



Initiative on Children's Environmental Health

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



Biweekly Bulletin August 11, 2010

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

New Members

The Initiative on Children's Environmental Health welcomes these new members:

- Emma Anglesey, Hobart, Australia
- Gloria Escobar-Chaparro, MA, East Elmhurst, New York
- Angelique Goetsch, Minot AFB, North Dakota
- Jamie Heeringa, Grand Rapids, Michigan
- Rebecca Meuninck, MA, Ann Arbor, Michigan
- Trey Meyer, Chattanooga, Tennessee
- Sarah Sisler, Candler, North Carolina
- Man Bahadur Thapa, Kathmandu, Nepal
- Sarah Wade, Santa Barbara, California
- Leigh Wilcox, Frisco, Texas

Announcements

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

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

[EPA sets first national limits to reduce mercury and other toxic emissions from cement plants.](#)

This action sets the nation's first limits on mercury air emissions from existing cement kilns, strengthens the limits for new kilns, and sets emission limits that will reduce acid gases.

[New consumer guide: PVC-Free School Supplies.](#)

The Center for Health, Environment & Justice has published their third-annual Back-to-School Guide to PVC-Free School Supplies to empower parents to make smarter, healthier shopping choices for a toxic-free future.

[See a related article about health threats to students: [PCB threat lurks in Staten Island schools](#)]

[EPA issues new guide to improving stormwater management local streams, Chesapeake Bay to benefit.](#)

Improperly managed stormwater runoff from urbanized areas can damage streams, cause significant erosion, and carry excessive nutrients, sediment, toxic metals, volatile organic compounds, and other pollutants downstream.

[Call for comments: EPA's Reanalysis of Key Issues Related to Dioxin Toxicity and Response to NAS Comments.](#)

The deadline for comments has now been extended until September 20, 2010. EPA has

replaced the draft report (main) on June 9th with a copy with included links to the report's citations available as a reference from the HERO Database.

[EPA report: 22 million cataract cases will be prevented by stronger ozone layer protection.](#)

The EPA announced a new peer-reviewed report predicting that more than 22 million additional cataract cases will be avoided for Americans born between 1985 and 2100 due to the Montreal Protocol.

[Updated Tables from CDC's National Health and Nutrition Examination Survey.](#)

The Updated Tables, July 2010 provides additional data from the 2005-2006 survey period for 51 of the chemicals previously reported through 2004 in the Fourth Report and the new addition of four parabens and two phthalate metabolites in 2005-2006.

[EPA rejects claims of flawed climate science.](#)

After months of serious consideration of the petitions and of the state of climate change science, EPA's review shows that climate science is credible, compelling, and growing stronger.

[See a related article: [Scientists say soot a key factor in warming](#)]

[New website: Healthy Food Action.](#)

Healthy Food Action makes explicit the links between health, food and farm policy. Whether it's rising obesity in kids, the use of arsenic in animal feed, antibiotics being squandered to make livestock grow faster, or a Farm Bill that undercuts the nation's health, this site will provide timely information and make it easy to take action to influence public policy.

[See related articles: [Obesity rates keep rising, troubling health officials](#); [Extra pregnancy pounds hurt baby: Study](#) and [Under fire, Health Department pulls back on arsenic report](#)]

[EPA to hold listening sessions on potential revisions to water quality standards regulation.](#)

Potential revisions include strengthening protection for water bodies with water quality that already exceeds or meet the interim goals of the Clean Water Act; ensuring that standards reflect a continued commitment to these goals wherever attainable; improving transparency of regulatory decisions; and strengthening federal oversight. The public listening sessions will be held via audio teleconferences on August 24 and 26, 2010, from 1 p.m. to 2:30 p.m. EDT.

[Call for proposals: Climate Change and Health: Assessing and Modeling Population Vulnerability to Climate Change.](#)

This FOA encourages research applications to examine the differential risk factors of populations that lead to or are associated with increased vulnerability to exposures, diseases and other adverse health outcomes related to climate change.

[Job opening: Augusta, Maine.](#)

The Natural Resources Council of Maine (NRCM) seeks an executive director. Current advocacy work focuses in four program areas: energy efficiency and clean renewable energy, protection from toxic chemicals in consumer products, protecting Maine's North woods, and ensuring healthy rivers and watersheds.

[Job opening: Colorado Springs, Colorado.](#)

The El Paso County Department of Health and Environment has an opening for an environmental health specialist in their Environmental Health Services program within the Disease Prevention and Control Division. The application deadline is August 30, 2010.

