



# Collaborative on Health and the Environment - Washington



Biweekly Bulletin July 1, 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

### New members

CHE-Washington welcomes these new members:

- Amy Bates, MA, Tacoma
- Elyse Denkers, Olympia
- Alison Ojanen-Goldsmith, Seattle
- Chris Wall, Seattle

For a searchable database of organizations with which CHE-WA members are affiliated, please visit the CHE-WA website: <http://washington.chenw.org/members.html>

## Lessons Learned

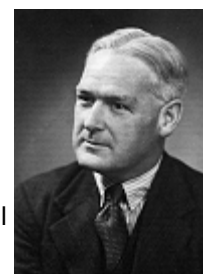
### Looking back to go forward

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

### Sir Austin Bradford Hill

by Steven G. Gilbert, PhD, DABT

Sir Austin Bradford Hill born July 8, 1897 (died April 18, 1991), English epidemiologist and statistician, pioneered the randomized clinical trial and, together with Richard Doll, was the first to demonstrate the connection between cigarette smoking and lung cancer in 1950 paper. Hill went on to define the Hill criteria to determine causation in 1965.



A quote by Hill that echoes the precautionary principle:

"All scientific work is incomplete - whether it be observational or experimental. All scientific work is liable to be upset or modified by advancing knowledge. That does not confer upon us a freedom to ignore the knowledge we already have or postpone the action that it appears to demand at a given time."

In many cases we have the knowledge to make policy decisions that protect human and environmental health.

Information on Hill and causation: <http://toxipedia.org/wiki/x/FQk>

## Upcoming Events

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

### **1) Transportation and Health Brown Bag**

Wednesday July 8, 2009

noon - 1:00 p.m.

Portland, Oregon

at the Portland State Office Building, 800 NE Oregon Street, Room 1C

Sponsor: Oregon Department of Human Services, Public Health Division

Research has been emerging in the last decade that shows whether we drive, bike, walk or take the bus can have impacts on our health through the amount of physical activity we get or the quality of air we breathe. For example, studies show that using public transportation for commuting can help people meet recommended daily levels of physical activity. In this presentation, you will learn about the science connecting transportation and health and the results of a recent local health impact assessment that examined policies to reduce the amount of miles that people travel in cars. You will also have the opportunity to learn about ways public health and transportation professionals can start working together on these issues. Presenters will be Leslie Perdue, research associate in Public Health and Preventive Medicine at Oregon Health and Sciences University, and John MacArthur, Sustainable Transportation Program manager at Oregon Transportation Research and Education Consortium (OTREC).

Price: free

Contact: Nancy Goff, [nancy.m.goff@state.or.us](mailto:nancy.m.goff@state.or.us)

### **2) 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: EOS Alliance

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. The second half of the day, students will engage in hands-on field exercises in which 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, or \$250 for Native American tribes; government employees; nonprofits; students; and NAEP, NEBC, NWAEP members

[Visit the website](#)

Contact: Northwest Environmental Training Center, 206-762-1976

### **3) Know Your ABCs: The Fundamentals of Reproductive Health and the Environment**

Monday July 13, 2009

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

Sponsor: Fertility/Reproductive Health Working Group of the Collaborative on Health and the Environment

This call will discuss the basics of environmental reproductive health science. This call is intended to help refresh continuing participants as well as inform those who are new to the information. On this call, presenters will discuss what we know about 1) how rates of infertility and other reproductive-health problems have changed as industrial chemical production has proliferated over the last 70 years; 2) what sound scientific evidence is

increasingly revealing about links between environmental contaminants and these health problems; 3) where the limitations are in our health tracking and exposure data; 4) how policies can change to reflect what we know, even in the face of inevitable scientific uncertainty; and 5) what professionals and health-affected leaders can do. Featured presenters will be Ted Schettler, MD, MPH; Tracey Woodruff, PhD, MPH; Philip R. Lee; and Rivka Gordon, PA-C, MHS.

