



Initiative on Children's Environmental Health

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



Biweekly Bulletin September 22, 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

Children First Conference October 1st

The Children First: Promoting Ecological Health for the Whole Child symposium on October 1, 2010, at the Mission Bay Conference Center in San Francisco will feature presentations by leading experts in the field of children's integrative health: Richard Louv, author of "Last Child in the Woods"; Lawrence Rosen, MD, founder of the Whole Child Center; Richard Jackson, MD, MPH, professor and chair of Environmental Health Sciences at the UCLA School of Public Health; Tieraona Low Dog, MD, director of fellowship at the Arizona Center for Integrative Medicine; Barbara Sattler, RN, DrPH, professor and director of the Environmental Health Education Center, University of Maryland School of Nursing; Fritjof Capra, PhD, founding director of the Center for Ecoliteracy and many other influential leaders in this growing and complex field.

Throughout this all-day event, presenters will highlight a range of interacting factors that influence child health and development, including nutrition, education, socioeconomic status, exposures to toxics and access to health care. This promises to be a full day of valuable information promoting model programs and concrete steps toward creating optimal and sustainable environments in which children can thrive. Materials and audiorecordings will be archived on our website.

Seating is limited and almost full. A waiting list will be started once we reach seating capacity. Registration is only \$50 and includes a continental breakfast and lunch. Presenter books will be available for sale and signing during the lunch break. A full agenda, speaker list and registration link is available on [CHE's website](#). For more information, contact Erika Sanders, CHE administrative coordinator, at info@healthandenvironment.org.

The recording from yesterday's related call is now available on CHE's website: [Pediatric Integrative Health: Approaches to Optimizing "Whole Child" Wellness](#).

Announcements

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

[New report: Chemical Exposures: State Ideas for Safeguarding Health.](#)

The Association of State and Territorial Health Officials has released a new report. The needs assessment and state forum focused on questions related to the six National Conversation workgroup areas in an attempt to better understand state needs on these topics.

[See a related call for comments on the work group reports, extended through September 27th: [National Conversation on Public Health and Chemical Exposures](#)]

[Proposed Regulation for Safer Consumer Products submitted to Office of Administrative Law to begin state's formal rulemaking process.](#)

As one of the key components of the Green Chemistry Initiative, these regulations set a process for prioritizing chemicals of concern and fostering the design of safer products sold in California. All comments must be received by November 1, 2010.

[Call for comments: proposed plan for greenhouse gas permits.](#)

The federal plan would allow EPA to issue permits for large GHG emitters located in states unable to address these emissions under their Clean Air Act permitting program. This would be a temporary measure that is in place until the state can revise its own plan and resume responsibility for permitting. Written comments will be accepted until October 14, 2010.

[EPA announces public meetings on Chesapeake Bay 'pollution diet.'](#)

The US Environmental Protection Agency is scheduled to hold 18 public meetings this fall to discuss the draft Chesapeake Bay Total Maximum Daily Load (TMDL) -- a strict "pollution diet" to restore local waters and the Chesapeake Bay.

[Call for proposals: Environmental Workforce Development and Job Training.](#)

Environmental Workforce Development and Job Training (EWDJT) grants are provided to recruit, train, and place unemployed and under-employed, predominantly low-income and minority, residents historically affected by hazardous and solid waste sites and facilities with the skills needed to secure full-time, sustainable employment in the environmental field and in the assessment and cleanup work taking place in their communities. Proposals are due January 14, 2011.

[Call for proposals: State and Tribal Assistance Grants - Bed Bug Education/Outreach and Environmental Justice.](#)

Effective bed bug control takes active participation and cannot be done in isolation, especially when multi-unit housing is involved. Collaboration and communication among all stakeholders are critical to minimizing cost and maximizing control at the community level.

[Call for proposals: Lead-Based Paint Hazard Control Grant Program and Lead Hazard Reduction Demonstration Grant Program.](#)

The overarching purpose is to assist states, Native American Tribes, cities, counties/parishes, or other units of local government in undertaking comprehensive programs to identify and control lead-based paint hazards in eligible privately owned rental or owner-occupied housing.

[Job opening: North Carolina.](#)

Hinton Human Capital, an emerging leader in executive search in climate change, environmental and infrastructure industries is now searching for a global EH&S director for an international manufacturing company.

[Job opening: Los Angeles.](#)

Healthy Child Healthy World is seeking a chief executive officer to provide leadership and management to build Healthy Child into a pre-eminent nonprofit and maximize its reach and impact. Contact Michelle R. S. Bonoan of Gary Kaplan & Associates, 626-204-2216 or mbonoan@gkasearch.com.

[Job opening: Portland, Oregon.](#)

Oregon Environmental Council is seeking an Event/Logistics Coordinator for the 3rd Annual NW Environmental Health conference. [Read more about last year's conference »](#) To apply, please send cover letter and resume by October 5, 2010, to Renee Hackenmiller-Paradis, reneep@oeconline.org.

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

Global Greengrants Fund is a public charity that supports grassroots activists and civil

society organizations working to address environmental and social justice issues primarily in the global south. GGF seeks a grants associate to be responsible for the coordination and administration of a portion of GGF's small grants program. Please apply by September 24, 2010, to jobs@greengrants.org and specify 'Grants Associate' in the subject line.