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

US Environmental Protection Agency's Region 10, Office of Ecosystems, Tribal & Public Affairs, Ecosystems & Community Health Unit has an opening for an environmental protection specialist to serve as an environmental justice coordinator. Applications are due August 16, 2010.

Job openings: Oakland, California.

The UCSF Program on Reproductive Health and the Environment is seeking to fill two positions: 1) a postdoc to work on a project that addresses one key aspect of how to incorporate new and emerging science into environmental health policy and decision-making and 2) a research coordinator to assist in managing all phases of research activity. Contact Jason Harless: harlessj@obgyn.ucsf.edu.

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) Public Meetings on Hydraulic Fracturing Research Study

Thursday August 12, 2010

three sessions: 8:00 a.m. to noon, 1:00 - 5:00 p.m., and 6:00 - 10:00 p.m. Eastern time

Syracuse, New York

at the Oncenter Complex Convention Center (note the changed city and location)

Sponsor: US Environmental Protection Agency

EPA is hosting four public information meetings on the proposed study of the relationship between hydraulic fracturing and its potential impacts on drinking water. Hydraulic fracturing is a process that helps production of natural gas or oil from shale and other geological formations. By pumping fracturing fluids (water and chemical additives) and sand or other similar materials into rock formations, fractures are created that allow natural gas or oil to flow from the rock through the fractures to a production well for extraction. The meetings will provide public information about the proposed study scope and design. EPA will solicit public comments on the draft study plan. Stakeholders are requested to preregister for the meetings at least 72 hours before each meeting.

Price: free

[Visit the website](#)

Contact: Enesta Jones, 202-564-7873 or jones.enesta@epa.gov

2) CHE Café Call: On the Ground in the Gulf Coast: A Conversation with Wilma Subra and Michael Lerner

Thursday August 12, 2010

10:00 a.m. Pacific / 1:00 p.m. Eastern time

Sponsor: Collaborative on Health and the Environment

Wilma Subra is one of the foremost resource scientists for low-income communities in the Gulf Coast. This MacArthur Prize-winning chemist has dedicated her career to helping low-income communities get the facts they need about their chemical exposures and the implications for their health. She has worked tirelessly since the BP oil disaster to help communities and disaster workers understand their exposures. This conversation will bring the CHE community up to date on her latest findings. Michael Lerner is vice-chair and co-founder of the Collaborative on Health and the Environment and president of Commonweal, a health and environment institute in Bolinas, California.

Price: free

[Visit the website](#)

Contact: CHE, info@healthandenvironment.org

3) How Chemical Policy Reform Can Spur Green Chemistry

Thursday August 12, 2010

2:00 p.m. Eastern time

Sponsor: American Chemical Society

In the wake of the largest Gulf oil disaster or public concern over the chemicals in a baby bottle, how will changing legislation affect chemical professionals? Public policy has the potential to transform the chemical industries and set a new course for the next decade. Join our speaker, Richard Denison, and learn about the latest green chemistry policy developments (Safe Chemicals Act/TSCA reform) and how they may affect chemical professionals, chemical industries, and the future of green chemistry. Richard A. Denison is a senior scientist at the Environmental Defense Fund.

Price: free

[Visit the website](#)

4) Get a HANDLE on Neurodevelopmental Differences

Saturday and Sunday, August 14 - 15, 2010

Sarasota, Florida

at the Fountains at Lake Pointe Woods, 7979 South Tamiami Trail

Sponsor: The HANDLE Institute

This hands-on workshop introduces an interactive approach for identifying and addressing underlying causes of learning and social difficulties related to attentional disorders (ADD/ADHD) brain injury; autism; motor problems and hypersensitivities; learning challenges; dyslexia; OCD, anxiety disorders, and other behavioral or developmental challenges, issues of aging and more.

Price: Please contact the instructor regarding costs for this course.