Price: free

[Visit the website](#)

#### **4) Early Indicators of Environmentally Induced Disease**

Tuesday and Wednesday, July 14 - 15, 2009

1:00 - 3:00 p.m. Eastern time

Sponsor: US Environmental Protection Agency National Center For Environmental Research

Two webinars are presented as a progress review for the grantees from the RFA "Early Indicators of Environmentally Induced Disease." Three grantees present on the first day and two on the second. Presentations: 1) Integrating Innovative Biomarkers of Environmentally Induced Disease for Children in Agricultural Communities by Elaine Faustman; 2) PON1 as a Predictor of Differential Susceptibility of Children to Organophosphate Pesticides by Brenda Eskenazi; 3) Biomarkers Of Health Risks Associated With Environmental Exposure To Arsenic by Miroslav Stýblo; 4) Assessment of Perinatal PBDE Exposure and Related Child Behavioral and Cognitive Effects by Julie Daniels; and 5) Development of Molecular Biomarkers to Measure Environmentally Induced Immune Responses by Lisa Miller.

Price: free

[Visit the website](#)

Contact: see the [contact page](#)

#### **5) Association of Early-life Exposure to Household Gas Appliances and Indoor Nitrogen Dioxide With Cognition and Attention Behavior in Preschoolers**

Tuesday July 14, 2009

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

Sponsor: American Association on Intellectual and Developmental Disabilities

Jordi Sunyer, MD, of the Center for Research in Environmental Epidemiology in Barcelona, Spain will speak.

Price: free

[Visit the website](#)

Contact: 800-424-3688

#### **6) Model Toxics Control Act Seminar**

Wednesday July 22, 2009

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

Seattle, Washington

at the Washington State Convention and Trade Center

Sponsor: Law Seminars International

The Washington State Department of Ecology is beginning a major rewrite of the Model Toxics Control Act regulations. This seminar will explore these potentially controversial changes, which range from revised vapor intrusion standards to new sediment cleanup rules. This seminar will also address long-standing issues such as Ecology's implementation of the cleanup program, the evolution of the Voluntary Cleanup Program,

and the cleanup of sites along Puget Sound. Lawyers, consultants, environmental groups, and parties involved with cleanups will want to hear the latest developments concerning issues they may have when conducting cleanup of contaminated property.

Price: \$695, government employees \$495, students \$347.50; home study is also available

[Visit the website](#)

### **7) Climate Policy, Carbon Credits and Business Risk**

Wednesday July 22, 2009

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

Seattle, Washington

at the Northwest Environmental Training Center Headquarters, 650 S. Orcas Street, Suite 220

Sponsor: Northwest Environmental Training Center

After completing this course participants will be able to provide clarity and structure for understanding the overlapping web of climate and energy policies that have arisen quickly at the state, regional and municipal levels.

Price: \$250, or \$195 for individuals from Native American tribes, government employees or nonprofits, \$125 for students

[Visit the website](#)

Contact: 206-762-1976

### **8) Information Meeting on the Certificate Program in Environmental Law and Regulation**

Wednesday July 29, 2009

5:30 - 7:00 p.m.

Seattle, Washington

at the University of Washington

Sponsor: University of Washington

Participants in this course of study gain an overview of the broad and complex field of environmental regulation, as well as familiarity with key laws that have the greatest influence on the management of natural resources. They also improve their understanding of agencies and organizations that create, enforce, interpret, and work with environmental regulations. The program covers federal, state and local law, with emphasis on the overriding federal and state statutes. This meeting will address questions from potential students.

Price: unknown

[Visit the website](#)

Contact: 206-685-8936 or use the [online email form](#)

## **Announcements & Articles**

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

### **[Endocrine-Disrupting Chemicals: An Endocrine Society Scientific Statement.](#)**

The Endocrine Society issued a seminal new report stating that exposures to endocrine disrupting chemicals are a growing threat to human health and well-being.

### **[EPA posts list of 44 "high hazard potential" coal ash waste impoundments.](#)**

Following the failure of an impoundment at the TVA facility in Kingston, Tennessee, in December 2008, EPA has been gathering information on coal combustion residual

impoundments from electrical utilities nationwide and conducting on-site evaluations to determine the impoundments' vulnerabilities. US Environmental Protection Agency.

