



Collaborative on Health and the Environment - Washington



Biweekly Bulletin May 20, 2009

This bulletin lists upcoming events plus recent announcements, news and journal articles, calls for proposals and other items related to learning environmental contributors to human health in Washington State and the Pacific Northwest. They are archived and searchable on our website: <http://washington.chenw.org/bulletins.html>

CHE-WA Highlights

Next science lecture

The lecture will be held Tuesday June 2nd from 2:00 to 4:00 p.m. at Antioch University in Seattle (<http://www.antiochsea.edu/>). Elaine Faustman, PhD, of the University of Washington, will be discussing some of her recent research on household dust and associated potential health implications. In particular, a group at the Child Environmental Health Risks Research Center has collected house and vehicle dust of farmworkers before and after interventions in Yakima for many years and has interesting information to share. Also at this meeting we will have a series of other updates on health and the environment in Washington and nationally. This meeting is free and open to the public. For more information on this meeting contact aboulanger@iceh.org or sgilbert@innd.org.

New host for CHE-WA

CHE-WA is now being hosted by the nonprofit Institute for Neurotoxicology and Neurological Disorders, which is directed by Steve Gilbert, PhD. Steve can be reached at sgilbert@innd.org.

Later this month, the Institute for Children's Environmental Health, CHE-WA's founding organization, will merge into California-based Commonweal which hosts the national Collaborative on Health and the Environment program. Elise Miller, ICEH's founder and long-time executive director, is now director of CHE nationally. Through CHE she will be hosting a new national working group on children's environmental health which will allow ICEH's core mission to continue; Elise can now be reached at elise@healthandenvironment.org.

Elise and the full CHE-WA Steering Committee are most grateful to Steve and INND for taking on the role of hosting CHE-WA. Aimee Boulanger, ICEH's Program Director, will continue to serve as a volunteer on the CHE-WA Steering Committee and will also be an active member of the CHE-WA Children's Environmental Health Working Group. You can continue to reach Aimee at aboulanger@iceh.org (this address will still work throughout this transition time).

Upcoming Events

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

1) Film - Black Mold Exposure

in various cities around the US in April, May and June 2009
at select theaters

Sponsor: Looking Glass Entertainment Company

"Black Mold Exposure" explores the bizarre illnesses associated with exposure to toxic mold and the film participants' difficult task of regaining their health and lives in an atmosphere of political and social intolerance and disbelief.

Price: varies

[Visit the website](#)

Contact: contact@blackmoldexposuremovie.com

2) Department of Environmental and Occupational Health Sciences Seminar

Thursday May 21, 2009

12:30 - 1:20 p.m.

Seattle, Washington

at the University of Washington, Room T-435 Environmental and Occupational Health Sciences

Sponsor: University of Washington Department of Environmental and Occupational Health Sciences

Jesus A. Araujo, MD, PhD, assistant professor of medicine, cardiology at UCLA, will present "Air Pollution and Atherosclerosis: The role of particle size and chemical composition."

Price: free

[Visit the website](#)

3) Quality Assurance/Quality Control Management of Environmental Analytical Data

Thursday and Friday, May 28 - 29, 2009

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

Seattle, Washington

at Northwest Environmental Training Center Headquarters, 650 South Orcas Street, Suite 220

Sponsor: EOS Alliance

The course provides participants with an overview of QA/QC management of analytical data. It is intended for environmental professionals who require a basic understanding of QA/QC methodologies for managing the integrity of laboratory analytical data. The course includes some hands-on data-screening exercises to apply the course concepts to real-world scenarios.

Price: \$495, \$395 reduced tuition is available for Native American tribes; government employees; nonprofits; students; and NAEP, NEBC, TAEP members

[Visit the website](#)

Contact: NWETC, 206-762-1976

4) 25 Years After the Bhopal Tragedy Films

Friday May 29, 2009

7:00 - 9:00 p.m.

Seattle, Washington

at 911 Seattle Media Arts Center, 402 9th Ave. North (South Lake Union - 9th & Harrison)

Sponsor: Tasveer, Association for India's Development - Seattle Chapter, The International Campaign for Justice in Bhopal

Two films, *Hush*, *Baby* and *Secrets and Lies*, will be followed by a question-and-answer session as part of a double event regarding the 1984 Union Carbide gas leak tragedy in Bhopal, India. The tragedy serves as the backdrop to discuss corporate crime,

environmental racism and toxic trespass.