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) 8th Annual Conference on Children's Health and the Environment

Friday September 24, 2010

8:00 a.m. - 4:30 p.m.

Washington, DC

at the Hamilton Crowne Plaza

Sponsor: The Mid-Atlantic Center for Children's Health and the Environment (MACCHE), with co-sponsors listed on the website

This year's conference will explore how children's health is affected in the home and school environment. Topics include healthy homes, bisphenol A and phthalates, and schools. Continuing education credits (CME, CHES, CNE and CEU) will be available to participants.

Price: \$125 for healthcare professionals, \$50 for students, or \$150 for all others

[Visit the website](#)

2) Green Procurement

Friday September 24, 2010

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

Sponsor: Coalition for Healthier Schools

Beth Meer, MS, special assistant to the Commissioners Policy Office, New York State Department of Environmental Conservation, will review New York State's work and results under Executive Order 4 on Green Procurement. Marcia Deegler, director of environmental purchasing for the Commonwealth of Massachusetts, will discuss the five-state cooperative purchasing agreement in New England and what public agency officials need to 'buy green.' Julia Earl, executive director of Preventing Harm Minnesota, will moderate a question-and-answer period.

Price: free

Contact: mcoleman@healthyschools.org

3) 2010 IEHA Fall Educational Conference

Sunday through Wednesday, September 26 - 29, 2010

Brown County State Park, Indiana

at Abe Martin Lodge

Sponsor: Indiana Environmental Health Association

The conference theme is "Sustainable Environmental Health through Engaging the Public." Session topics include food safety, water quality, waste disposal, lead exposure, risk communication, hazard preparedness and more.

Price: see the [registration form](#)

[Visit the website](#)

Contact: IEHA, info@iehaind.org

4) Children's Health and Environmental Toxicants: Scientific Evidence to Policy

Monday September 27, 2010

3:00 - 4:30 p.m.

Portland, Oregon

at the Metro Government Building, 600 NE Grand

Sponsor: Oregon Physicians for Social Responsibility, Oregon Toxics Alliance and the METRO Sustainability Center

Catherine Karr, MD, PhD, will share cutting-edge research on children, toxics and the implications for public policy. Her talk is designed for medical professionals, elected officials, agency staff, environment and public health NGOs, and other policy makers.

Price: free

[Visit the website](#)

Contact: Lisa Heigh, METRO, 503-797-1611 or Lisa.Heigh@oregonmetro.gov

5) UNIPHE Promotional Conference

Monday and Tuesday, September 27 - 28, 2010

Bucharest, Romania

at the Rin Grand Hotel

Sponsor: Use of Sub-National Indicators to Improve Public Health in Europe (UNIPHE)

The conference aim is raising awareness about the need for sub-national assessments of population health and its social and environmental determinants by improving information sharing and participation among the European community. The conference will focus on emerging and current work in the field of public health information and its application and will feature both oral and poster presentations in the following key areas: 1) environment and health (EH) information policy in Europe, 2) existing EH initiatives/projects update in Europe, 3) environmental health impact assessment tools/approaches 4) UNIPHE results and 5) EH and UNIPHE further partnerships and networking.

Price: unknown

[Visit the website](#)

Contact: agalan@ispb.ro

6) Coal Combustion Residuals (CCR) - Public Hearing

Tuesday September 28, 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.

Louisville, Kentucky

at the Seelbach Hilton, 500 Fourth 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](#)

7) Air Quality in a Changing Climate

Tuesday September 28, 2010

2:00 - 3:30 p.m.

Washington, DC

at the Rayburn House Office Building, Room 2325

Sponsor: US Environmental Protection Agency National Center For Environmental Research

"What the Future Holds for the Air We Breathe" is the topic for this lecture to be presented by 1) Jonathan Samet (USC), chair of the Clean Air Scientific Advisory Committee: The impact of climate change on the future of air research and global human health; and 2) Alice Gilliland (EPA): The rising challenge of meeting cleaner air goals in a changing climate.

Price: unknown

[Visit the website](#)

8) Confronting Toxics: Clinical Education and Advocacy Training

Tuesday September 28, 2010

6:30 - 9:30 p.m.

San Francisco, California

111 Sutter Street, 20th Floor

Sponsor: San Francisco Bay Area chapter of Physicians for Social Responsibility

Americans face widespread exposure to industrial chemicals. Indeed, human exposure to industrial chemicals, including flame retardants, BPA and Teflon-like chemicals, is ubiquitous. We come into contact with these chemicals in a wide range of ways, among them handling consumer products such as toys and furniture, drinking and eating food with traces of pesticides and other contaminants, and working in a workplace involving routine chemical exposure. Along with widespread chemical exposure come uncertain health consequences. Many industrial chemicals are suspected contributors to a wide range of serious health problems. These potential health effects include such chronic diseases and disorders as cancer, diabetes, obesity, heart disease, asthma, infertility, reproductive disorders, developmental disabilities and behavioral disorders. Industrial chemicals and toxic substances are managed in the US by a complex network of statutes and government agencies, reflecting the disparate routes of exposure. Several agencies regulate chemicals at the federal level, primarily the EPA, the FDA and the Consumer Product Safety Commission. Different statutes regulate chemicals in commerce; chemicals in consumer products; chemicals in cosmetics; and pesticides, pharmaceuticals and food additives. This training will be presented by Dr. Sarah Janssen, a physician and SF PSR Steering Committee member, who will explain the science behind the health effects of exposure to industrial chemicals, the management of these chemicals in the US, and the role clinicians can play in helping to bring about chemicals policy reform. Registration is required and space is limited. A light supper will be provided.