[Visit the website](#)

Contact: Carolyn Nuyens, carolyn.nuyens@handle.org

5) Public Listening Sessions on Potential Revisions to Water Quality Standards Regulation

Tuesday August 24 and Thursday August 26, 2010

1 p.m. to 2:30 p.m. Eastern time

Sponsor: US Environmental Protection Agency

The US Environmental Protection Agency (EPA) will hold two public listening sessions on potential changes to the water quality standards regulation before proposing a national rule. The current regulation, which has been in place since 1983, governs how states and authorized tribes adopt standards needed under the Clean Water Act to protect the quality of their rivers, streams, lakes and estuaries. Potential revisions include strengthening protection for water bodies with water quality that already exceeds or meet the interim goals of the Clean Water Act; ensuring that standards reflect a continued commitment to these goals wherever attainable; improving transparency of regulatory decisions; and strengthening federal oversight. Water quality standards are the foundation of the water quality-based approach to pollution control, including Total Maximum Daily Loads and National Pollutant Discharge Elimination System permits. Standards are also a fundamental component of watershed management. At the sessions, EPA will provide a review of the current regulation and a summary of the revisions the agency is considering. Clarifying questions and brief oral comments (three minutes or less) from the public will be accepted at the sessions, as time permits. EPA will consider the comments received as it develops the proposed rulemaking. EPA will also hold separate listening sessions for state, tribal and local governments.

Price: free

[Visit the website](#)

Contact: Dave Ryan, 202-564-7827 or Ryan.dave@epa.gov

6) Wireless SmartMeters: What Are the Health, Personal Safety, Wireless Security and Excessive Billing Issues All About? What Can Consumers Do Now?

Wednesday August 25, 2010

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

Sponsor: Collaborative on Health and the Environment Working Group on Electromagnetic Fields (CHE-EMF)

CHE-EMF has been a leading international forum for expert dialogue on EMF concerns. A major new concern has emerged, especially in California, where PG&E is requiring that all homes and businesses install wireless "SmartMeters" that represent a major new source of EMF exposure. At present, PG&E offers no way for concerned individuals, organizations and communities to opt out. A sizable grassroots protest movement has emerged in California challenging PG&E's SmartMeter requirement on health, privacy, financial, fire hazard and other grounds. Our particular concern at CHE is the health risks these meters may pose through life-long exposure to this new and significant EMF source, especially in the home. Cindy Sage is cofacilitator of CHE EMF and lead cofounder of BioInitiative.org, a multi-author report on EMF concerns that is widely recognized as an international science resource. On this call, Cindy will present a summary review of the concerns with SmartMeters. Michael Lerner will explore some of these concerns with her and then open the dialogue to all participants.

Price: free

[Visit the website](#)

Contact: CHE, info@healthandenvironment.org

7) GMSTEC 2010: International Conference for a Sustainable Greater Mekong Subregion

Thursday and Friday, August 26 - 27, 2010

Bangkok, Thailand

location

Sponsor: King Mongkut's University of Technology Thonburi with other Greater Mekong Subregion members

The three research themes of the conference - Environment and Natural Resources, Energy and Materials, Policy and Human Development - accommodate sharing space for scientists and technologists alike in shaping solutions to improve a better standard of living for people in the region.

Price: see the [Registration page](#)

[Visit the website](#)

Contact: GMSTEC Secretariat, 662 470 8815 or gmstec2010@kmutt.ac.th

8) Coal Combustion Residuals (CCR) - Public Hearing

Monday August 30, 2010

The hearing will have a morning, afternoon and evening session, starting at 10:00 a.m. and ending at 9:00 p.m. or later depending on the number of speakers.

Arlington, Virginia

at the Hyatt Regency Crystal City, 2799 Jefferson Davis Highway

Sponsor: US Environmental Protection Agency Office of Resource Conservation and Recovery

This is one in a series of hearings that will provide interested persons the opportunity to present their views on the proposed rule: *Identification and Listing of Special Waste:*

Disposal of Coal Combustion Residuals from Electric Utilities, also known as the coal combustion residuals rule, the CCR rule or the coal ash rule. Speakers will have three minutes to present their views. EPA will also accept written statements. Preregistration is requested.

Price: free

[Visit the website](#)

9) School Health Policies and Program Study 2006: Healthy Physical School Environment

Tuesday August 31, 2010

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

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

As society continues to focus on the importance of academic achievement, the physical environment of schools should be addressed as one of the critical factors that influence academic outcomes. The School Health Policies and Programs Study (SHPPS) is a national survey periodically conducted to assess school health policies and programs at the state, district, school and classroom levels. SHPPS 2006 provides a comprehensive look at the extent to which schools have health-promoting physical school environment policies and programs. This presentation will provide an overview of SHPPS and findings for topics such as inspection of school physical facilities; school plans for dealing with mold and moisture-related issues; indoor air-quality management; pest management procedures; purchase of low-emitting products; testing of drinking water; and the use, labeling, storage, and disposal of hazardous materials. This is a rescheduling of a teleconference from mid July.