Price: a contribution \$5 to \$10 is suggested

Contact: Nityanand Jayaraman, nity68.new@gmail.com

5) 25 Years After the Bhopal Tragedy Panel Discussion

Saturday May 30, 2009

4:30 - 6:30 p.m.

Seattle, Washington

at the University of Washington, Communications 120, Stevens Way E

Sponsor: South Asia Center of University of Washington, Association for India's Development, Washington Toxics Coalition, Tasveer, WashPIRG (Student UW), WashPIRG, SEED (UW), South Asia Students Association (UW), Washington Physicians for Social Responsibility, Amnesty International, Collaborative on Health and Environment - Washington, Commonweal-Northwest

This is the second part of a double event regarding the 1984 Union Carbide gas leak tragedy in Bhopal, India. The tragedy serves as the backdrop to discuss corporate crime, environmental racism and toxic trespass. The discussion title is "Corporate Crime, Environmental Injustice and Toxic Trespass: Lessons from the 1984 Union Carbide Gas disaster in Bhopal, India." Presenters will be 1) Safreen "Rafat" Khan, a 16-year-old, second-generation victim of Union Carbide's poisons; Safreen is cofounder of Children Against Dow Carbide, a children's group that has committed itself to keeping the fight for justice in Bhopal alive for as long as it takes; 2) Satinath Sarangi, a long-time Bhopal activist and founder-trustee of Sambhavna Trust clinic, an award-winning free holistic clinic for survivors of the Bhopal disaster; and 3) Dr. Sheela Satyanarayana, assistant professor in the Department of Pediatrics at the University of Washington; an accomplished physician with expertise in pediatric environmental health, Dr. Satyanarayana has been a forceful voice of science in advocating for more stringent regulations on toxic chemicals, including Bisphenol A and phthalates.

Price: unknown

Contact: Nityanand Jayaraman, nity68.new@gmail.com

6) 2009 Toxics Conference

Tuesday June 1, 2009

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

Portland, Oregon

at World Trade Center Two

Sponsor: Environmental Law Education Center

This conference covers issues of interest and concern in Oregon and the Pacific Northwest. Topics include 1) pollution prevention and toxics reduction strategies, 2) legislation, initiatives and follow up to Senate Bill 737, 3) water quality standards and NPDES permits, 4) developing toxics-reduction plans, 5) Persistent Priority Pollutants (P3 List), 6) pesticides and emerging contaminants, 7) ecological and human health risks, and more.

Price: \$450 until May 15th or \$495 after that; \$350/\$395 for government or nonprofit employees

[Visit the website](#)

7) New Effluent Limitation Guidelines

Wednesday June 3, 2009

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

Seattle, Washington

at NWETC Headquarters, 650 South Orcas Street, Suite 220

Sponsor: Northwest Environmental Training Center

As new Effluent Limitation Guidelines (ELG) regulations for construction sites are being finalized by the EPA, it is important to fully understand the regulations, their implications and the technologies that the EPA describes as being able to achieve the prescribed regulations, namely Advanced Treatment Systems (ATS).

Price: \$175, \$150 reduced tuition for Native American tribes; government employees; nonprofits; students; and NAEP, NEBC, RMAEP members

[Visit the website](#)

Contact: 206-762-1976

8) Update From Copenhagen: New Science on Hormone Disruptors and Reproductive Health

Wednesday June 3, 2009

10:00 a.m. Pacific time/1:00 p.m. Eastern time/7:00 p.m. Central European time

Sponsor: Collaborative on Health and the Environment

This call will discuss exciting new data from the 5th Copenhagen Workshop on Endocrine Disruptors (www.reproduction.dk/cow2009/index.htm). The Copenhagen workshops consistently feature a multidisciplinary group of distinguished international scientists and cutting-edge new research emerging from the environmental and reproductive health fields. This year's Copenhagen workshop will focus on new science regarding the health effects of exposures to endocrine, or hormone, disruptors present in our everyday lives, including in our food, in products we commonly use and in our homes. The workshop will feature a mixture of studies and links between effects in laboratory studies and observations in wildlife and humans. Some of the topics to be covered include hormone-disruptor impacts to prenatal reproductive development, reproduction, obesity, puberty, brain development and thyroid-hormone function. The workshop is intended to facilitate an exchange of information and views both within the scientific community and with experts engaged in regulation and policymaking. On this call, presenters will discuss and comment on the highlights from this year's workshop. Confirmed speakers are Pete Myers, PhD, and Shanna Swan, PhD.