Price: free, but a donation to SF PSR is welcome.

[Visit the website](#)

Contact: Lucia Sayre, 510-845-1819 luciasayre@sbcglobal.net

9) Poisoned for Profit

Thursday September 30, 2010

10:00 a.m. - noon

San Francisco, California

at the Conservatory of Flowers in Golden Gate Park (Orchid Annex)

Sponsor: Environmental Working Group

A presentation by Alice Shabecoff, author of [*Poisoned for Profit: How Toxins Are Making our Children Chronically Ill*](#), will be followed by a panel discussion with Michael Green of the Center for Environmental Health, Stacy Malkan of the Campaign for Safe Cosmetics and Renee Sharp of the Environmental Working Group. Topics include how toxins - pesticides, pollution, plastics, parabens - affect children's health, what you can do to reduce your family's toxic exposures, how the US economic and regulatory system is failing to protect us, and how we can change the system together.

Price: free

[Visit the website](#)

10) Policies and Advocacy for Safer Chemicals, Healthier Communities

Thursday September 30, 2010

2:00 - 4:00 p.m.

Boston, Massachusetts

at Boston University School of Medicine Instructional Building, 72 E. Concord Street, Room R115

Sponsor: The Environmental Health Nursing Education Collaborative

Chemicals in commerce are regulated by an array of federal and state laws. For the first time in over 30 years the federal Toxics Substances Control Act (TSCA), which regulates over 80,000 substances, is under review. Learn how this and other federal and state chemical policies regulate and monitor - or not! - the chemicals and substances we encounter every day in our homes, workplaces, and communities. Health professionals are key advocates for the health of their patients and for their communities and society. Learn how you can contribute your expertise to educate decision makers at all levels, as well as your colleagues and patients, about health-protective chemical policies. Don't miss inspiring stories from Dr. Richard Clapp, who helped bring justice to families in Woburn, Massachusetts (the subject of the film *A Civil Action*), reveal the health effects of air pollution from power plants, bring benefits to veterans exposed to Agent Orange, and raise a voice for justice on numerous government policy advisory panels. Hear from environmental health leaders who have worked for decades as change makers to help create a healthier world. Other speakers will be Cindy Luppi, co-director of Clean Water Action New England, and Maria Valenti, program director of the Greater Boston Physicians for Social Responsibility.

Price: free

Contact: Please RSVP to Greg Patts, gpatts@bu.edu

11) Children First: Promoting Ecological Health for the Whole Child

Friday October 1, 2010

San Francisco, California

at the University of California, San Francisco

Sponsor: Collaborative on Health and the Environment, Whole Child Center, and University of California, San Francisco Osher Center for Integrative Medicine

Pediatric integrative medicine embraces a holistic, whole-child approach, specifically examining the context - the ecology - in which optimal health and wellness is promoted. This groundbreaking one-day symposium will highlight a range of interacting factors that influence child health and development, including nutrition, education, socioeconomic status, exposures to toxic chemicals, and access to preventive health care. Leaders in these fields of expertise will also describe model programs and concrete steps toward creating optimal and sustainable environments in which children can thrive and reach their full potential. This symposium is open to health professionals, research scientists, parents, school administrators, teachers, policymakers, city planners, nutritionists and all others concerned with ensuring children have the best possible environments in which to grow and develop. Note the meeting will be held the day before the start of the annual meeting of the [American Academy of Pediatrics](#) in San Francisco.

Price: \$50 includes a continental breakfast and lunch

[Visit the website](#)

12) Do Cell Phones Cause Brain Cancer?

Wednesday October 6, 2010

Noon, with check-in at 11:30 a.m.

San Francisco, California

at the Commonwealth Club of California Gold Room, 595 Market Street 2nd Floor

Sponsor: The Commonwealth Club

Oncology expert Devra Lee Davis blows the lid off what she asserts is the cell phone industry's abuse of science. It isn't just about brain cancer, says Davis: cell phones

damage DNA, break down the brain's defenses, reduce sperm count, and increase memory loss. Radio frequency radiation from phones is especially threatening to children, whose brains are still growing. But the US, helped along by the powerful mobile phone industry, has done little to examine these risks or set standards that significantly improve our safety, Davis and others contend. She will reveal the untold inside story of how we got here.

