



Collaborative on Health and the Environment - Washington



Biweekly Bulletin March 10, 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

New CHE Blog

CHE has launched a blog to promote dialogue on issues at the intersection of human health and environment. Main blog posts are invited essays from CHE partners. Comments and discussion are welcome from all.

<http://ourhealthandenvironment.wordpress.com/>

CHE on Facebook

In addition to a new blog, CHE has also created a Facebook page to be updated several times a week with CHE announcements, important new reports and news and other information that may be of interest to our Partners. We invite you to visit and join the [Facebook page](#).

New members

CHE-Washington welcomes these new members:

- Vickie Carper, Mercer Island
- Angie Sturm, South Lake Tahoe, California

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

Linus Carl Pauling - "Scientist for the Ages"

by Steven G. Gilbert, PhD, DABT

"It is sometimes said that science has nothing to do with morality. This is wrong. Science is the search for truth, the effort to understand the world; it involves the rejection of bias, of dogma, of revelation, but not the rejection of morality."

- Linus Carl Pauling, Scientist for the Ages

Linus Carl Pauling (February 28, 1901 - August 19, 1994) was an American chemist, peace activist, author and educator. He was one of the most influential chemists in history and ranks among the most important scientists in any field of the 20th century. Pauling was among the first scientists to work in the fields of quantum chemistry, molecular biology and orthomolecular medicine. He is one of only two people to have been awarded a Nobel Prize in two different fields (the Chemistry and Peace prizes), the other being Marie Curie (the Chemistry and Physics prizes). Pauling had been practically apolitical until World War II, but the aftermath of the war and his wife's pacifism changed his life profoundly, and he



became a peace activist. During the beginning of the Manhattan Project, Robert Oppenheimer invited him to be in charge of the Chemistry division of the project, but he declined, not wanting to uproot his family.

Ethical considerations are paramount as we choose our path and make decisions based upon often limited scientific information in our effort to ensure a healthy, sustainable future for all.

Learn more: **Linus Carl Pauling:** <http://toxipedia.org/x/DY9b>

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 requests public comments on vessel water discharges report.](#)

The U.S. Environmental Protection Agency (EPA) is seeking public comments on a draft report that, when made final, will provide Congress with information it may use for the regulation of incidental discharges from certain vessels.

[EPA announces environmental justice video contest: Faces of the Grassroots.](#)

The Faces of the Grassroots contest is an opportunity to publicly exhibit creativity with environmental justice stories, and connect with others working to raise awareness of the movement.

[New policy statement: American Chemical Society on endocrine disruptors.](#)

The American Chemical Society strongly endorses expanded endocrine disruptor education and research and the development of more effective science-based decision-making tools and methods for reducing and eliminating exposures of humans and the environment.

[Call for proposals: Pesticide Safety Program for Agricultural Workers and Farmworker Children.](#)

The Office of Pesticide Programs (OPP) is soliciting applications from eligible parties for an EPA cooperative agreement to provide financial assistance to an eligible organization for an education and training pesticide safety program aimed at reducing exposure to pesticides for agricultural workers, their families and the agricultural community. Applications are due April 5th.

[Call for proposals: Smart Growth Program.](#)

The Development, Community, and Environment Division (DCED), known as the Smart Growth Program, in EPA's Office of Policy, Economics, and Innovation is seeking letters of interest from states, regions, and communities that want to develop in ways that reflect the principles of smart growth and meet environmental and other goals. EPA will provide technical assistance to successful applicants. Letters of interest are due April 9th.

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

Josiah Hill III Clinic is currently hiring an executive director. Review of applications will begin March 15th.

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

Josiah Hill III Clinic is currently hiring an AmeriCorps communications specialist to assist with spreading the word about Josiah Hill III Clinic's services and the variety of opportunities for community members to become involved with the organization.

[Job opening: Providence, Rhode Island.](#)

Brown University has an opening for a postdoctoral research position at in environmental

health with a focus on research ethics. Please send a cover letter, CV and names of three references to Phil Brown, Professor of Sociology and Environmental Studies, Brown University, Box 1916, Providence RI 02912 by March 15, 2010.