Price: free

[Visit the website](#)

9) 2009 Northwest Chemicals Policy Symposium

Thursday June 4, 2009

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

Seattle, Washington

at the Hyatt Hotel at Olive 8

Sponsor: Snohomish County, Conference on Canadian Stewardship

In this highly interactive workshop, participants will share activities and successes, barriers encountered, and emerging strategies to improve chemicals policy nationally. The session will bring together diverse stakeholders working toward a green materials economy where manufacturing, use, and end-of-life management of consumer products have no adverse effects on our health our environment. Representatives from academia, local and state government, health and environmental organizations, business, and advocacy organizations are all invited to attend. The session will emphasize generating ideas and joint strategies for advancing policy change in our communities, states, and the nation.

Price: \$50

[Visit the website](#)

Contact: Marni Solheim, 509-329-3564 or MSOL461@ECY.WA.GOV

10) CHE Science Café Call

Thursday, June 4, 2009

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

Sponsor: Collaborative on Health and the Environment

Join CHE as we host our first Science Café call featuring Steve Gilbert, PhD, with the Institute of Neurotoxicology and Neurological Disorders. Dr. Gilbert will discuss Toxipedia (<http://www.toxipedia.org>), a tool he created that uses a modified wiki approach. Now with a contract from the National Library of Medicine and funding from King County and the Washington Department of Ecology, he will be able to further develop the site and lessen the information gap between those with knowledge on environmental public health and those that need the information to lead healthier lives.

Price: free

[Visit the website](#)

11) Collecting and Handling of Water Samples for Trace Metal Analysis

Friday July 10, 2009

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

Seattle, Washington

at the Corinthian Yacht Club of Seattle, 7755 Seaview Ave NW

Sponsor: Northwest Environmental Training Center

This sampling course is designed for anyone collecting ambient water samples for low-level total and dissolved trace metals. This one-day course will include a half day in the classroom with lectures covering the circumstances in which low-level detection limits would be desired or required, potential routes of metals contamination, necessary sampling supplies, various sampling techniques, proper handling and preservation of samples, and field quality assurance sample collection requirements. During the second half of the day, students will engage in hands-on field exercises where they will be given the opportunity to practice several surface water sampling protocols using various sample collection methods and following the "Clean Hands/Dirty Hands" sampling techniques.

Price: \$295 (\$250 reduced tuition is available for Native American tribes; government employees; nonprofits; students; and NAEP, NEBC, NWAEP members)

[Visit the website](#)

Contact: 206-762-1976

Announcements & Articles

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

[A Common Agenda for Health and Environment.](#)

In 2007, nearly 100 leaders of healthcare, community development, environmental, labor and agriculture organizations began a conversation about the world we want to leave our children, and what it will take to get there within a generation.

[New online environmental medicine education resources.](#)

The Agency for Toxic Substances and Disease Registry (ATDSR) offers environmental health and medicine education products for health professionals, community members, and interested members of the public. These materials are designed to increase awareness and knowledge of how the environment impacts human health.

[Call for Proposals: Technology Development for the Detection and Evaluation of Chemical and Biological Carcinogens.](#)

The National Cancer Institute (NCI), at the National Institutes of Health (NIH), invites

Small Business Innovation Research (SBIR) grant applications from small business concerns (SBCs) propose to develop new technologies and/or improve existing technologies for the detection and evaluation of chemical and biological carcinogens in clinical and/or environmental specimens. Applications will be accepted from July 5, 2009, to May 8, 2012.

[Call for Proposals: Joint US - UK Research Program: Environmental Behavior, Bioavailability and Effects of Manufactured Nanomaterials.](#)

The US Environmental Protection Agency, in conjunction with the UK Environmental Nanoscience Initiative, is seeking joint applications from US and UK partners that propose, validate and refine integrated model(s) of fate, behavior, bioavailability and effects for several important and representative nanomaterial classes over key environmental pathways using intrinsic material properties and life cycle analysis as a starting point for model development. Applications are due August 5, 2009.