**[Climate change resources for health professionals.](#)**

NEEF has created a climate change web page for health professionals that gives an overview of the potential health effects as well as a list of additional resources. National Environmental Education Foundation.

**[U.S. EPA's Environmental Justice Resource Guide available to the public.](#)**

EPA's Environmental Justice Resource Guide, a handbook for community organizers and decision-makers, is now available from the EPA's Pacific Southwest Environmental Justice Office. US Environmental Protection Agency.

**[Public comments sought on regulations for financial conflicts of interest in federally-funded research.](#)**

The comment period for the ANPM is open until July 7, 2009. Comments may be submitted online, by fax, or by mail. National Institutes of Health.

**[Interagency Partnership for Sustainable Communities.](#)**

U.S. Environmental Protection Agency Administrator Lisa P. Jackson, U.S. Secretary of Transportation Ray LaHood and U.S. Secretary of Housing and Urban Development Shaun Donovan today announced an interagency Partnership for Sustainable Communities to help improve access to affordable housing, more transportation options, and lower transportation costs while protecting the environment in communities nationwide. US Environmental Protection Agency.

**[EPA seeks input on decision documents for Camp Edwards cleanups.](#)**

Public comment periods begin this week on decision documents for two sites addressed as part of the Impact Area Groundwater Study Program's (IAGWSP) cleanup at Camp Edwards on the Massachusetts Military Reservation. US Environmental Protection Agency.

**[Call for proposals: Identification and Characterization of Sensitive Periods for Neurodevelopment in Studies of Mental Illness.](#)**

The National Institute of Mental Health (NIMH) solicits research grant applications from institutions/organizations that propose to investigate the role of sensitive periods (i.e., periods during which the developing brain is maximally sensitive to environmental influences that confer risk or resilience) in the development of cognitive or affective function and behaviors relevant to mental health disorders. Letters of Intent are due September 20, 2009.

**[Call for proposals: National Environmental Medicine Education and Consultation Project.](#)**

Approximately \$150,000 will be available in fiscal year 2009 to fund one award to provide nationally recognized experts to build competencies in environmental and toxicological medicine through delivery of professional education and clinical consultation to primary care practitioners and other environmental public health professionals, state and local departments of health, tribal governments, federal officials, emergency response personnel, and those individuals, families, and populations impacted by exposure to hazardous substance and other environmental health disease threats. Submissions are due July 16, 2009. US Centers for Disease Control and Prevention.

**[Call for proposals: National Education Initiative on Human Health and the Environment.](#)**

Approximately \$150,000 will be available in fiscal year 2009 to fund one award to provide a national source of public health professionals in the health communication, health education, and health promotion disciplines to provide environmental health education to lay community and health professional audiences through their member and partner networks. Submissions are due July 16, 2009. US Centers for Disease Control and Prevention.

**[Call for proposals: Clean Air Research Centers.](#)**

The U.S. Environmental Protection Agency (EPA) is seeking applications for Clean Air

Research Centers. EPA is interested in supporting research on the health effects of exposure to particulate matter (PM), ozone, and other air pollutants, both singly and in multipollutant atmospheres. Submissions are due November 16, 2009.

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

The U.S. 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. Submissions are due August 5, 2009.

**[No medical evidence that insecticide poisoning treatment works.](#)**

*Tuesday, June 30, 2009*

A study published this week in the open access journal PLoS Medicine finds no evidence to suggest that a controversial antidote recommended by the World Health Organisation (WHO) to treat patients poisoned with highly toxic insecticides improves their chance of survival. Scientist Live.

**[Horticulture cancer risk.](#)**

*Tuesday, June 30, 2009*

Market gardeners and nursery growers are four to five times more at risk of getting leukaemia than the general population, with at least 30 deaths nationwide each year in the sector, a Massey University study has found. Timaru Herald, New Zealand.

**[Flaws in the case against BPA.](#)**

*Tuesday, June 30, 2009*

Scientists, regulators, politicians in Europe, Australia, and Japan have all rejected the evidence that the chemical is harmful as methodologically flawed, badly conducted, or irrelevant -- with some warning that banning it could actually endanger the public. New York Times.

