



Collaborative on Health and the Environment - Washington



Biweekly Bulletin August 25, 2010

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

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 filling quickly. 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.

Lessons Learned

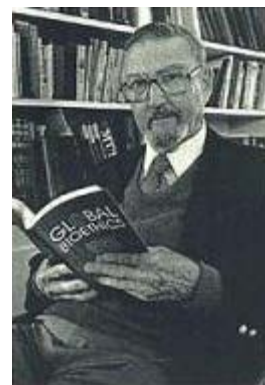
Van Rensselaer Potter II - Global Bioethics 1970

by Steven G. Gilbert, PhD, DABT

Bioethics: "Biology combined with diverse humanistic knowledge forging a science that sets a system of medical and environmental priorities for acceptable survival."

- from Van Rensselaer Potter, *Global Bioethics: Building on the Leopold Legacy* (East Lansing: Michigan State University Press, 1988)

Bioethicists are concerned with the ethical questions that arise in the relationships among life sciences, environment, biotechnology, medicine, politics, law and philosophy.



"Bioethics", from the Greek *bios* or life and *ethos* or behavior, was coined in 1927 but was given modern definition by Van Rensselaer Potter (August 27, 1911 - September 6, 2001) in his books *Bioethics: Bridge to the Future* (1971) and *Global Bioethics: Building on the Leopold Legacy* (1988). Potter was a biochemist and professor of oncology at the McArdle Laboratory for Cancer Research at the University of Wisconsin-Madison for more than 50 years. He defined bioethics very broadly so that it includes environmental ethics in contrast to biomedical ethics.

Broader discussions of ethical issues are essential as individuals, industry, business and government define their responsibility to ensure a sustainable future in which our children can reach and maintain their full potential.

Learn more:

Van Rensselaer Potter II, <http://toxipedia.org/x/wqpb>

Bioethics, <http://toxipedia.org/x/dR>

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](#).

Announcements

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

[EPA to take action on chemicals used in dyes, flame retardants, and industrial detergents efforts to limit exposure and reduce harm to people.](#)

The US Environmental Protection Agency (EPA) released action plans today to address the potential health risks of benzidine dyes, hexabromocyclododecane (HBCD) and nonylphenol (NP)/nonylphenol ethoxylates (NPEs).

[See another article about flame retardants: [Relationships between polybrominated diphenyl ether concentrations in house dust and serum](#)]

[Treating contaminants of emerging concern.](#)

EPA is releasing the results of an extensive literature review of published studies of the effectiveness of various treatment technologies for contaminants of emerging concern (CECs).

[Administrator Jackson announces EPA's international priorities.](#)

The international priorities echo Administrator Jackson's priorities for EPA, which she announced earlier this year, and aim to promote citizen engagement, improve public health and increase government accountability on environmental enforcement.

[EPA launches web forum on how to best protect America's drinking water.](#)

EPA seeks input from water professionals, advocates, and anyone interested in drinking water quality issues about best solutions for issues facing our nation's drinking water -- planning, developing scientific tools, controlling water pollution and use of resources.

[See a related announcement [EPA releases draft strategy for clean water](#)]

[Result of state artificial turf fields study: No elevated health risk.](#)

A new study of artificial turf fields containing crumb rubber infill conducted by four state

agencies shows that health risks are not elevated from playing on the fields. However, higher contaminant levels at one indoor field indicate that ventilation of indoor fields should be considered. Connecticut Department of Public Health
[See a related news article from New Jersey: [Artificial turf concerns under investigation](#)]

[Additional public hearings scheduled on coal combustion residuals.](#)

In response to numerous requests, EPA is scheduling two additional public hearings and one additional webinar on the Coal Combustion Residuals Proposed Rule. Written comments are also invited through September 20th.

[EPA invites public to vote in Rachel Carson contest.](#)

EPA's Aging Initiative, Generations United, and the Rachel Carson Council, Inc. are pleased to present the finalists for the second annual intergenerational photo, dance, essay and poetry Sense of Wonder contest. The deadline for voting is November 1st. The winners will be announced later that month.

[EPA proposes rules on clean air act permitting for greenhouse gas emissions.](#)

EPA will accept comment on the first proposal for updated state implementation plans for 30 days after publication in the Federal Register. EPA will accept comment until September 24th.

[EPA Proposes Improvements to Chemical Reporting Actions to help keep children, families safer.](#)

In addition to enhancing the information to be reported, EPA is proposing to increase the frequency of reporting.