Upcoming Events

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

1) 2010 Advanced Conference on Air Quality & Climate Change

Thursday March 11, 2010
8:00 a.m. - 4:30 p.m.
Portland, Oregon
at the World Trade Center

Sponsor: Environmental Law Education Center

The conference will present the latest developments and important information on science, laws and regulations. Much of the afternoon will be devoted to air toxics.

Price: \$495/\$395 government and nonprofit rate

[Visit the website](#)

Contact: Environmental Law Education Center, 503-282-5220 or hduncan@elecenter.com

2) Climate Change: Mastering the Public Health Role

Thursday March 11, 2010
noon Eastern time / 9:00 a.m. Pacific time

Sponsor: American Public Health Association

Public health professionals are facing new challenges as the science linking climate change and human health risks continues to mount. In fact, many US communities as well as those abroad are already facing health, disease, and preparedness problems that a changing climate brings to the forefront. Through a diversity of speakers and leading experts, this webinar series explores the impact of climate change on human health, the role public health does and should play in confronting climate change, the challenges of communicating such risks to the public, and much more. This webinar will cover the challenges related to communicating about climate change and how public health professionals can be effective messengers.

Price: free

[Visit the website](#)

3) Oregon School Indoor Air Quality Partnership Webinar Series: Asthma

Thursday March 11, 2010
noon - 12:45 p.m. Pacific time

Sponsor: American Lung Association in Oregon

This webinar series focuses on health outcomes of proactive indoor air quality programs and trigger strategies around the areas of asthma, radon, integrated pest management, and diesel retrofitting.

Price: free, but space is limited

[Visit the website](#)

Contact: Michelle Cunha, 503-718-6159 or michelle@lungoregon.org

4) Building the Linkage Between Clean Energy and Green Chemistry

Thursday March 11, 2010

12:30 - 1:20 p.m.

Seattle, Washington

at the University of Washington School of Public Health, room HSB D-209

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

The speaker will be Michael Wilson, PhD, MPH, research scientist at the Program in Green Chemistry and Chemicals Policy Center for Occupational and Environmental Health, School of Public Health, University of California, Berkeley.

Price: free

[Visit the website](#)

5) Human Health Risk Assessment Workshop: Practical Approaches to Estimating Risk and Developing Site-specific Cleanup Levels

Thursday and Friday, March 11 - 12, 2010

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

Kirkland, Washington

at the Kirkland Computer Lab, Yarrow Bay Office Park, One North Building, 10604 NE 38th Place, Suite 118

Sponsor: Northwest Environmental Training Center

Risk assessments are now being performed at almost all sites, whether part of a Risk-Based Correction Action (RBCA) analysis, to determine remediation strategies, or for litigation support and prevention. This class is hands-on, covering each of the steps in a risk assessment. Emphasis will be placed on fate and transport modeling to estimate exposure point concentrations. RISC software will be used for classroom exercises, however the principles learned are can be applied to other risk-assessment software. Each participant will have their own computer workstation throughout the class.

Price: \$945/\$895

[Visit the website](#)

Contact: NWETC, 206-762-1976

6) Clinton Water Forum

Saturday March 13, 2010

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

Clinton, Washington

at Clinton Community Hall, Highway 525 and Central Avenue

Sponsor: Clinton Progressive Association

This forum will present information on water issues affecting wells and septic systems in Clinton, the state of South Whidbey's ground water, and the effects of pollution on personal and environmental health and on Puget Sound. Learn practical tips from presentations, workshops, displays and discussions with local and regional water-quality practitioners.

Price: free

[Visit the website](#)

Contact: 360-341-1614 or info@clintoncommunityhall.org

7) A Conversation with Linda Birnbaum, Director of the National Institute of Environmental Health Sciences

Monday March 15, 2010

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

Sponsor: Collaborative on Health and the Environment

We will hear from Birnbaum on the priorities and challenges facing the NIEHS in the coming years as well as discuss other pressing environmental health concerns.