Price: \$8 members, \$20 nonmembers

[Visit the website](#)

Contact: see the [Contact page](#)

13) Mercury Effects on Ecosystems and Human Health

Wednesday and Thursday, October 6 - 7, 2010

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

Boise, Idaho

at the Red Lion - Downtown Boise, 1800 W. Fairview Avenue

Sponsor: EOS Alliance

Both organic and elemental mercury create a wide spectrum of ecological and human health concerns. Statewide advisories for mercury levels in fish exist in dozens of states across the United States. Mercury spills cost public and private entities millions of dollars a year in cleanup and health care costs. This course 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: Early bird rate \$450 until August 13, 2010, or \$350 for employees of Native American tribes, government agencies, nonprofits, students, and NAEP, NEBC, NWAEP members

[Visit the website](#)

Contact: Northwest Environmental Training Center, 425-270-3274 or info@nwetc.org

14) Antibiotics Overuse: Why Healthcare Should Care about Agriculture Use

Thursday October 7, 2010

5:00 p.m. Eastern time

Sponsor: Health Care Without Harm

Of all the antibiotics consumed each year in the US, only an estimated 15 percent are used for human therapy. The bulk of the remaining antibiotics, an estimated 70 percent, are routinely given to poultry, beef cattle, and swine in their feed, not to treat diagnosed disease, but to promote faster growth and for routine disease prevention. Many such feed antibiotics are identical or very nearly so to human medicines, including penicillin, tetracycline, erythromycin and sulfa drugs. This currently legal, routine and unnecessary use of antibiotics in animal agriculture contributes significantly to the rise in resistant bacterial infections in humans. Numerous health organizations including the American Medical Association, American Nurses Association, American Public Health Association, and the American Academy of Pediatrics have called for an end to this practice. In 2003, the US Institute of Medicine/National Academy of Science stated that decreasing "antimicrobial use in human medicine alone will have little effect on the current [antibiotic-resistant] situation" and that "substantial efforts must be made to decrease inappropriate overuse [of antibiotics] in animals and agriculture." The presenter will be David Wallinga, MD, of the Institute for Agriculture and Trade Policy. Continuing education for physicians (CME) is available.

Price: free

[Visit the website](#)

15) CHE Café Call: Living Downstream: A Conversation with Sandra Steingraber and Chanda Chevannes

Tuesday October 12, 2010

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

Sponsor: Collaborative on Health and the Environment

The recently released documentary *Living Downstream* explores the impact of environmental toxins on human health. This feature-length film focuses on the work of Dr. Sandra Steingraber, ecologist, author and cancer survivor. Based on Dr. Steingraber's 1997 book of the same name, *Living Downstream* follows Sandra over the course of one pivotal year as she works to break the silence about cancer and its environmental links, and as she finds herself in a period of medical uncertainty about whether her cancer has recurred. Join CHE for a conversation with Dr. Steingraber and the film's producer and director, Chanda Chevannes.

Price: free

[Visit the website](#)

Contact: CHE, info@healthandenvironment.org

16) First Regional Health Sciences and Nursing Conference 2010

Tuesday through Thursday, October 12 - 14, 2010

Shah Allam, Selangor Malaysia

at the SACC Convention Centre

Sponsor: Universiti Teknologi MARA

The conference is designed to address health problems and issues related to environmental health, medical imaging, medical technology, nursing, nutrition and dietetics, occupational therapy, optometry and physiotherapy. Other related fields are also welcomed.

Price: see the website

[Visit the website](#)

Contact: +603-3258 4494/4326/4382/4362 or frhsnc2010@gmail.com

17) Atmospheric Toxics Webinar Series: Great Lakes Mercury Research Synthesis

Wednesday October 13, 2010

10:00 a.m. - noon Eastern time

Sponsor: Great Lakes Commission

Over the last six years, the Great Lakes Commission (GLC), under funding from the US Environmental Protection Agency (USEPA) and in cooperation with the eight Great Lakes states, has awarded research grants dealing with atmospheric toxic pollutants affecting the Great Lakes and their tributary watersheds. Thirty-five research grants have been awarded since 2004 addressing a diverse array of research concerning atmospheric pollutant loadings and movement within the basin and the associated impacts of numerous persistent, bioaccumulative, and toxic (PBT) chemicals on wildlife and human health. A substantial amount of new scientific knowledge has been attained through these research activities. The GLAD webinar series is intended to provide a forum for GLAD Principal Investigators (PIs) to disseminate information on their respective research activities, including specific findings, recommended follow-up actions, and potential public policy actions to foster elimination of PBT threats to the region. David Evers, PhD, will present "Great Lakes mercury research synthesis" and Kevin Crist, PhD, will present "Mercury fate, transport, depositional patterns, and major source characterization in the Great Lakes region."

Price: free

[Visit the website](#)

Contact: GLC, 734-971-9135

18) Are Vaccines Safe and Effective? An Educational Opportunity for Parents and Practitioners

Wednesday October 13, 2010

6:30 - 9:30 p.m.

New York, New York

at the Philip Coltoff Center, 219 Sullivan Street
Sponsor: Lawrence B. Palevsky, MD, FAAP

In this workshop, you will hear discussions on vaccine science: 1) What is current vaccine science and who is funding it and doing it? 2) How do vaccines work, and have they done, and do they do what we're told they do? 3) What role do vaccine ingredients play when injected into infants and children? 4) What do the ingredients do to our children once they're injected? 5) Do vaccines contribute to the development of chronic illnesses in children? 6) How do our children get into school if they're not vaccinated? 7) How does the immune system work in babies and children? Attendees will hear some of the answers to these questions, along with the research that questions whether vaccines are safe and effective, and whether the scientific process is even at work to prove the answers to these questions. Attendees will also be asked to look at the issues that drive us to make the decisions we make, many of which come to us through fear, bullying, uncertainty and a lack of knowledge, and to perhaps think alternatively about how illnesses occur and disappear.