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

King County Local Hazardous Waste Management Program has an opening for a public health policy manager. Open until September 1st.

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

Oregon Toxics Alliance (OTA) is seeking a Community Outreach Coordinator to develop a comprehensive strategy for educating the public and help coordinate communications with OTA's existing and potential partners (organizations and individuals).

[Job opening: Hertfordshire, UK.](#)

Potensis is seeking an environmental health officer to be responsible for the day-to-day discharge of functions in the health and safety/food safety team.

Upcoming Events

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

1) Public Listening Session on Potential Revisions to Water Quality Standards Regulation

Thursday August 26, 2010
1 p.m. to 2:30 p.m. Eastern time

Sponsor: US Environmental Protection Agency

The US Environmental Protection Agency (EPA) will hold two public listening sessions on potential changes to the water quality standards regulation before proposing a national rule. The current regulation, which has been in place since 1983, governs how states and authorized tribes adopt standards needed under the Clean Water Act to protect the quality of their rivers, streams, lakes and estuaries. Potential revisions include strengthening protection for water bodies with water quality that already exceeds or meet the interim goals of the Clean Water Act; ensuring that standards reflect a continued commitment to these goals wherever attainable; improving transparency of regulatory decisions; and strengthening federal oversight. Water quality standards are the foundation of the water quality-based approach to pollution control, including Total

Maximum Daily Loads and National Pollutant Discharge Elimination System permits. Standards are also a fundamental component of watershed management. At the sessions, EPA will provide a review of the current regulation and a summary of the revisions the agency is considering. Clarifying questions and brief oral comments (three minutes or less) from the public will be accepted at the sessions, as time permits. EPA will consider the comments received as it develops the proposed rulemaking. EPA will also hold separate listening sessions for state, tribal and local governments.

Price: free

[Visit the website](#)

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

2) Green Blessings the Wise Woman Way

Thursday August 26, 2010

8:00 p.m. Eastern time

Sponsor: 4 Health Inc., Aspire Magazine, Inspired Living Publishing, Women's Wisdom

Part of a series on women's health and wellness, this call will feature Susun Weed, author of several books whose goal is to change how we think about health and healing. Herbs have tremendous ability to benefit your health, and during this interview with Susun Weed, you will learn about the best herbs you can use to regain and maintain health, gain energy and vitality, and even help with menopause. You will also learn how to make nourishing herbal infusions and more.

Price: free

[Visit the website](#)

3) Doesn't It Make You Sick?

Saturday August 28, 2010

1:00 - 2:30 p.m.

Spokane, Washington

at the Spokane Public Library, South Hill Branch

Sponsor: Planned Parenthood

Hey Spokane! Learn how to avoid toxic chemicals. Harmful chemicals are in our homes, workplaces, and in products we use every day. But current federal law does not protect you and your family. In fact, health and safety testing has been required on only 200 of the 80,000 chemicals on the market. Chemicals in our everyday lives can harm your reproductive health and the health of our kids. Hear a short presentation, visit information tables about green cleaning, safe baby bottles, how you can help make change, and more. Bring in a toy or another item made of wood, plastic or metal from your home and have it checked for harmful chemicals by the XRF testing machine. Learn about which products to watch out for as you shop. and there will be activities for children. Reservations are requested by noon on the day of the event.

Price: free

[Visit the website](#)

Contact: Planned Parenthood, ppaction@ppnetworkwa.org

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

Tuesday August 31, 2010

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

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

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

Price: free

[Visit the website](#)

Contact: Laura Abulafia, Laura@aaidd.org

5) The Secrets to Longevity

Tuesday August 31, 2010

8:00 p.m. Eastern time

Sponsor: 4 Health Inc., Aspire Magazine, Inspired Living Publishing, Women's Wisdom

Part of a series on women's health and wellness, this call will feature David Wolfe, considered one of the world's top authorities on natural health, beauty nutrition, herbalism, chocolate and organic superfoods. Did you know that longevity and vitality are easy to achieve? During the interview with David Wolfe, you will learn that your health does not need to fall apart as you age. You will gain insight into the superfoods that can improve your health and you will learn the truth about calcium (a real concern for most women).