[Call for Proposals: Exploring Linkages Between Health Outcomes and Environmental Hazards, Exposures, and Interventions for Public Health Tracking and Risk Management.](#)

The US Environmental Protection Agency (EPA) is seeking applications to develop new or improved environmental public health indicators (EPHIs) to build linkages between environmental hazards, human exposures, and public health outcomes. The aim of the research is to develop indicators that can be used for long-term tracking and surveillance of environmental public health, making better informed decisions, and assessing the actual impacts of environmental risk management decisions. Applications are due August 5, 2009.

[Call for Proposals: Building Capacity for Climate Change and Public Health Programs at State/Territorial Health Agencies.](#)

The Association of State and Territorial Health Officials (ASTHO), in conjunction with the Centers for Disease Control and Prevention/National Center for Environmental Health, is looking to fund and support three one-year demonstration projects that will establish coordinating opportunities for climate change at state and territorial health agencies. ASTHO must receive applications by 4 pm Eastern time on Friday, June 12, 2009.

[Ethical issues in measuring biomarkers in children's environmental health.](#)

Tuesday, May 19, 2009

Research measuring biomarkers in children raises a number of ethical issues, some of which related to children as research subjects and some of which are specific to biomarker research. Environmental Health Perspectives.

[Fighting off shareholders' environmental resolution, Dow cites inaccurate information in its SEC filing.](#)

Tuesday, May 19, 2009

In an effort to ward off a shareholder resolution that sought greater transparency in the company's handling of dioxin contamination, Dow Chemical gave the Securities and Exchange Commission inaccurate information about the state of Michigan's consumption advisory for walleye downstream from the company's Midland plant. Michigan Messenger, Michigan.

[Are your household products safe?](#)

Monday, May 18, 2009

Everyday products may contain toxic chemicals - and most of the time there's no warning label. Health Link.

[Water and sun linked to bladder cancer.](#)

Monday, May 18, 2009

New research shows certain ecological factors, including well water and sun exposure, may put you at an increased risk of bladder cancer. Ivanhoe Broadcast News.

[Study links cigarette changes to rising lung risk.](#)

Monday, May 18, 2009

It may be riskier on the lungs to smoke cigarettes today than it was a few decades ago - at least in the U.S., says new research that blames changes in cigarette design for fueling a certain type of lung cancer. Associated Press.

[See a related article: [Fake cigarettes, fake smoke, real nicotine.](#)]

[Food wrapper coating found in human blood.](#)

Monday, May 18, 2009

To the growing list of chemicals showing up in human blood, a new study adds compounds called diPAPs that make food wrappers grease-proof. Scientists don't yet know if diPAPs are harmful to human health. But they break down into PFOA, which may be carcinogenic. Discovery Channel.

[Pollution can change your DNA in 3 days, study suggests.](#)

Monday, May 18, 2009

Breathing in polluted air may wreak havoc on our DNA, reprogramming genes in as few as three days and causing increased rates of cancer and other diseases. National Geographic News.

[Synthetic turf fields kicking up safety concerns.](#)

Monday, May 18, 2009

Some health experts, activists and parents from Seattle to Chicago to Stamford, Mass. worry that children who play on artificial turf may be exposed to chemicals if they inhale or swallow the rubber granules, known as crumb rubber. Associated Press.

[The global food crisis.](#)

Sunday, May 17, 2009

Modern society has relieved us of the burden of growing, harvesting, even preparing our daily bread, in exchange for the burden of simply paying for it. Only when prices rise do we take notice. And the consequences of our inattention are profound. National Geographic.

[FDA relied heavily on BPA lobby.](#)

Sunday, May 17, 2009

As federal regulators hold fast to their claim that a chemical in baby bottles is safe, e-mails obtained by the Journal Sentinel show that they relied on chemical industry lobbyists to examine bisphenol A's risks, track legislation to ban it and even monitor press coverage. Milwaukee Journal Sentinel, Wisconsin.

[Call to disorder: Parents, scientists, educators looking for answers about autism.](#)

Sunday, May 17, 2009

David Wallace, the director of the Center for Integrative Neuroscience at Oklahoma State University Center for Health Sciences, and several other of the center's scientists and physicians, formed the Autism Research Group to help answer those questions. Specifically, they're interested in environmental ties to autism, researching possible links between heavy metals such as mercury, lead and cadmium. Tulsa World, Oklahoma.