Price: \$35 per ticket or \$60 per couple from the same household

[Visit the website](#)

Contact: see the [Contact page](#)

19) Use of *In Utero* and Postnatal Indicators to Predict Health Outcomes Later in Life

Thursday and Friday, October 14 - 15, 2010

Washington, DC

at the Washington Club, 15 Dupont Circle NW

Sponsor: National Academy of Science

This workshop will provide a brief background on traditional testing strategies used to detect later-life effects following *in utero* or postnatal stressors. It will also explore the emerging science in this area using two case studies. The first case study is end-point driven and will examine developmental origins of obesity, insulin resistance, and hypertension. The second will explore *in utero* or postnatal exposure to arsenic and potential indicators that could predict later-life effects. Finally, the workshop will include discussions on implications for using this emerging science for risk assessment or decision-making purposes. This workshop is open to the public.

Price: free

[Visit the website](#)

20) La Leche League of Washington Parenting & Breastfeeding Conference

Friday through Sunday, October 15 - 17, 2010

Redmond, Washington

at the Redmond Marriott Town Center

Sponsor: La Leche League of Washington

The conference theme is "Embrace, Enrich, Embolden!" The conference offers a unique opportunity to meet other like-minded parents and professionals while learning about breastfeeding, parenting, childbirth, discipline, nutrition and child development from parents and professionals who are experts on these topics. Conference sessions and schedule will be online May 1, 2010. Registration will begin in July 2010.

Price: unknown

[Visit the website](#)

Contact: Jennifer Wenzel, Wenzel05@live.com

21) 48th International Making Cities Livable Conference

Sunday through Thursday, October 17 - 21, 2010

Charleston, South Carolina

Sponsor: City of Charleston and the International Making Cities Livable Council

Children are profoundly affected by the environment in which they live. The opportunity to safely walk to school, play outdoors in a park or live in a healthy environment affects their well being and future development. The physical layout of our communities can promote or restrict active living and healthy development. This conference offers an opportunity to get involved in creating child-friendly communities. Towns and cities play a critical role as they focus on building child-friendly green spaces, community places, safe routes, and urban design. The conference theme is "True Urbanism: Planning Healthy and Child-Friendly Communities." An exhibit on Successful Solutions for Healthy and Child-friendly Communities will also be featured.

Price: see the [Registration page](#)
[Visit the website](#)

Contact: Making Cities Livable at the [Contact Us page](#)

22) CDC Healthy Homes Meeting

Tuesday and Wednesday, October 19 - 20, 2010

Atlanta, Georgia

at the Westin Atlanta Perimeter North

Sponsor: Centers for Disease Control and Prevention, Healthy Homes and Lead Poisoning Prevention Program

The goal of the meeting is to build on knowledge gained from our childhood lead poisoning prevention activities to enhance healthy homes program planning and facilitate dialogue around healthy homes initiatives. The agenda will be posted on the website.

Price: free
[Visit the website](#)

23) Protecting Children's Health for a Lifetime: Environmental Health Research Meets Clinical Practice and Public Policy

Tuesday and Wednesday, October 19 - 20, 2010

Washington, DC

at the Grand Hyatt Washington, 1000 H Street, NW

Sponsor: US Environmental Protection Agency

During Children's Health Month, several federal and professional organizations will convene to explore the interplay between research, clinical applications and policy implications in the field of children's environmental health. The US Environmental Protection Agency's Office of Research and Development and Office of Children's Health Protection; The Department of Health and Human Services' Agency for Toxic Substances and Disease Registry of the Centers for Disease Control and Prevention; the National Institute of Environmental Health Sciences; and the Association of Occupational and Environmental Clinics are working together to sponsor and celebrate the next phase of the Children's Environmental Health and Disease Prevention Research Centers (Children's Centers) program and the Pediatric Environmental Health Specialty Units (PEHSUs) North American network. The meeting will feature the expertise of the Children's Centers and the PEHSUs through interdisciplinary presentations and discussions that explore connections between research findings, clinical and community practice and child protective policies. Speakers also will discuss effective approaches for communicating with the scientific community and for sharing research findings and technical information with parents and the general public.

Price: free
[Visit the website](#)

Contact: Devon Payne-Sturges, 202-343-9852 or payne-sturges.devon@epa.gov

24) Sixth Biennial Scientific Symposium

Thursday and Friday, October 21 - 22, 2010

Houston, Texas
at Space Center Houston
Sponsor: Children's Environmental Health Institute

The symposium theme is "Prenatal & Early Life Exposures: How Environmental Toxins Affect the Course of Childhood." Participants will examine the role of toxins on the health of infants and young children. Leadership from the medical, corporate and government sectors will provide evidence-based scientific information on the consequences of prenatal environmental exposure to toxins and of not taking action to protect the health of infants and young children.

Price: see the [Registration form](#)

[Visit the website](#)

Contact: Janie Fields, janie.fields@cehi.org

News and Journal Articles

[Study: Human Exposure to BPA 'grossly underestimated.'](#)

Tuesday, September 21, 2010

Americans are likely to be exposed at higher levels than previously thought to bisphenol A, a compound that mimics hormones important to human development and is found in more than 90 percent of people in the United States, according to new research. New York Times.