Price: free

[Visit the website](#)

6) Environmental Negotiations for Scientists and Resource Managers

Tuesday and Wednesday, August 31 - September 1, 2010

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

Sacramento, California

at the Radisson Hotel-Sacramento, 500 Leisure Lane

Sponsor: EOS Alliance

This workshop provides attendees with improved skills for effective participation in environmental negotiations. Environmental negotiations are often more complex due to their technical and regulatory intricacy, interest from many parties, and the emotional nature of parties involved. This workshop presents basic negotiation concepts, specific environmental applications, and principled (ethical) negotiation approaches for building trust and relationships. Role-playing provides an interactive method of reinforcing negotiation principles and will be used to teach participants how to recognize commonly encountered tactics while producing responses. Participants will gain a better understanding of negotiation principles, as well as approaches and practices for improving outcomes. In addition, the skills taught in this class will help participants increase their confidence and reduce the anxiety they feel while working to achieve these outcomes. Course materials will provide useful tools for future negotiations.

Price: \$795 or \$695 for employees of Native American tribes, government agencies, and nonprofits; students; and NAEP members

[Visit the website](#)

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

7) Health for the Whole Family

Thursday September 2, 2010

8:00 p.m. Eastern time

Sponsor: 4 Health Inc., Aspire Magazine, Inspired Living Publishing, Women's Wisdom

Part of a series on women's health and wellness, this call will feature Dr. Bill Sears, associate clinical professor of pediatrics at the University of California, Irvine and the author of over 30 books. As women, we spend a lot of time worried about the health of our family. For moms, having our kids eat well, for example, can be a struggle. Dr. Sears is going to share with us just how lifestyle, exercise, attitude and nutrition can affect our health and the health of our children.

Price: free

[Visit the website](#)

8) Spiritual Healing

Tuesday September 7, 2010

8:00 p.m. Eastern time

Sponsor: 4 Health Inc., Aspire Magazine, Inspired Living Publishing, Women's Wisdom

Part of a series on women's health and wellness, this call will feature Dr. Laurel Clark, the president of the School of Metaphysics, an ordained minister in the Interfaith Church of Metaphysics and the author of several books. Is spirituality something you think about but haven't had time to explore? Are you often concerned about where your life is headed and how to find greater meaning and purpose in the things you do every day? Laurel Clark is going share with you how to bring greater peace and serenity to your life. She will explain how you can have greater appreciation for who you are, how to learn the lessons that life brings to you, and how to have a deeper sense of security in knowing that you are fulfilling your spiritual destiny.

Price: free

[Visit the website](#)

9) IFEH 11th World Congress on Environmental Health

Friday September 10, 2010

Vancouver, British Columbia Canada

Sponsor: International Federation of Environmental Health

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

Price: unknown

[Visit the website](#)

10) A Conversation about Sustainable Design

Tuesday September 14, 2010

Reception 5:30 - 6:30; Program 6:30 - 8:30; Post Seminar Networking 8:30 - 9:00

Seattle, Washington

Downstairs at Town Hall, Eighth and Seneca

Sponsor: Sustainable Path Foundation

Design plays a pivotal role in the sustainability of our buildings, communities and products, as well as in the systems we use to handle transportation, energy and water. Can we change our perspective on the built environment from "projects that are created

and finished" to a more sustainable one of "systems that perform over time"? What social factors should be considered when creating built solutions? Join us as Ash Awad, vice president of Energy and Facility Services at McKinstry and Daniel Friedman, dean of the College of Built Environments at the University of Washington explore these and other considerations of sustainable design and its impact on our future.

Price: \$10 in advance or \$15 at the door

[Visit the website](#)

Contact: 206-443-8464 or info@sustainablepath.org

11) I am Being Exposed to WHAT?

Tuesday September 14, 2010

8:00 p.m. Eastern time

Sponsor: 4 Health Inc., Aspire Magazine, Inspired Living Publishing, Women's Wisdom

Part of a series on women's health and wellness, this call will feature Alexandra Scranton, the director of science and research at Women's Voices for the Earth. We buy things in the store assuming that what we buy has been evaluated for safety first. Unfortunately, that just isn't the case. As a woman, you are exposed to toxic chemicals simply by cleaning your home and using cosmetics. Alexandra will help you identify actions you can take to avoid jeopardizing your health.