[Serum selenium concentrations and diabetes in US adults: National Health and Nutrition Examination Survey \(NHANES\) 2003-2004.](#)

Saturday, May 16, 2009

In US adults, high serum selenium concentrations were associated with higher prevalence of diabetes and higher fasting plasma glucose and glycosylated hemoglobin levels. Environmental Health Perspectives.

[Clearing the air.](#)

Saturday, May 16, 2009

Air researchers talk about the Rule of 1,000: anything released indoors is about 1,000 times more likely to be breathed in than something released outdoors. New York Times.

[See a related article: [Is indoor air pollution a real problem?](#)]

[UN official challenges chemical industry.](#)

Saturday, May 16, 2009

The United Nations' top environmental official on May 14 challenged the chemical industry to clean up stockpiles of its old, toxic products. Chemical & Engineering News.

[Joe Biden announces \\$100M for lead-paint removal.](#)

Saturday, May 16, 2009

Nearly \$100 million in federal stimulus money will go toward a program to remove lead-based paint and other health and safety hazards from low-income homes, Vice President Joe Biden announced Friday. Associated Press.

[House approves \\$6.4 billion for green schools.](#)

Friday, May 15, 2009

The House on Thursday passed a multiyear school construction bill with the ambitious goals of producing hundreds of thousands of jobs, reducing energy consumption and creating healthier, cleaner environments for the nation's schoolchildren. Associated Press.

[Prenatal exposure to flame retardant is associated with increased risk of male genital anomalies.](#)

Friday, May 15, 2009

Researchers report a higher risk of genital anomalies in boys and men exposed before birth to polybrominated biphenyl (PBB) flame retardants. Environmental Health News.

[Authors discover toxins in 'off-the-shelf' products increase quickly.](#)

Friday, May 15, 2009

After steering clear of food packaging containing bisphenol A for a couple of days, Rick Smith saw the levels of the hormone-disrupting chemical linked to breast and prostate cancer in his body increase 7.5 times after just two days of restricting his diet to canned foods heated in a microwave using a polycarbonate plastic container. Vancouver Sun, British Columbia.

[Smokers in 60s who kick habit still reduce cancer risk.](#)

Thursday, May 14, 2009

It is never too late to stop smoking - even for those who wait until they are in their 60s to kick the habit, an international cancer conference in Dublin was told. Dublin Irish Independent, Ireland.

[Doctors warn of risks of climate change for the first time.](#)

Thursday, May 14, 2009

A study by the University College London, published in the Lancet, concluded that the problems caused by climate change such as food shortages, heat waves and increased threat of tropical diseases such as malaria will kill billions of people. London Daily Telegraph, England.

[Folic acid protects baby hearts.](#)

Thursday, May 14, 2009

Mandatory fortification of bread with folic acid would slash the risk of babies being born with a heart problem, experience from Canada shows. BBC.

[See a related article: [Folic acid might be losing its sheen.](#)]

[For urban gardeners, lead is a concern.](#)

Thursday, May 14, 2009

Health officials, soil scientists and environmental engineers worry that the increasing popularity of gardening, particularly the urban kind, will put more people at risk for lead poisoning if they don't protect themselves. New York Times.

[Weight 'fuels preventable cancer.'](#)

Wednesday, May 13, 2009

Almost 19,000 people a year in the UK are diagnosed with cancer that could have been prevented if they were a healthy weight, an expert says. BBC.

[Study links formaldehyde to more common cancers.](#)

Wednesday, May 13, 2009

New research raises additional concerns about the harmful effects of formaldehyde, a common chemical found in everything from plywood to nail polish, car exhaust and cigarette smoke. USA Today.

[See a related article: [Allergic to new clothes? formaldehyde finish may be the cause.](#)]

[Children sanitation alert issued.](#)

Wednesday, May 13, 2009

Diarrhoea caused by poor sanitation is killing many more children than HIV/Aids, tuberculosis and malaria combined, says a new report from the charity WaterAid. BBC.

[Nonstick chemical pollutes water at notable levels.](#)

Wednesday, May 13, 2009

A new study finds evidence that people may be exposed through drinking water to a persistent nonstick chemical, PFOA or perfluorooctanoic acid, at levels approaching those that trigger adverse effects in laboratory animals. Science News.