[See related articles: [BPA and a common phthalate may contribute to obesity, predicts a cell test](#); [Are we getting a bad wrap?: Plastic puzzle](#) and [Similarity of bisphenol A pharmacokinetics in rhesus monkeys and mice: Relevance for human exposure](#)]

[2010 Heinz awards announced.](#)

Tuesday, September 21, 2010

This year's Heinz Family Foundation awards include honors for a scientist documenting the effects of endocrine disruptors, a champion on the global seed vault and one of the giants in the field of 'green,' or non-toxic, chemistry. USA Today.

[What hidden dangers lie in toothpastes?](#)

Monday, September 20, 2010

Makers of dental hygiene products, including mouthwash, pride themselves in their products containing fluoride, which, according to experts, is an active ingredient that prevents cavities. Gaborone Sunday Standard, Botswana.

[Intellectual impairment in school-age children exposed to manganese from drinking water.](#)

Monday, September 20, 2010

The findings of this cross-sectional study suggest that exposure to manganese at levels common in groundwater is associated with intellectual impairment in children.

Environmental Health Perspectives.

[Most aspects of e-waste not regulated in U.S., Va.](#)

Sunday, September 19, 2010

No one is sure how much e-waste Virginians produce. No one tracks it closely, in Virginia or nationally. But everyone agrees it's a lot. Most aspects of e-waste are unregulated, federally and in Virginia. Richmond Times-Dispatch, Virginia.

[UN scientists say ozone layer depletion has stopped.](#)

Friday, September 17, 2010

The protective ozone layer in the earth's upper atmosphere has stopped thinning and should largely be restored by mid century thanks to a ban on CFCs, which also are powerful greenhouse gases, UN scientists said on Thursday. Agence France-Presse.

[See another article about climate change: [Climate change affects health](#)]

[Low vitamin D again linked to higher mortality in heart patients.](#)

Thursday, September 16, 2010

The study is said to be the first conducted in a large cohort of patients recruited due to

hospitalisation for heart failure, in which the role of vitamin D has been determined, along with the roles of plasma renin activity and cytokines. [Nutraingredients.com](#).

[See articles about hazards found in nutritional supplements: [FDA staff says Arena diet pill linked to cancer](#) and [Speech experts are wary of untested supplement sold as a speech aid for kids with verbal apraxia](#)]

Tanning bed users know but ignore skin cancer dangers.

Thursday, September 16, 2010

Though any form of ultraviolet light increases skin cancer risk, people younger than 30 who use tanning machines increase their risk of skin cancer by 75%, according to the International Agency for Research on Cancer, which is affiliated with the World Health Organization. USA Today.

[See a related article: [Skip sunbathing, use tanning lotion, doctors say](#)]

Food safety legislation won't mend regulatory divide.

Thursday, September 16, 2010

As lawmakers prepare for hearings into the largest egg recall in U.S. history, food safety advocates say the congressional probe could give momentum to a long-delayed measure that would enhance the power of the Food and Drug Administration. Los Angeles Times, California.

[See articles about food and health: [Increased fructose associates with elevated blood pressure](#), [Lack of access to healthy food may contribute to health disparities in kidney disease](#), [Child's cancer risks rise 'before pregnancy'](#), [Fans of raw milk not cowed by safety warnings](#) and [Food coloring can be toxic](#)]

Center integrates human, animal, environmental health.

Thursday, September 16, 2010

The Center for One Health Illinois, established at the University of Illinois last year with a \$250,000 grant from the U.S. Department of Agriculture, will receive another \$500,000 in grants over several years from the USDA to pursue its mission of fostering collaborations and the free flow of information among those in the fields of medicine, public health, the environment and agriculture. Genetic Engineering & Biotechnology News.

Lawsuit: Hydrofracking fluid ruined Pennsylvania water wells.

Wednesday, September 15, 2010

Thirteen families in the heart of the gas-rich Marcellus Shale say their water wells have been contaminated by poisonous fluids blasted deep underground by a drilling company using a technique at the center of a fierce nationwide debate. Associated Press.

[See another article about legal recourse for exposures: [Lawmaker to open new front in case of soldiers exposed to carcinogen in Iraq](#) and other articles about water contamination: [Oklahoma residents weigh in on toxic fly ash at EPA hearing in Dallas](#); [Coal ash: Is one resource destroying another?](#); [Bad water? It's the cheese. Hilmar Cheese brings good jobs to California farm town, but polluted water, too](#); [Team studying source of Rialto-area water contamination gets funding](#); [Obscure regulator hits brakes on northeast shale drilling rush](#); [Oyster Creek nuclear plant to remove tritium-tainted water from South Jersey aquifers](#); [Duke Energy fighting new coal ash rules: two Gaston plants produce byproduct](#); [Sick fish: scientists, aboriginals want Ottawa to monitor oilsands fish](#); [VA says no link yet between water, illnesses at Marine base](#); [Mon River's unsafe levels of bromide prompt probe](#); [Polluters must pay](#) and [Cotter Corp. refuses to pay state fine for uranium contamination](#)]

Benefits of healthy lifestyle factors stronger in combination.

Wednesday, September 15, 2010

They found that a healthy lifestyle pattern - being normal weight, having low belly fat, participating in regular physical activity, limiting exposure to secondhand cigarette smoke, and consuming higher amounts of fruits and vegetables - reduced mortality in Chinese women who do not smoke cigarettes or drink alcohol regularly. PhysOrg.com.