Price: free

[Visit the website](#)

12) Chasing Molecules: Poisonous Products, Human Health and the Promise of Green Chemistry: A Discussion with Author Elizabeth Grossman

Wednesday September 15, 2010

9:00 a.m. Alaska / 10:00 a.m. Pacific / 1:00 p.m. Eastern time

Sponsor: Collaborative on Health and the Environment - Alaska

Many dangerous chemicals from chemical manufacturing facilities and industrial agriculture operations around the world end up in the Arctic and stay there. Originating in Asia and southern latitudes, persistent organic pollutants (POPs) hitchhike on wind and ocean currents and accumulate in the fish, wildlife and people who call the far north home. Among those who bear a disproportionate burden of global contaminants are Arctic indigenous peoples who depend on berries, greens, fish and marine mammals for subsistence. In addition to being exposed to pollutants from distant sources, the people of Alaska's St. Lawrence Island are also exposed to contamination from abandoned military sites. Author Elizabeth Grossman highlights the ongoing struggle for environmental health and justice of the St. Lawrence Island Yupik people in her award-winning book *Chasing Molecules: Poisonous Products, Human Health and the Promise of Green Chemistry*. With *Chasing Molecules*, Grossman reveals that we can do better; that we can make materials that we have come to rely on with chemicals that have been tested to be safe and are in fact "benign by design." In a radical departure from how synthetic chemistry has been practiced, Grossman suggests that green chemistry should be used to create new materials for use in everything from sippy cups to carpets.

Price: free

[Visit the website](#)

Contact: Alaska Community Action on Toxics, 907-222-7714 or diana@akaction.org

13) Superbugs, Super Problems: Agricultural Antibiotics and Emerging Infections

Thursday September 16, 2010

1:00 - 2:00 p.m. Central time

Sponsor: Healthy Food Action and The IATP Food & Society Fellows and cosponsored by the Infectious Diseases Society of America

The new scientific consensus is that routine, unnecessary use of antibiotics in livestock and poultry contributes significantly to a costly epidemic of antibiotic resistance. One result is the emergence of new infections with farm links, including salmonella resistant to multiple drugs (including the critical cephalosporins), resistant E. coli, and MRSA. We are joined by three presenters who recently testified before Congress on this issue: infectious disease and noted E. coli expert Dr. James Johnson; Maryn McKenna, author of *Superbug: The Fatal Menace of MRSA*; and Dr. Gail Hansen, offering a veterinarian's perspective on the need for new federal policy and why health professionals ought to weigh in.

Price: free

[Visit the website](#)

News and Journal Articles

[**'Super bug' that's resistant to antibiotics threatens hospital patients.**](#)

Tuesday, August 24, 2010

A battery of tests has revealed an entirely new, and serious, problem: Clostridium difficile, a virulent form of bacteria that doctors worry has become a new "super bug" - increasingly common in hospitals and with growing resistance to antibiotics. Washington Post.

[See a related article: [Extremely drug-resistant infections spreading fast](#) and a related teleconference in event #13 above]

[**A bamboo curtain for Superfund site.**](#)

Tuesday, August 24, 2010

The Environmental Protection Agency is considering planting a bamboo fence around the AMCO Chemical Superfund site to help protect the neighbors from dust and the other nasty stuff coming out of the ground during the cleanup. San Francisco Bay Citizen, California.

[**MS and arthritis may be linked to lack of sun, say scientists.**](#)

Tuesday, August 24, 2010

Insufficient exposure to sunshine, resulting in low levels of vitamin D, could play a part in a wide-range of diseases, from multiple sclerosis to rheumatoid arthritis, type 1 diabetes, some cancers and even dementia, scientists say today. London Guardian, United Kingdom.

[See a related article: [Giving babies sunshine vitamin may cut illness risk](#)]

[**Radiation, risks are focus of breast screening studies.**](#)

Tuesday, August 24, 2010

Some doctors are concerned about relying too much on breast imaging exams that expose women to far higher doses of radiation than regular mammography. Over all, the U.S. population's annual radiation dose from medical procedures increased sevenfold between 1980 and 2006, a new study reports. New York Times.

[See another article about breast cancer research: [New breast cancer committee to establish federal research agenda](#)]

[**Later school start times and Zzzs to A's.**](#)

Monday, August 23, 2010

Overtired kids, studies suggest, struggle with depression. They gain weight and get in more car accidents. Their grades suffer. And many turn to caffeine, with questionable results for productivity and unknown effects on the development of young brains. Los Angeles Times.