[See related articles: [Study finds reproductive health effects from low doses of bisphenol-A](#), [Plastic chemical may stay in body longer](#), [FDA to reassess toxin in cans, plastic](#), [Battle of the bottles](#) and [Bisphenol A: All eyes on California](#)]

**[Expert questions gas-drilling chemicals.](#)**

*Tuesday, June 30, 2009*

The toxic chemicals used to extract natural gas from deep underground and process it are among substances creating a dizzying list of embryonic -- and subsequent -- developmental aberrations in animals, including humans, according to an environmental health analyst [Theo Colborn]. Durango Herald, Colorado.

**[Babies born by cesarean more prone to asthma, study finds.](#)**

*Tuesday, June 30, 2009*

A new study shows that babies born by caesarean section undergo genetic changes. When combined with an environmental trigger later in life, the genetic changes make the children more susceptible to developing diseases like asthma and diabetes, the researchers believe. London Daily Telegraph, England.

**[EPA proposes tougher clean air rule.](#)**

*Tuesday, June 30, 2009*

The Obama administration proposed to strengthen a key air pollution health standard to better protect children and people with respiratory illnesses. It wants to tighten the air quality requirement for nitrogen dioxide that is released from motor vehicles, coal burning power plants and factories. Associated Press.

[See related articles: [More preemies born in neighborhoods with heavy pollution from cars, trucks](#), [Bad air can make you feel bad, too](#), [Respiratory symptoms in children living near busy roads and their relationship to vehicular traffic: results of an Italian multicenter study \(SIDRIA 2\)](#) and [Air has elevated cancer risk in 600 neighborhoods](#)]

**[Tough anti-smoking law puts consumers' health first.](#)**

*Monday, June 29, 2009*

The Food and Drug Administration will have two years to develop "color graphic labels" for all cigarettes sold in the country. And that's just one of dozens of changes the tobacco industry faces. US News & World Report.

[See a related article: [Obama signs historic tobacco law](#)]

### **Fat-rich diets 'raise risk of pancreatic cancer.'**

Monday, June 29, 2009

Diets rich in fat from red meat and dairy products can increase a person's risk of contracting cancer of the pancreas, researchers are warning. Pancreatic cancer is the 11th most common cancer in Britain. London Observer, England.

### **Ky. schools' healthy example could shape a national policy.**

Monday, June 29, 2009

As Congress moves to reauthorize childhood nutrition programs this summer, it is again taking up the issue of whether sugary sodas, chips and candy should be allowed in schools. Washington Post.

### **Nanotechnology: Revolution and pollution.**

Sunday, June 28, 2009

Knowledge of the potential toxicity of nanomaterials is "scant," the head of Mount Sinai's Children's Environmental Health Center, argues. And what is known about possible toxicity to early human development is "virtually nil." Bloomington Alternative, Indiana.

[See a related journal article: [Nanotechnology and in situ remediation: A review of the benefits and potential risks](#), an article: [Nanotechnology: Tiny particles raise big concerns](#), and a news release: [Landmark study on nanomaterials and the environment](#)]

### **Lead paint 'is a real problem.'**

Sunday, June 28, 2009

In response to a question about the impact lead paint can have on children, the city's certified lead-risk assessor leans forward in his chair and begins, "Now you got me going" before delivering a rapid-fire answer. Lancaster Sunday News, Pennsylvania.

[See related journal articles: [Maternal blood lead levels and the risk of pregnancy induced hypertension: The "EDEN" Cohort Study](#), [Higher bone-lead levels associated with dementia](#) and [Lead exposure and behavior among young children in Chennai, India](#) and related news articles: [Lawsuit claims lead levels in purses too high](#) and [Paint maker loses in Mississippi lead contamination suit](#)]

### **Grant system leads cancer researchers to play it safe.**

Sunday, June 28, 2009

The National Cancer Institute has spent \$105 billion since President Richard M. Nixon declared war on cancer in 1971. The American Cancer Society has spent about \$3.4 billion on research grants since 1946. Yet there have been only small changes in the death rate in the last 40 years. One major impediment is the grant system itself. New York Times.

