link between long term mobile phone use and brain tumours](#) and [Mobile alert](#)]

A positive association found between autism prevalence and childhood vaccination uptake across the U.S. population.

Wednesday, June 01, 2011

The results suggest that although mercury has been removed from many vaccines, other culprits may link vaccines to autism. Further study into the relationship between vaccines and autism is warranted. Journal of Toxicology and Environmental Health. Part A.

[See another article about vaccines: [Link between influenza vaccination in pregnancy and reduced risk of premature birth](#) and one about autism: [Scientists warn of chemical-autism link](#)]

Lessons Learned

Food Colors - Hying the Mind?

by Steven G. Gilbert, PhD, DABT

"I'm sorry...I wasn't paying attention to what I was thinking" - Shelley Curtiss

"I was trying to daydream but my mind kept wandering." - Steven Wright

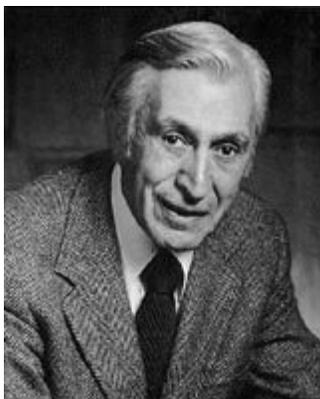
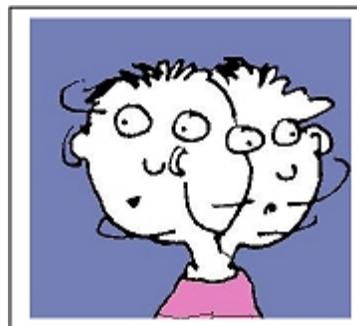
"I prefer to distinguish ADD as attention abundance disorder. Everything is just so interesting . . . remarkably at the same time." - Frank Coppola

We should all focus and stay focused (I know it is hard to do) on the fact that a recent peer-reviewed paper indicated that 6.69% of US children are diagnosed with attention-deficit/hyperactivity disorder (ADHD). ADHD used to be known as attention deficit disorder, or ADD, but in 1994 it was redefined and most recently in the DSM-IV (2000) as three types of AD/HD: predominantly inattentive, (ADD), predominantly hyperactive

(ADHD), and combined subtype (more common).

The prevalence is attention-getting, but a form of ADHD was recognized early on by Heinrich Hoffman (1809-1894), German psychiatrist and writer, when in 1845 he penned a fun poem:

"But Fidgety Phil
He won't sit still;
He wriggles
And giggles,
and then, I declare,
Swings backwards and forwards,
And tilts up his chair."



Benjamin F.
Feingold

While the cause of ADHD is still debated, Benjamin F. Feingold, MD, a pediatric allergist from California born June 15, 1899, proposed in 1973 that salicylates, artificial colors, and artificial flavors cause hyperactivity in children. A number of studies support that a sensitive subpopulation of children are indeed affected by artificial food additives and colors. The concerns over the adverse effects of food colors was reignited by a recent paper (McCann et al., 2007) from the UK using a double-blind study design that found that children were adversely affected when challenged with food colors.

The US-based Center for Science in the Public Interest petitioned the FDA to ban certain food colors but after review the FDA concluded that "...that the ingredients that were tested in this study that currently are permitted for food use in the United States are safe for the general population." This may be correct for the general population, but not for sensitive children. The European Union has called for a ban on certain food colors and warning labels for parents.

Once again we see that children are not little adults and have different sensitivities to chemical exposure. We have an ethical responsibility to ensure that the food we feed our children allows them to reach and maintain their full potential, free of chemicals that cause hyperactivity.

Benjamin F. Feingold at Toxipedia: <http://toxipedia.org/x/7s5b>
ADHD at Toxipedia: <http://toxipedia.org/x/ORg>

Looking back to go forward

Lessons Learned is a bulletin feature focusing on an historical event that provides an important lesson for ensuring a more sustainable and healthy environment. Please feel free to send suggestions to [Steve Gilbert](#).

Past Lessons Learned: <http://toxipedia.org/x/06Jb>

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 Hepp
Collaborative on Health and the Environment

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