[See a related article: [Teflon lawsuit against DuPont dismissed.](#)]

[Gender-bending chemical time bomb fear for boys' fertility.](#)

Wednesday, May 13, 2009

Chemicals in food, cosmetics and cleaning products are 'feminising' unborn boys and raising their risk of cancer and infertility later in life, an expert warns. London Daily Mail, England.

[Association of traffic-related air pollution with children's neurobehavioral functions in Quanzhou, China.](#)

Tuesday, May 12, 2009

There was a significant relationship between chronic low-level traffic-related air pollution exposure and children's neurobehavioral functions.

[See a related journal article: [Chronic residential exposure to particulate matter air pollution and systemic inflammatory markers](#)]

[Workplace exposures and the risk of amyotrophic lateral sclerosis.](#)

Tuesday, May 12, 2009

This study suggests that certain occupations and workplace exposures may be associated with increased risk of ALS. Environmental Health Perspectives.

[The seafood conundrum.](#)

Tuesday, May 12, 2009

Nutritionists say we should eat more, that many types of fish are nutritious and contain fats that seem to protect the heart. Yet some species have been found to contain high levels of environmental contaminants like PCBs and mercury, particularly hazardous to pregnant women, while other types are decimated by overfishing or farmed in environmentally damaging ways. New York Times.

[In Punjab, crowding onto the cancer train.](#)

Tuesday, May 12, 2009

Cancer used to be considered an urban disease, suffered by people who lived in cities choked with industry and pollution. But researchers recently found that farming villages using large amounts of pesticides have significantly higher rates of cancer than villages that use less of the chemicals. All Things Considered, NPR.

[See a related article: [DOH study recommends ban of aerial spraying](#) and an opposing article: [Failure to develop new pesticides could lead to public health disaster.](#)]

[How thalidomide makes its mark.](#)

Tuesday, May 12, 2009

More than 50 years after the drug thalidomide hit the market as a remedy for nausea in pregnant women, researchers may finally have pinned down how it causes severe birth defects. Nature.

[Cleaner air from reduced emissions could save millions of lives, says report.](#)

Tuesday, May 12, 2009

Tackling climate change by cutting greenhouse gas emissions could save millions of lives because of the cleaner air that would result, according to a recent study. London Guardian, England.

[Carbofuran pesticide residues in food revoked.](#)

Tuesday, May 12, 2009

The Environmental Protection Agency has revoked regulations that permitted small residues of the pesticide carbofuran in food. EPA's action will eliminate residues of carbofuran in food, including all imports, in a move to protect people, especially children, from dietary risk. US Environmental Protection Agency.

[Trash merits role in Obama energy plan, waste management says.](#)

Monday, May 11, 2009

While waste-based energy would make Obama's goals more achievable, environmentalist groups such as Environment America have long opposed the garbage companies as polluters and say burning trash releases toxic chemicals. Bloomberg News.

[Poison found in kids' clothes from China.](#)

Monday, May 11, 2009

Poison in children's clothing is emerging as the latest health risk from China. Scientists have found formaldehyde in woollen and cotton clothes at levels 500 times higher than is safe. Auckland Sunday Star Times, New Zealand.

[See a related article: [Healthy dose of skepticism prescribed.](#)]

[Losing job may be hazardous to health.](#)

Saturday, May 09, 2009

Workers who lost a job through no fault of their own were twice as likely to report developing a new ailment like high blood pressure, diabetes or heart disease over the next year and a half, compared with people who were continuously employed. New York Times.

[EPA chief calls for environmental justice.](#)

Saturday, May 09, 2009

The federal Environmental Protection Agency needs to address the systemic environmental issues facing America's poor, EPA Administrator Lisa Jackson said in a speech yesterday at Princeton University's Woodrow Wilson School. Trenton Times, New Jersey.

[Idaho study shows arsenic in wells.](#)

Saturday, May 09, 2009

More than a century of irrigation has caused naturally occurring arsenic in the soil to be carried to underground reservoirs. Associated Press.

[UN: Treaty expanded by 9 more dangerous chemicals.](#)

Saturday, May 09, 2009

A U.N.-sponsored treaty to combat highly dangerous chemicals has been expanded beyond the original "dirty dozen" to include nine more substances that are used in pesticides, flame retardants and other products, U.N. officials said Saturday. Associated Press.

[See a related article: [China phases out pesticide POPs.](#)]

[Project teaches kids healthy-eating lifestyle.](#)

Saturday, May 09, 2009

Through the national nonprofit food-based educational program, students are learning about how their food gets from farm to table, the benefits of good nutrition and fighting childhood obesity, safe cooking skills and the value of sharing family meals. Detroit News, Michigan.