### **Risk of mad cow disease from farmed fish?**

Saturday, June 27, 2009

Three US scientists are concerned about the potential of people contracting Creutzfeldt Jakob disease -- the human form of "mad cow disease" -- from eating farmed fish who are fed byproducts rendered from cows. Reuters Health.

### **Bus pass or bus fail.**

Saturday, June 27, 2009

To evaluate the energy use and air pollution of various types of transportation more accurately, UC Berkeley researcher Mikhail Chester says that you need to take into account the entire life cycle, including infrastructure and maintenance. Living On Earth.

### **S&T forum panel: Addressing climate change will benefit global health.**

Friday, June 26, 2009

Shifting global energy use away from carbon-rich sources like fossil fuels and coal is a critical step to mitigate climate change, but it also would have profound benefits for public health, a panel of experts concluded at the 2009 AAAS Forum on Science &

Technology Policy. American Association for the Advancement of Science.

**[Diet may make a difference in prostate cancer.](#)**

*Thursday, June 25, 2009*

Men may be able to lower their risk of developing prostate cancer, or slow its progression, by watching their diets, a new research review suggests. Reuters Health.

**[Why the adage 'the dose makes the poison' can be toxic to corporate chemicals policy.](#)**

*Thursday, June 25, 2009*

There's no doubt we know astonishingly, depressingly little about the effects of small amounts of most chemicals. Even worse, the science emerging in recent years signals that the more we learn, the more we ought to be concerned. Reuters.

**[Industrialization of food linked to chronic diseases.](#)**

*Thursday, June 25, 2009*

Michael Pollan says the chronic diseases that kill us can be traced directly to the industrialization of our food. Vancouver Sun, Canada.

**[Mixing mercury with PCBs reduces PCB effect on hearing in rats.](#)**

*Thursday, June 25, 2009*

Developmental exposure to PCBs can permanently damage hearing but co-exposure with methyl mercury reduces the effects. Environmental Health News.

**[Model development and validation of personal exposure to volatile organic compound concentrations.](#)**

*Wednesday, June 24, 2009*

The models proposed identify the most important non-weather-related variables for VOC exposures, highlight the effect of personal activities, use of solvents and exposure to ETS on PE levels and may assist in the development of specific models for other locations. Environmental Health Perspectives.

**[Quick guide to the FDA.](#)**

*Wednesday, June 24, 2009*

While voluntary industry recalls help protect against future harm, each successive safety warning inevitably leaves the American public wondering who in the federal government is looking out for our well being. Time Magazine.

**[High school may have toxins in windows.](#)**

*Wednesday, June 24, 2009*

There are concerns that Doherty Memorial High School may have elevated levels of a known carcinogen within its window caulking, making it one of thousands of schools and other buildings built between the early 1960s until 1977 with materials that contain PCBs. Worcester Telegram & Gazette, Massachusetts.

**[U.S. study to target blacks in vitamin D, fish oil test.](#)**

*Tuesday, June 23, 2009*

Two of the most popular and promising dietary supplements -- vitamin D and fish oil -- will be tested in a large, government-sponsored study to see whether either nutrient can lower a healthy person's risk of getting cancer, heart disease or having a stroke. It will be one of the first big nutrition studies ever to target a specific racial group -- blacks, who will comprise one quarter of the participants. Associated Press.

**[Birth defects in China's Shanxi show human price of coal.](#)**

*Tuesday, June 23, 2009*

In Shanxi province, coal has brought riches to a few, jobs for many, and environmental pollution that experts say has led to a high number of babies born with birth defects. Reuters.

**[POPs blood levels down in a sample of pregnant US women.](#)**

*Tuesday, June 23, 2009*

First time expectant mothers in the US have much lower blood levels of selected

persistent organic pollutants than women did before the chemicals' ban and restrictions on use and emissions. Environmental Health News.

#### **[4 things that make you fat \(not gluttony, not sloth\).](#)**

*Tuesday, June 23, 2009*

Metabolism, like everything, is influenced both by one's genetics and one's environment. The environment includes not only nutrition and exercise but also sleep habits, stress and chemical exposures. "Obesogens" are chemicals that can mess with the hormones that regulate our metabolism and cause us to gain weight. The Daily Green.