Price: free

[Visit the website](#)

Contact: Laura Abulafia, Laura@aaidd.org

10) Coal Combustion Residuals (CCR) - Public Hearing

Thursday September 2, 2010

The hearing will have a morning, afternoon and evening session, starting at 10:00 a.m. and ending at 9:00 p.m. or later depending on the number of speakers.

Denver, Colorado

at the Grand Hyatt, 1750 Welton Street

Sponsor: US Environmental Protection Agency Office of Resource Conservation and Recovery

This is one in a series of hearings that will provide interested persons the opportunity to present their views on the proposed rule: *Identification and Listing of Special Waste: Disposal of Coal Combustion Residuals from Electric Utilities*, also known as the coal combustion residuals rule, the CCR rule or the coal ash rule. Speakers will have three minutes to present their views. EPA will also accept written statements. Preregistration is requested.

Price: free

[Visit the website](#)

11) 2th Annual Meeting of the Society for Research on Nicotine and Tobacco

Monday through Thursday, September 6 - 9, 2010

Bath, UK

Sponsor: Society for Research on Nicotine and Tobacco in partnership with the UK Centre for Tobacco Control Studies

The theme of the conference will be "Translating Science to Policy." Presentations will include preclinical and basic science, clinical studies, public health and epidemiology and policy research.

Price: see the [Registration page](#)

[Visit the website](#)

Contact: SRNT 12th Annual Meeting Event Team, 0845 303 3334 or events@purevisionevents.com

12) Coal Combustion Residuals (CCR) - Public Hearing

Wednesday September 8, 2010

The hearing will have a morning, afternoon and evening session, starting at 10:00 a.m. and ending at 9:00 p.m. or later depending on the number of speakers.

Dallas, Texas

at the Hyatt Regency Dallas, 300 Reunion Boulevard

Sponsor: US Environmental Protection Agency Office of Resource Conservation and Recovery

This is one in a series of hearings that will provide interested persons the opportunity to present their views on the proposed rule: *Identification and Listing of Special Waste: Disposal of Coal Combustion Residuals from Electric Utilities*, also known as the coal combustion residuals rule, the CCR rule or the coal ash rule. Speakers will have three minutes to present their views. EPA will also accept written statements. Preregistration is requested.

Price: free

[Visit the website](#)

13) IFEH 11th World Congress on Environmental Health

Friday September 10, 2010

Vancouver, British Columbia Canada

Sponsor: International Federation of Environmental Health

The theme "Global Health Protection from Sea to Sky" provides a broad platform from which we will explore universal challenges to environmental health in an era of increasing globalization.

Price: unknown

[Visit the website](#)

News and Journal Articles

[Oil sands toxics growing rapidly.](#)

Tuesday, August 10, 2010

Canada's oil sands mining operations produce vast and fast-growing quantities of deadly substances, including mercury, heavy metals and arsenic, new data released by Environment Canada shows. Toronto Globe and Mail, Ontario.

[Fluoride helps, officials say, but fears persist.](#)

Tuesday, August 10, 2010

The CDC has recognized water fluoridation as "one of 10 great public health achievements of the 20th century" because it has reduced cavity rates. Some communities, though, are reluctant to add fluoride to their water systems because of campaigns claiming fluoride is dangerous. Gainesville Sun, Florida.

[Mystery rise in children suffering food allergies.](#)

Tuesday, August 10, 2010

Hospital admissions for food allergies among children have risen by 500 percent in the

last 20 years but doctors do not understand what is driving the increase. Experts say that even these figures underestimate the true incidence of the condition. London Independent, United Kingdom.

[See another article about children's allergies: [Damp house linked to kids' risk of nasal allergies](#) and [Junk food diet puts children at higher risk of allergies](#)]

What REALLY raises the risk of breast cancer?

Tuesday, August 10, 2010

Britain's rate of breast cancer is soaring, with as many as one in nine women affected by the devastating disease. We asked an expert to weigh up the evidence on the various theories. London Daily Mail, United Kingdom.

[See related articles about breast cancer: [Mediterranean diet tied to lower breast cancer risk](#) and [Diet and alcohol alter epigenetics of breast cancer, study suggests](#) and other articles related to cancer: [Cancer cells slurp up fructose, US study finds](#); [FDA staff: Cancer a concern with Medtronic device](#) and [Unique link found between mad cow disease and cancer](#)]

Killer smog blankets Moscow.