[See another article about environmental health awareness: [Environmental health education campaign kicks off](#)]

[Aging gas pipe at risk of explosion across US.](#)

Tuesday, September 14, 2010

An ominous theme has emerged from the wreckage of a deadly pipeline explosion in California: There are thousands of pipes just like it around the U.S. Associated Press. [See a related article: [San Bruno fire debris brings health, environmental hazard](#), a follow-up report about health assessment from the Gulf oil spill: [NIOSH ongoing health hazard evaluation](#) and an article about the Kalamazoo River spill: [Officials: hidden oil from spill a looming health threat](#)]

[Honoring a decision that made history.](#)

Tuesday, September 14, 2010

It was 1960, and Americans were dazzled by vaccines and antibiotics. But Frances Oldham Kelsey questioned the safety of Kevadon, the brand name for thalidomide, and refused approval. Kelsey's resistance became the stuff of legend when it turned out that thalidomide caused severe birth defects. Washington Post. [See another article about environmental health advocates: [Four honored for efforts on cancer-causing radon](#)]

[States push for chemical reform.](#)

Tuesday, September 14, 2010

On Sept. 2, 2010, a coalition of state agency environmental directors called the Environmental Council of the States adopted a resolution that called on the federal government to enact chemical regulation that really regulates. E Magazine. [See a related article: [New York to force household cleaner giants to reveal chemical ingredients](#)]

[Owner of King County apartment complexes faces fine for asbestos violations.](#)

Monday, September 13, 2010

The owner of five apartment complexes in King County is facing a \$165,400 fine for violating state asbestos regulations, including allegedly using untrained and uncertified workers to clean up contaminated ceiling material. Seattle Times, Washington. [See another article about asbestos: [Dredging up asbestos in Sumas River](#)]

[Public deprived of data on cancer links to toxins - film maker.](#)

Monday, September 13, 2010

Links between chemical companies and institutions like the WHO and International Agency for Research on Cancer (IARC) are depriving consumers of independent information on cancer risks, film maker Emmanuelle Schick Garcia has claimed. Ecologist. [See other articles about cancer and environment: [Watercress may 'turn off' breast cancer signal](#); [Stress accelerates breast cancer progression in mice: study](#); [Brain cancer trial may influence science on toxic chemical \[vinyl chloride\]](#); [First study of nail-care workers finds no increased cancer risk](#); [Delaware health: Mapping out clues to cancer mystery](#); [Magnetic fields won't up kids' brain cancer risk](#) and [Data mining predicts chemical-gene-cancer associations](#)]

[No link found between vaccine mercury and autism.](#)

Monday, September 13, 2010

A new government study adds to the evidence that thimerosal, a mercury-based preservative until recently found in many vaccines, does not increase children's risk of autism. Reuters Health.

[Genotoxic effects in swimmers exposed to disinfection by-products in indoor swimming pools.](#)

Monday, September 13, 2010

Our findings support potential genotoxic effects of exposure to DBPs from swimming pools. Environmental Health Perspectives. [See related articles: [Short-term changes in respiratory biomarkers after swimming in a chlorinated pool](#); [What's in the Pool? A Comprehensive Identification of Disinfection By-Products and Assessment of Mutagenicity of Chlorinated and Brominated Swimming Pool](#)]

[Water and Polymorphisms in GSTT1, GSTZ1, and CYP2E1, disinfection byproducts, and risk of bladder cancer in Spain and one about hazards of swimming in a creek: Swimming advisory issued\]](#)

[Are scanners worth the risk?](#)

Sunday, September 12, 2010

The new screening measures have been hotly debated, but mostly in theory. Now that there are nearly 200 body scanning machines in about 50 domestic airports, with 800 more on the way, passengers are facing real-life decisions about what to do. New York Times.

[See other articles about concern over radiation: [Oconee Nuclear Station part of study assessing cancer risk](#), [Let's talk about electromagnetic fields](#), [The looming danger of WiFi](#) and [UNM studies uranium exposure in Navajo mothers and infants](#)]

[Studies try to assess arsenic's hidden toll.](#)

Sunday, September 12, 2010

Maine and parts of southern New Hampshire have become the focus of several studies looking at how arsenic may impact health. In Maine, 56 percent of residents live in homes with private wells, which are exempt from federal regulation. Portland Press Herald, Maine.

[Tainted AI Gore School seen as 'poster child' for national toxics debate.](#)

Sunday, September 12, 2010

That media coverage of the school has focused on the irony of its namesake does not deter its critics -- rather, they welcome the national focus on the broader issue of environmentally unhealthy schools. New York Times.

[See related articles: [Toxic chemicals used to build older Mass. schools](#) and [Danger below? Schools weigh land risks](#)]

[Detroit and Los Angeles most stressful U.S. cities: poll.](#)

Sunday, September 12, 2010

Portfolio.com, a national business and news website for small business executives, looked at unemployment rates, personal finance data, environmental, health and living standards and crime rates to compile the ranking of 50 cities. Reuters.

[Diet-induced obesity accelerates leukemia, study shows.](#)

Saturday, September 11, 2010

The investigators found that obesity increased the risk of acute lymphoblastic leukemia in both models, particularly in older mice. ScienceDaily.