#### **[Mobile phones for children: a boon or a peril?](#)**

*Tuesday, June 23, 2009*

Health concerns about the impact of mobile phone use on adults' brains may have largely subsided but government guidelines still warn that children's vulnerable grey matter should be protected. London Times, England.

#### **[Weed killer kills human cells.](#)**

*Tuesday, June 23, 2009*

Used in yards, farms and parks throughout the world, Roundup has long been a top-selling weed killer. But now researchers have found that one of Roundup's inert ingredients can kill human cells, particularly embryonic, placental and umbilical cord cells. The new findings intensify a debate about so-called "inerts" -- the solvents, preservatives, surfactants and other substances that manufacturers add to pesticides. Environmental Health News.

#### **[Chemotherapy for the soil.](#)**

*Monday, June 22, 2009*

Methyl bromide is the California strawberry grower's dream chemical. Problem is, it's highly toxic and it eats the ozone layer. Toronto Star, Canada.

#### **[There may be danger in rubber play surfaces.](#)**

*Monday, June 22, 2009*

EPA officials say they can't vouch for the safety of recycled rubber, which can be contaminated with lead and other toxins, according to internal documents released under the Freedom of Information Act to the advocacy group Public Employees for Environmental Responsibility. USA Today.

[See a follow-up article with preliminary study results: [Breathing easier on artificial turf](#)]

#### **[Next-generation risk assessment.](#)**

*Monday, June 22, 2009*

The Environmental Protection Agency is strongly considering revamping how it performs chemical risk assessments. Many advocates for change say the current system for ensuring the safety of chemicals is broken and EPA needs to do something radical to fix it. Chemical & Engineering News.

#### **[Wind power blues.](#)**

*Sunday, June 21, 2009*

Since the debate over wind turbines and whether they negatively impact on human health is heating up in Ontario, let's talk to an expert on the relationship between noise and stress. Toronto Sun, Canada.

#### **[Alzheimer's disease could be triggered by brain toxins.](#)**

*Sunday, June 21, 2009*

Emerging evidence indicates that toxic environmental exposures, in combination with nutritional, social, and exercise factors, may play a major role in the development of Alzheimer's, Parkinson's, and other degenerative diseases, according to Philip Landrigan, MD. Kitsap Sun, Washington.

#### **[Marijuana smoke is a carcinogen, California board rules.](#)**

*Saturday, June 20, 2009*

On Friday, California added marijuana smoke to its official list of known carcinogens, joining the ranks of arsenic, asbestos and DDT. San Jose Mercury News, California.

**[Warnings for users of sunbeds which 'can kill.'](#)**

*Saturday, June 20, 2009*

Sunbeds kill at least 100 people a year in Britain - and should carry cigarette-style warnings advising users they can be lethal, the Committee on Medical Aspects of Radiation in the Environment has said. London Daily Telegraph, England.

**[Keys to staying sharp in old age revealed.](#)**

*Saturday, June 20, 2009*

A decline in thinking or "cognitive" function with age is not inevitable, according to a new study that showed that many adults maintain their cognitive function as they grow older and identified modifiable factors related to preserving brain function. Reuters Health.

**[More evidence links pesticides to Parkinson's.](#)**

*Saturday, June 20, 2009*

A new study confirms the link between on-the-job pesticide exposure and Parkinson's disease, and suggests that certain insecticides may be particularly risky. Reuters Health.

**[Nestlé cookie dough is recalled.](#)**

*Saturday, June 20, 2009*

Nestlé USA recalled its Toll House refrigerated cookie dough on Friday after health officials linked the dough to infections from the bacteria E. coli in as many as 66 people in 28 states. New York Times.

**[Canada to pull plug on 'rubber duck' chemicals.](#)**

*Saturday, June 20, 2009*

Phthalates used in children's soft vinyl toys and in personal care products will be included in new Health Canada regulations, following similar moves in other countries. Toronto Globe and Mail, Ontario.