Tuesday, August 10, 2010

Moscow health authorities announced Monday that the number of deaths per day in the Russian capital had nearly doubled to 700 as the city and most of central Russia entered the seventh week of a heat wave. Los Angeles Times.

[See other articles about air quality: [The air near the BP oil spill](#); [Ambient air pollution exposure and full-term birth weight in California](#); [Outdoor particulate matter and childhood asthma admissions in Athens, Greece: A time-series study](#); [Idling buses bad for air, kids](#); [Air pollution link to cancer in Lebanon](#); [Case-crossover analysis of air pollution health effects: A systematic review of methodology and application](#); [Oxidative damage to DNA and lipids as biomarkers of exposure to air pollution](#); [Fears of pervasive air pollution stir up politics in Texas shale gas country](#); [North Texas residents want to protect economy as well as the air](#); [KDHE fires up coal debate](#); [NY coke plant, manager charged in pollution case](#); [BP's new headache: plant emissions suit](#); ['Smogtruck' charts big rig fumes](#); ['Desert dust' days may worsen kids' asthma](#); [Jefferson County Schools ask parents to stop idling, turn off engines during pickup time](#); [Airborne particulate matter and mitochondrial damage: a cross-sectional study](#); [MBTA ordered to cut toxic emissions](#); [Texas AG sues BP for Texas refinery pollution](#) and [Air pollution also affects heart, blood vessels, brain](#)]

State may require inspection of septic systems.

Monday, August 09, 2010

The state [Pennsylvania] Department of Environmental Protection has been working for the last five years on revising regulations that govern on-lot septic systems. Pottstown Mercury, Pennsylvania.

Early puberty for girls is raising health concerns.

Monday, August 09, 2010

American girls are hitting puberty earlier than ever -- a change that puts them at higher risk for behavioral problems as adolescents and breast cancer as adults, a new study shows. USA Today.

N.J., Pa. weigh how much to regulate deadly radon.

Monday, August 09, 2010

For more than a decade, state and federal governments have held off in regulating how much of the gas should be allowed in drinking water. Philadelphia Inquirer.

[See a related article: [Radon gas: The silent killer in the countryside](#)]

Experts warn of danger in coal tar sealant.

Saturday, August 07, 2010

A probable carcinogen found in coal tar sealants is accumulating at an increasing rate in the environment, a pair of government researchers told Springfield City Council members this week. Springfield News-Leader, Missouri.

Doctors prescribe fewer antibiotics.

Saturday, August 07, 2010

B.C. kids are still being prescribed unnecessary antibiotics, but the number is declining significantly among Vancouver Island children from infants to early teens, say data just released by the B.C. Centre for Disease Control. Canwest News Service.

[Eliminating diabetes and depression, and boosting education, most likely to ward off dementia.](#)

Friday, August 06, 2010

Eliminating diabetes and depression, as well as increasing education and fruit and vegetable consumption, are likely to have the biggest impact on reducing levels of dementia in the coming years, should no effective treatment be found, concludes a study published on the British Medical Journal website. ScienceDaily.

[Will this phone kill you?](#)

Friday, August 06, 2010

To get a sense of the total, complete, and utter mess that is research on the health effects of cell phones, look no further than a study of whether the ubiquitous gadgets raise the risk of brain tumors. Newsweek.

[See related articles: [Portland, Arcata look at cell-phone radiation](#) and [Do communication masts signal rising health dangers?](#)]

[Alarms sound over trash fires in war zones of Afghanistan, Iraq.](#)

Friday, August 06, 2010

Hundreds of military service members and contractor employees have fallen ill with cancer or severe breathing problems after serving in Iraq and Afghanistan, and they say they were poisoned by thick, black smoke produced by the burning of tons of trash generated on U.S. bases. Washington Post.

[The ugly side of beauty.](#)

Friday, August 06, 2010

In *No More Dirty Looks*, former Montrealers Siobhan O'Connor and Alexandra Spunt dish on the dangers of our beauty products, the trials and tribulations of finding natural alternatives and why we should change our habits now. Montreal Mirror, Quebec.

[Harmful content found in toy dolls.](#)

Thursday, August 05, 2010

Harmful levels of plasticizers and heavy metals found in popular toy dolls for children. Taipei China Post, Taiwan.