State bans chemical in baby bottles.

Saturday, May 09, 2009

Minnesota Gov. Tim Pawlenty signed a bill into law Thursday that prohibits the sale of baby bottles and cups that contain Bisphenol-A (BPA), which is found in many plastics and in canned food coatings. Minneapolis Star Tribune, Minnesota. [See a related news article: [Chicago bans sale of baby bottles, sippy cups with dangerous chemical](#), and related journal articles: [Bisphenol A stifles thyroid hormone and slows frog development](#) and [Use of polycarbonate bottles and urinary bisphenol A concentrations](#).]

Age of greatest susceptibility to childhood lead exposure: A new statistical approach.

Friday, May 08, 2009

Susceptibility to lead toxicity is often assumed to be greatest during early childhood (e.g., 2 years of age), but recent studies suggest that blood lead concentrations (BPb) taken at 5 to 7 years of age are more strongly associated with IQ. Environmental Health Perspectives.

G8 identifies focus on children's environmental health.

Friday, May 08, 2009

A recent Environment Ministerial Meeting of the Group of Eight (G8) major industrialised countries showed renewed focus on children's health as a fundamental objective of environmental protection and sustainable development. Environmental Expert.com.

DDT linked to health problems.

Friday, May 08, 2009

Spraying the pesticide DDT indoors to fight malaria, as is done in SA's malaria areas, could be leading to increased incidences of cancer, diabetes, foetal and childhood developmental problems and decreased fertility among exposed communities, experts said yesterday. Johannesburg Business Day, South Africa.

[See a related article: [Goodbye DDT](#).]

Testing finds lead in children.

Friday, May 08, 2009

The first widespread testing for lead exposure among Spokane children found that 6 percent of those tested had ingested measurable amounts of toxic lead. Spokane Spokesman-Review, Washington.

'Green' lightbulbs poison workers.

Thursday, May 07, 2009

Large numbers of Chinese workers have been poisoned by mercury, which forms part of the compact fluorescent light bulbs. Environmental News Network.

Poison in the air, part 4.

Thursday, May 07, 2009

When we talk about pollution, it's not just industry and power plants that shoulder the blame. We all contribute to the hazards that cause cancer, lung and heart problems. Birmingham WIAT TV CBS 42, Alabama.

Fear of vaccines spurs outbreaks, study says.

Thursday, May 07, 2009

Parental doubts about the safety of childhood vaccinations are leading to outbreaks of largely eradicated diseases like measles and whooping cough, doctors warned in a new report. Wall Street Journal.

Why does the vaccine/autism controversy live on?

Thursday, May 07, 2009

The idea that there is something wrong with our vaccines - that they have poisoned a generation of kids, driving an "epidemic" of autism - continues to be everywhere. Discover.

U.S. radiation dose has doubled.

Wednesday, May 06, 2009

Collectively, Americans now receive more than twice as much radiation each year as in the 1980s. That's according to a new tally by the National Council on Radiation Protection and Measurements. Science News.

[Saving face: How safe are cosmetics and body care products?](#)

Wednesday, May 06, 2009

The U.S. Food and Drug Administration oversees the multi-billion-dollar-a-year cosmetics industry but it lacks the power to approve products or ingredients before they hit store shelves, even though their contents have been shown to enter the body. Scientific American.

[See a related article: [Are you being poisoned by cosmetics?](#)]

[Air quality at schools studied.](#)

Wednesday, May 06, 2009

The air your children breathe at school may have a big impact on their learning, researchers at the University of Tulsa have found. In crowded schools, carbon dioxide can build up and make students tired, lethargic, and not want to learn. That's why ventilation is so important. Tulsa KTUL TV, Oklahoma.

Most of the news articles above come from Environmental Health News,

<http://www.environmentalhealthnews.org/>.

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

Companion bulletins are available for different audiences:

- For those interested in general children's environmental health: http://www.healthandenvironment.org/working_groups/childrens_health/bulletins
- For those interested in environmental health and learning and developmental disabilities: <http://www.iceh.org/LDDIbulletins.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 Washington State Regional 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 Washington State regional group at the bottom of the application.

Nancy Snow

Collaborative on Health and the Environment

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