[See a related article: [Chemicals in shower curtains and children's toys linked to underweight babies](#)]

**[New diesel trucks and buses cut soot and smog more than 90 percent.](#)**

*Friday, June 19, 2009*

For decades, diesel trucks and buses have spewed large amounts of soot, smog-causing gases and carcinogens into the air. But new diesel engines are vastly cleaner, far exceeding the emission reductions required by the U.S. Environmental Protection Agency, according to a new study released Thursday. Environmental Health News.

[See a related article: [Port of Oakland votes to ban dirty diesel trucks](#)]

**[Diet contributes significantly to the body burden of PBDEs in the general U.S. population.](#)**

*Thursday, June 18, 2009*

Intake of contaminated poultry and red meat contribute significantly to PBDE body burdens in the United States. Environmental Health Perspectives.

**[Reason for farming link to brain cancer unclear.](#)**

*Thursday, June 18, 2009*

Farmers are known to be at higher risk of a type of brain cancer known as glioma, but a comprehensive new study has found no association between types of farming or farm activities and the disease. Reuters Health.

**[Study: Toxins found in scents.](#)**

*Thursday, June 18, 2009*

The fumes that waft from top-selling air fresheners and laundry products contain dozens of chemicals, including several classified as toxic or hazardous, says a University of Washington study published recently. McClatchy Newspapers.

**[Jury rules in 3M's favor in groundwater pollution case.](#)**

*Thursday, June 18, 2009*

The 3M Co. won a landmark court case Wednesday when a jury ruled against claims of Washington County residents suing the company over chemicals in their groundwater. St. Paul Pioneer Press, Minnesota.

[See other stories about litigation: [Court OK's \\$5-million settlement in Northstar lawsuit](#) and [US court rules for Travelers in asbestos case](#)]

#### **Zicam not alone in side effect reports.**

Thursday, June 18, 2009

The unsettling little secret of Zicam Cold Remedy finally spilled out this week. Though widely sold for years as a drug for colds, it was never tested by federal regulators for safety like other drugs. And that was perfectly legal - until scores of consumers lost their sense of smell. Associated Press.

#### **Schools to keep up 'no idling' effort.**

Thursday, June 18, 2009

Parents carting their kids to and from school this fall may be asked to turn their engines off as they wait. Atlanta Journal-Constitution, Georgia.

#### **The Breast Cancer and the Environment Research Centers: Transdisciplinary research on the role of the environment in breast cancer etiology.**

Wednesday, June 17, 2009

Center investigators are addressing a large number of specific research questions related to early pubertal onset, which is an established risk factor for breast cancer. Environmental Health Perspectives.

#### **EPA declares health emergency in Montana town.**

Wednesday, June 17, 2009

The Environmental Protection Agency for the first time has determined there is a public health emergency in a contaminated community, targeting a Montana town Wednesday for immediate federal attention. Bellingham Herald, Washington.

#### **More chemicals for California's Prop 65.**

Wednesday, June 17, 2009

California officials proposed listing 30 more substances under Proposition 65, including the common gasoline additive tert-amyl methyl ether, the pesticide carbaryl, and n-butyl glycidyl ether, used in epoxy resins. Chemical & Engineering News.

[See a related article with the full list: [30 'new' toxic chemicals to avoid](#)]

#### **With a little help, greens come to low-income neighborhoods.**

Wednesday, June 17, 2009

Following concern about the high incidence of obesity and diabetes, a public-private partnership has helped bring fresh produce to neighborhoods in Philadelphia where there were few choices for nutritious food. New York Times.

#### **US EPA proposed cement kiln rules opposed by industry.**

Wednesday, June 17, 2009

The U.S. cement industry faces stiffer federal regulation of emissions from its kilns, including mercury, which environmentalists say is overdue but industry advocates believe will put some domestic plants out of business. Reuters.

#### **Mom's pesticide exposure at work increases her child's leukemia risk.**

Wednesday, June 17, 2009

A detailed analysis of all the available studies comparing work-related, parental pesticide exposure and childhood leukemia finds that the mother's exposure during pregnancy can double her child's risk of the disease. The father's exposure before pregnancy does not. Environmental Health News.

[See related articles: [Pesticide susceptibility in children lasts longer than expected](#) and [New Brunswick to restrict use of pesticides](#)]

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](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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