[See a related article: [Toxicity in toys no child's play for Indian scientists](#)]

[BPA may harm sperm in men, University of Michigan study finds.](#)

Wednesday, August 04, 2010

Bisphenol A, the chemical commonly known as BPA, and found in everything from water bottles to food-can liners, may be linked to decreased sperm quality in men, according to a new study from the University of Michigan. AnnArbor.com, Michigan.

[See related articles: [Urinary, circulating, and tissue biomonitoring studies indicate widespread exposure to bisphenol A](#) and [Bisphenol A and its potential health risks](#)]

[Europe breaking electronic waste export ban.](#)

Wednesday, August 04, 2010

Old televisions and computers containing hazardous substances are still being exported from Europe despite a ban aimed at stopping the trade, which poisons workers at makeshift recycling plants in Africa and Asia. BBC.

[See other articles about waste disposal: [UN incineration plans rejected by world's rubbish-dump workers](#), [Wisconsin begins recycling electronics Sept. 1](#), [Tribe denies trash](#) and [Crops absorb pharmaceuticals from treated sewage](#)]

[Where's all that oil spill waste going? Much of it to 'communities of color,' study finds.](#)

Wednesday, August 04, 2010

An analysis by the Environmental Justice Resource Center of Clark Atlanta University has found that much of the waste generated by the oil spill cleanup efforts is being winding

up in common landfills located in majority-black areas. Mobile Press-Register, Alabama. [See other articles about effects of the spill: [Survey finds broad anxiety among Gulf residents](#); [Dispersants in the wake of the Deepwater Horizon spill, with Dana Wetzel](#); [Fish, crabs and shrimp in Alabama waters appear free of contaminants](#); [Chemical dispersants in Gulf of Mexico not hurting seafood, FDA says](#) and [Emergency responder health: What have we learned from past disasters?](#)]

Asbestos, a toxic neighbour.

Wednesday, August 04, 2010

Although the use and importation of asbestos has been banned by 52 nations, more than 1,800 companies in Mexico use the mineral to manufacture some 3,000 products, like brake linings, furnaces and pipes. In the greater Mexico City area alone, 42 companies work with raw asbestos. Inter Press Service.

[See other articles about asbestos: [Asbestos mining: Rajasthan withdraws plea to lift ban](#), [Sunriver sues feds over army camp's asbestos](#), [Russians face asbestos cancer risk](#) and [GM's estate may face billions in asbestos claims](#)]

Arsenic deaths stalk Kandal village.

Wednesday, August 04, 2010

About 150,000 people living along the Mekong and Bassac rivers are consuming arsenic-contaminated drinking water for at least part of the year, according to government figures released last month. Phnom Penh Post, Cambodia.

[See a related article from Florida: [Arsenic find prompts tests on up to 300 Pinellas wells](#)]

Toxic pesticide banned in Jamaica.

Wednesday, August 04, 2010

Use of endosulfan, an organochlorine insecticide first registered in the 1950s, is being phased out in Jamaica. Kingston Jamaica Gleaner, Jamaica.

[See other articles about pesticide use: [Response is mixed on EEE strategy](#); [Landscaper: County chemical rules 'crazy, sad'](#) and [Poisonous pesticides on the doorstep](#)]

Tap water in south China town contaminated.

Wednesday, August 04, 2010

Environmental pollution in China has increased in recent years as the country's rapid economic development continues virtually unchecked. Associated Press.

[See other articles about water contamination: [EPA explains toxic cleanup plan for Quanta site in Edgewater](#), [DEP announces more Limerick well pollution](#), [Parties agree to treat underground toxins](#) and [Selenium hearing is underway in federal court](#)]

Long-delayed Green Chemistry rules take center stage.

Wednesday, August 04, 2010

Environmentalists and industry representatives will square off at a three-hour hearing Tuesday over Gov. Arnold Schwarzenegger's long-delayed Green Chemistry regulations. Sacramento Capitol Weekly, California.

[See a recap of the meeting: [Joint green chemistry hearing examines elimination of toxics from the marketplace](#) and an article about a possible green-chemistry discovery: [Scientist creates sunscreen from ivy](#)]

Autism Speaks on US Senate hearing on potential environmental health factors in autism.