[See related articles: [NIH-funded studies aim to prevent, treat childhood obesity](#), [U aims to head off childhood obesity](#), [Could a childhood infection trigger obesity?](#) and [Weight loss may be toxic, study shows](#)]

[Cadmium in Chinese jewelry raises alarms.](#)

Friday, September 10, 2010

The cupcake-shaped pendants came in shades of blue and pink, studded with rhinestones. Meant for little girls, they cost as little as \$8. And they were potentially deadly, according to consumer advocates. Los Angeles Times, California.

[See related articles: [Govt urged: Act on use of cadmium in kids' jewelry](#) and [Cadmium-jewelry bill awaits Gov's signature](#)]

[Childhood immune illnesses presage lifelong disease patterns.](#)

Friday, September 10, 2010

The immune system may underlie several, seemingly unrelated health problems, many of which surface in childhood and precede others experienced across a lifetime, according to researchers who liken these early life immune dysfunctions to canaries in a coal mine. Environmental Health News.

[Drugs seen as 'new' pollutants.](#)

Friday, September 10, 2010

U.S. authorities say water pollution by "emerging contaminants" -- antidepressants, antibiotics, birth-control pills and cosmetics -- threatens public health. UPI.

[See a related event: [Unwanted medications take-back Sept. 25 in Pepin County](#) and a related article: [The fate of dairy antibiotics in ground water](#)]

EPA to study chemicals used to tap natural gas

Friday, September 10, 2010

The Environmental Protection Agency sent letters to nine drilling companies on Thursday requesting detailed information about the chemicals contained in fluids used to crack open underground rock formations in the hunt for oil and natural gas. New York Times.

[See related articles: [No need for EPA to regulate gas drilling](#) and [Report finds possible health risks from drilling](#)]

The plastic plague: 21 days of rubbish.

Thursday, September 09, 2010

Marine animals all over the world are ingesting plastic bits. Plastic is not a problem that persists exclusively in the ocean either. It impacts every part of our earth, from oceans to mountains to deserts and, of course, urban areas. Kane County Chronicle, Illinois.

How safe is the air we breathe?

Thursday, September 09, 2010

In southern Arizona the total population breathes in 4.5 million cubic yards of air a day. Eileen Belove of Sahuarita questions whether the air she breathes is safe. Earlier this year, a thick blanket of dust blew over her Rancho Resort community from the Asarco mine about a quarter mile away. Tucson KGUN9 TV, Arizona.

[See other articles about air quality: [Air you breathe may cause cancer](#); [Energy companies aim to better air along Anticline](#); [Region's coal mining past takes toll on air quality, study says](#); ['Dead cattle and propane'](#); [Air pollution: Houston's other environmental disaster](#); [Diesel picks up speed](#); [In-home coal and wood use and lung cancer risk: A pooled-analysis of the International Lung Cancer Consortium](#); [Local agencies can't limit train emissions, court rules](#); [Altered cardiac repolarization in association with air pollution and air temperature in myocardial infarction survivors](#); [Coal plant permit expected this year](#); [Testers 'fabricating air pollution reports'](#); [Air pollution linked to deadly cardiac arrests](#); [Just outside Chicago, a major polluter lurks](#); [Metro air quality worsening](#); ['Toxic' cabin air: Legal victory for sick flight attendant](#) and [Shell, UN to back \\$100 million plan for clean energy cookstoves](#)]

New state law bans pesticides on school grounds.

Wednesday, September 08, 2010

The law, "An Act Banning Pesticide Use on School Grounds," went into effect July 1st. Grassroots Environmental Education.

[See a related article: [How schools are dealing with a ban on synthetic pesticide use for some lawns](#) and other articles about pesticides: [Dengue control: DDT back in reckoning](#); [Organochlorine pesticides and endometriosis](#); [Calif. pesticide opponents deploy Florida report](#); [Home pesticides harmful to unborn babies, says expert](#); [Two firms each fined \\$51,000 for spraying toxic chemical](#); [Caught in the carrot crossfire](#); [EPA slaps fine on discount store chain](#); [Mosquito fogging set for Sept 21-23 in Florence](#); [Are pesticides turning into poison spray?](#) and [Indiana jury awards \\$23 million in pesticide case](#)]

Secondhand smoke exposure 'striking' in the U.S.

Wednesday, September 08, 2010

More than half of U.S. children between ages 3 and 11 show signs in their blood of exposure to secondhand smoke, according to a report released Tuesday by the Centers for Disease Control and Prevention, which examined blood samples from more than 1,300 children. CNN.

[See related articles: [U.S. smoking rate hasn't changed, CDC says](#); [St. Louis study finds smoking ventilation systems don't work](#); [Smoking, bad for your fertility and your child's](#); [E-smokes gaining steam amid calls for a ban](#); [Smoking ban linked to survival, drop in kids' asthma](#), and ['Snus' tobacco linked to stillbirth risk](#)]

[Endocrine profiling and prioritization of environmental chemicals using ToxCast data.](#)

Wednesday, September 08, 2010

Combining multiple data sources into an overall, weight-of-evidence 'ToxPi' (Toxicological Priority Index) score for prioritizing further chemical testing resulted in more robust conclusions than any single data source taken alone. Environmental Health Perspectives.

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

[Join Our Mailing List!](#)