[**Metal oxide nanoparticles induce unique inflammatory footprints in the lung: Important implications for nanoparticle testing.**](#)

Saturday, August 21, 2010

Our results demonstrate that nanoparticles cannot be viewed as a single hazard entity and that risk assessment should be performed separately and with caution for different nanoparticles. Environmental Health Perspectives.

[Under-18 ban 'cut teenage smoking rates.'](#)

Friday, August 20, 2010

Teenage smoking rates in England have dropped since the legal age for buying cigarettes rose from 16 to 18, research by University College London suggests. Researchers surveyed more than 1,000 teenagers aged 16 and 17 before and after the age rise in October 2007. BBC.

[See other articles related to smoking: [How secondhand cigarette smoke changes your genes](#); [Smoking not tied to risk of early breast tumor](#) and [Nicotine in cigarettes linked to breast cancer for the first time](#)]

[Omega-3s could improve metabolic syndrome outcomes.](#)

Thursday, August 19, 2010

Omega-3-rich supplements may improve blood lipid levels of people with metabolic syndrome, reducing the risks of developing serious health problems, says a new study. Nutraingredients.

[Study: Latinos most likely to live near toxic materials.](#)

Thursday, August 19, 2010

Latinos in Southern California are far more likely to be exposed to pollution from manufacturing plants than any other ethnic or racial group, a new UC Irvine study concludes. Riverside Press-Enterprise, California.

[See a website for environmental justice mapping: [EJView](#)]

[Obesity top threat to children's health: poll.](#)

Thursday, August 19, 2010

Adults consider obesity the number one threat to children's health in the United States and many believe the problem is getting worse, according to a new poll. Almost 40 percent of adults cited obesity as the biggest threat to youngsters and teenagers, followed by drug abuse, smoking, Internet safety and stress. Reuters Health.

[See other articles related to obesity: [Health, planning linked](#); [Obesity linked to lower sperm count in young men](#); [Should belly fat prompt early colon cancer screens?](#) and [Is obesity contributing to high c-section rates?](#)]

[B.C. government outs environmental, health law breakers.](#)

Thursday, August 19, 2010

For the first time, the B.C. government is outing companies and individuals who flout environment, health or safety laws in the province. CTV News.

[Study: pesticides may double ADHD risk.](#)

Wednesday, August 18, 2010

As an increasing number of children are diagnosed with ADHD, parents and doctors have been scrambling to understand why. The answer might be on their dinner plates. A new study suggests that exposure to pesticides often used in commercial farming may be pushing the trend. CBS News.

[See other articles and announcements related to pesticides: [Organophosphate pesticide exposure and attention in young Mexican-American children](#); [Bayer agrees to terminate all uses of aldicarb](#); [The ethics of human volunteer studies involving experimental exposure to pesticides: Unanswered dilemmas](#); [PON1 and neurodevelopment in children from the CHAMACOS Study exposed to organophosphate pesticides in utero](#); [Consumer alert: EPA advises care when selecting pesticides for bedbug control](#) and [Businesses join 'no spray' campaign against NStar](#)]

[San Francisco shares city-OK'd green products on website.](#)

Tuesday, August 17, 2010

Consumers and businesses wary of toxics and eco-unfriendly chemicals have new places to research cleaning, cosmetics, automotive, food storage and other products. San Francisco Chronicle, California.

[See related articles: [Health hazards lurk in household products](#), [Fragrance chemicals](#)

[and the scent of suspicion](#) and [Small changes can help planet and health, educator says](#)]

Does Wi-Fi make you sick?

Tuesday, August 17, 2010

Living wirelessly could come with a price. But it depends on who you ask. With parents in Barrie arguing that Wi-Fi in elementary schools is making their children sick, it appears the jury is still out among scientists on whether electromagnetic radiation from wireless routers can harm your health. Toronto Star, Ontario.

[See a related article: [Parents warned of child phone dangers](#)]

Annual ambient black carbon associated with shorter telomeres in elderly men: Veterans Administration Normative Aging Study

Tuesday August 17, 2010

Telomere attrition, linked to biological aging, may be associated with long-term exposures to airborne particles, particularly those rich in black carbon, which are primarily related to automobile traffic. Environmental Health Perspectives.

[See another article about air quality concerns: [From good intentions to proven interventions: Effectiveness of actions to reduce the health impacts of air pollution](#)]

Study finds less lead in Canadians' blood, but chemicals in their urine.