Wednesday, August 04, 2010

As this hearing reviews studies funded by the Environmental Protection Agency and the National Institute of Environmental Health Sciences on environmental factors associated with autism, including toxins and other factors that can influence brain development, Dr. Dawson reiterated that it is important to remember that, "Although genetic factors clearly contribute to the causes of autism, we also need to understand environmental factors and their interactions with genetic susceptibility." EurekAlert!

[See related articles regarding autism: [Educators, officials face 400 % spike in autism](#); [Concern over controversial autism drug \[Lupron\]](#) and [Autism correlation to wealth affirmed](#)]

[U.S. dietary supplements often contaminated -- report.](#)

Tuesday, August 03, 2010

Many popular dietary supplements contain ingredients that may cause cancer, heart problems, liver or kidney damage, but U.S. stores sell them anyway and Americans spend millions on them, according to Consumer Reports. Reuters.

[See a related article: [US dietary supplements not as safe as consumers might assume](#)]

[Wisconsin says: "Know nano."](#)

Tuesday, August 03, 2010

The Wisconsin legislature just set up a study committee to gather information about nanotechnology and consider the policy implications. New Haven Independent, Connecticut.

[NIEHS and the action agenda on chemical exposures.](#)

Tuesday, August 03, 2010

Launched with fanfare at a meeting attended by some 500 people in Washington June 26, 2009, the National Conversation on Public Health and Chemical Exposures has mobilized more than 200 specialists, industry representatives, and environmental health advocates to participate on a leadership council and in work groups crafting statements on aspects of the issue. Environmental Factor.

[See a related article: [U.S. regulators lack data on health risks of most chemicals](#)]

[Kids at risk of lead poisoning.](#)

Monday, August 02, 2010

One child develops lead poisoning every nine days in the Queensland mining town of Mt Isa, researchers say. The new report published in the Medical Journal of Australia comes amid legal action against the mining company Xstrata that alleges its activities have left children brain damaged. Australian Associated Press.

[See related articles: [Groups seek ban on lead in sporting ammunition](#), [Lead paint problems still haunt Green Bay renters](#) and [The association between bone turnover, micronutrient intake and blood lead levels among pre- and post-menopausal women, NHANES 1999-2002](#)]

[Toddler cleaning product accidents dropping in US.](#)

Monday, August 02, 2010

Using national data from emergency departments, they found the number of injuries from products such as bleach, ammonia, and laundry detergent had dropped by nearly half between 1990 and 2006. Reuters Health.

[Activist urges others to become involved.](#)

Saturday, July 31, 2010

Lois Gibbs, former Niagara Falls housewife-turned-activist who was at the center of the Love Canal controversy of the late 1970s that led to an overhaul of national pollution laws, made a stop in downtown Toledo Friday to generate support for area activists. Toledo Blade, Ohio.

[See a related article: [EPA developing tool to assist in Enviro Justice Initiative](#)]

[Qualitative environmental health research: An analysis of the literature, 1991-2008.](#)

Saturday, July 31, 2010

This analysis demonstrates the potential of qualitative data to improve understanding of complex exposure pathways, including the influence of social factors on environmental health, and health outcomes. Environmental Health Perspectives.

[Manganese and Parkinson's disease: A critical review and new findings.](#)

Saturday, July 31, 2010

The overwhelming evidence shows that Mn-induced parkinsonism does not involve degeneration of midbrain dopamine neurons and that L-dopa is not an effective therapy. Environmental Health Perspectives.

[Feds charge Tonawanda coke with environmental crimes.](#)

Friday, July 30, 2010

The Tonawanda Coke Corporation and its Environmental Control Manager Mark Kamholz are charged with 20 federal crimes; most of them are violations of the federal Clean Air Act. People who live by the plant have been complaining of air quality and high cancer rates for years. Buffalo WGRZ TV, New York.

[See another story about litigation: [FEMA trailer formaldehyde claims by Mississippi residents dismissed by federal judge](#)]

Wi-Fi opponents make waves.

Friday, July 30, 2010

Opponents of wireless technology -- particularly the new free Wi-Fi and Bluetooth service along White Rock Beach -- took over the public question period at White Rock council's meeting Monday night. Peace Arch News, British Columbia.

[See related articles from California: [Residents express concern over SmartMeter radiation](#), [Capitola to ask for SmartMeter moratorium](#) and [Huffman calls for health study on SmartMeters](#)]

Can secondhand smoke hurt kids' grades?

Friday, July 30, 2010

Children and teenagers exposed to secondhand smoke at home may get poorer grades than their peers from smoke-free homes, a study of Hong Kong students suggests. Reuters Health.