Monday, August 16, 2010

A new study has found that blood lead concentrations among Canadians have fallen dramatically since they were last measured 30 years ago. But the Canadian Health Measures Survey says 91 per cent of Canadians aged six to 79 had bisphenol A in their urine. Canadian Press.

'CSI' for seafood: Gulf fish gets safety tests.

Monday, August 16, 2010

Seafood from the Gulf of Mexico is being put under the microscope like no other kind on the market, with fish, shrimp and other catches ground up to hunt for minute traces of oil - far more reassuring than that sniff test that made all the headlines. Associated Press.

[See other articles about food and health: [Health checkup: Who needs organic food?](#); [Toxic chemicals found in fertiliser](#); [Half a billion eggs have been recalled](#) and [New food-safety rules come amid egg probe](#)]

Effects of hunger in children last longer than imagined.

Monday, August 16, 2010

For most people, "hunger" is a figure of speech for a list of wants rather than needs. Without any doubt, a child that is hungry would feel empty and sad. Even worse is the fact that hunger can stunt growth, affect brain development, spur behavioural problems and increase the likelihood of falling sick. Nigerian Tribune, Niger.

Asbestos still a global threat.

Sunday, August 15, 2010

The threat posed by asbestos has not passed, says an Australian expert who warns against complacency and the deadly product's ongoing use in developing countries. Australian Associated Press.

[See a related article: [International mesothelioma cases may rise to 10 million](#)]

Senate hearing emphasizes environment-autism links.

Sunday, August 15, 2010

Four researchers from government and academia told a panel of U.S. senators on Aug. 3 that exposures to environmental toxins are a likely cause of autism in genetically predisposed individuals. Bloomington Alternative, Indiana.

[See a related article: [Autism explosion half explained, half still a mystery](#)]

Painters at significantly increased risk of bladder cancer, study finds.

Friday, August 13, 2010

A key risk factor for the disease is smoking, but higher numbers than expected of bladder cancer have also been reported for certain types of employment, including painting. Painters are exposed to some of the same chemicals that are found in cigarette

smoke, including aromatic amines. ScienceDaily.

[See another article about cancer: [Fear, frustration fuel the spread of wrong information about cancer causes.](#)]

Acetaminophen tied to childhood wheezing and allergies.

Friday, August 13, 2010

A pair of studies suggests that the common painkiller acetaminophen -- better known as Tylenol in the U.S. -- may be fueling a worldwide increase in asthma. Reuters Health.

[See another article related to asthma: [Prenatal smoke tied to poorer asthma-drug response](#)]

Russian fires threaten to stir Chernobyl radiation.

Thursday, August 12, 2010

Wildfires threatened to stir radioactive particles left over from the 1986 Chernobyl nuclear disaster back into the air over western Russia, and authorities boosted forest patrols to keep the flames from contaminated areas. Associated Press.

Study finds chemicals from household products in water, animals.

Thursday, August 12, 2010

Scientists are scratching their heads over how a type of chemical found in products such as Teflon and Gore-Tex is showing up in Washington waters and fish. Seattle KPLU Public Radio, Washington.

[See other articles about water contamination concerns: [Researchers still missing links between slurry, water and health](#) and [Cruise ships turn B.C. into 'toilet bowl of North America,' critics say](#)]

Childrens' jump houses alleged to pose health risk as lead is found in alarming amounts.

Thursday, August 12, 2010

The tests were done by the Center for Environmental Health and allege that in some cases, lead found was 70 times higher than federal limits. ABC News.

Public hearing on chemical scheduled for Augusta.

Wednesday, August 11, 2010

A proposal to ban a chemical in baby products and food and beverage containers [BPA] that has been linked to a range of health problems will go before the public next week. Augusta Kennebec Journal, Maine.

[See other articles about BPA: [Feeding bottles putting babies at risk](#), [State invites input on plan to ban BPA](#) and [Teens carry 30 per cent more BPA than rest of population](#)]

PCB check-up in Northern Europe.

Wednesday, August 11, 2010

A new study in the U.K. and Norway reports that although PCB levels continue to drop, the Stockholm Convention has had little influence on them since going into effect in 2004. Chemical & Engineering News.

[See other articles about PCBs: [Invasive species and toxic chemicals](#), [Toxic chemicals found in King County youth services buildings](#) and [Neurodevelopmental toxicity of prenatal polychlorinated biphenyls \(PCBs\) by chemical structure and activity: A birth cohort study](#)]

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

[Join Our Mailing List!](#)