[See related articles: [State ranks high in childhood exposure to secondhand smoke](#); [Surrey smoking ban in parks, beaches a success so far](#) and [The healthy skeptic: Electronic cigarettes](#)]

Chemicals in rivers linked to sexual changes in fish, researchers say.

Friday, July 30, 2010

Alberta researchers say gender-bending fish swimming in the province's southern rivers raise serious questions about whether the water is safe for people to drink. Canadian Press.

[See other articles about water quality concerns: [Pollution makes quarter of China water unusable](#), [Swimming in Md. rivers can be worse than a dip in the toilet](#) and [Little testing being done locally of prescription drug levels in water](#)]

Breaking patterns of environmentally influenced disease for health risk reduction: Immune perspectives.

Friday, July 30, 2010

Focusing on patterns of disease, as opposed to individual conditions, offers two important venues for environmental health risk reduction. Environmental Health Perspectives.

[See related articles: [Evolution in environmental health: Incorporating the infectious disease paradigm](#), [A niche for infectious disease in environmental health: Rethinking the toxicological paradigm](#) and [Artificial lighting as a vector attractant and cause of disease diffusion](#)]

Epidemiologic evidence on the health effects of perfluorooctanoic acid (PFOA).

Friday, July 30, 2010

Epidemiologic evidence remains limited, and to date data are insufficient to draw firm conclusions regarding the role of PFOA for any of the diseases of concern. Environmental Health Perspectives.

Computational toxicology: Realizing the promise of the toxicity testing in the 21st century.

Friday, July 30, 2010

Even though the application of computational toxicology to environmental health decisions requires additional efforts, the merger of the power of computers with biological information is poised to deliver new tools and knowledge. Environmental Health Perspectives.

[See a related article: [Exposure science: A view of the past and milestones for the future](#)]

Subsistence diet not safe from toxins.

Thursday, July 29, 2010

They're in the foods we eat and the toys our children play with, that's why the safety watchdog group, Alaska Community Action on Toxics, is trying to increase awareness about the chemicals we encounter everyday and recent studies show some concerns about the freshest foods from the wild. Anchorage KTUU TV, Alaska.

[See other articles about diet and health: [Mom's pregnancy diet not tied to wheezing risk](#); [Western diet link to ADHD](#), [Australian study finds](#); [Chemicals \[nitrites and nitrates\] in meat may be linked to bladder cancer](#) and [High dioxins raise fish warning](#)]

Prescription: More sun.

Thursday, July 29, 2010

If Stubbs is right about the autism/Vitamin D link, he and a growing legion of scientists across the country might also be right about their larger theory -- that lack of sun exposure and Vitamin D explains Oregon's high rates of depression, multiple sclerosis, bone disease, cancers and dozens of other maladies, including colds and flu. Portland Tribune.

[See and article with a different view: [Sunbeds double the risk of skin cancer for teenagers](#)]

NYC looks to stop spreading bedbug infestations.

Thursday, July 29, 2010

One of every 15 New Yorkers battled bedbugs last year, officials said Wednesday as they announced a plan to fight the spreading infestation, including a public-awareness campaign and a top entomologist to head the effort. Associated Press.

Climate change exacerbates disparate health conditions among vulnerable populations, experts say.

Wednesday, July 28, 2010

Whatever the reason for extreme weather conditions, whether it is hurricanes or sweltering heat, one thing is certain, researchers say: their impact is greatest on children and other vulnerable populations. Diverse: Issues In Higher Education.

Gas drilling companies claim to use safer chemicals.

Wednesday, July 28, 2010

In Texas and across the country, controversy is escalating over the practice of "fracking," which involves shooting water, sand and chemicals far underground to retrieve natural gas. Texas Tribune.

[See related articles: [Federal, state bills target fracking safety](#), [Concerns raised at gas drilling hearing](#), [US gas firms broke environment rules](#) and [Drilling industry and gubernatorial candidates move to weaken some state regulations](#)]

Pipeline leak pollutes major Michigan river.

Wednesday, July 28, 2010

Crews were working Tuesday to contain and clean up more than 800,000 gallons of oil that poured into a creek and flowed into the Kalamazoo River in southern Michigan, coating birds and fish. Battle Creek and surrounding Calhoun County declared a local state of emergency. Associated Press.

[See a related article: [Long-term odor exposure worries officials](#)]

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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