Price: free

[Visit the website](#)

Contact: CHE, info@healthandenvironment.org

8) Oregon School Indoor Air Quality Partnership Webinar Series: Radon

Thursday March 18, 2010

noon - 12:45 p.m. Pacific time

Sponsor: American Lung Association in Oregon

This webinar series focuses on health outcomes of proactive indoor air quality programs and trigger strategies around the areas of asthma, radon, integrated pest management, and diesel retrofitting.

Price: free, but space is limited

[Visit the website](#)

Contact: Michelle Cunha, 503-718-6159 or michelle@lungoregon.org

9) Confluences: Water & Justice

Friday through Sunday, March 26 - 28, 2010

Portland, Oregon

at the University of Portland

Sponsor: see the [Sponsors page](#)

This symposium will bring together some of the nation's leading experts to examine various perspectives on water, including environmental justice, protection, science, theology, business, history, law, and the Native American perspective. Maude Barlow - author, activist, and senior advisor on water to the president of the UN General Assembly - gives the keynote address on Saturday night.

Price: The conference is free; tickets for Maude Barlow's keynote are \$10 per person or free for ILLAHEE season ticket holders, conference hosts and sponsors, and University of Portland faculty, staff, and students.

[Visit the website](#)

Contact: Amy Leisher, 503-943-7864 or leisher@up.edu

10) PM2.5 Air Pollution and the Cardio-metabolic Syndrome: A two-way Street?

Thursday April 1, 2010

12:30 - 1:20 p.m.

Seattle, Washington

at the University of Washington School of Public Health, room HSB D-209

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

The speaker will be Robert D. Brook, MD, associate professor in the University of Michigan Department of Internal Medicine, Division of Cardiovascular Medicine.

Price: free

[Visit the website](#)

11) EPA Grants Award Process Webinar

Thursday April 1, 2010
2:00 p.m. Eastern time

Sponsor: US Environmental Protection Agency

EPA's Office of Grants and Debarment is hosting a webinar for the EPA grants community. If you are interested in applying for EPA grants or are currently managing an EPA grant, please consider attending this one hour webinar. The webinar will cover grants topics, including how to find and apply for grant opportunities, an update on the status of Grants.gov, and preparing a proper budget detail.

Price: free

[Visit the website](#)

Contact: Elizabeth January, 617-918-1315 or january.elizabeth@epa.gov

12) Oregon School Indoor Air Quality Partnership Webinar Series: Diesel Retrofitting

Monday April 5, 2010
noon - 12:45 p.m. Pacific time

Sponsor: American Lung Association in Oregon

This webinar series focuses on health outcomes of proactive indoor air quality programs and trigger strategies around the areas of asthma, radon, integrated pest management, and diesel retrofitting.

Price: free, but space is limited

[Visit the website](#)

Contact: Michelle Cunha, 503-718-6159 or michelle@lungoregon.org

13) teleconference: Slow Death By Rubber Duck Webinar

Tuesday April 6, 2010
5:00 p.m. Pacific time / 8:00 p.m. Eastern time

Sponsor: Campaign for Safe Cosmetics

Studies show that harmful toxic chemicals are common in household items, including rubber ducks and bubble bath, and that many of these chemicals are also found inside of our bodies. Over a four-day period, *Slow Death By Rubber Duck* authors Rick Smith and Bruce Lourie used everyday household products suspected of causing harm to our ecosystem and to human health. By revealing the pollution load in their bodies before and after the experiment, Rick and Bruce tell a unique inside story of common toxins and body burden. On the April 6 Webinar, author and Executive Director of Environmental Defence Canada Rick Smith will read from *Slow Death By Rubber Duck*, and we'll discuss toxic chemicals found in products as common as hand soap and what you can do to protect your family and the planet. Preregistration is required. The recorded webinar will be available on the Safe Cosmetics website after the event.

Price: free

[Visit the website](#)

14) Public Relations Training for Environmental Professionals - Perfecting Environmental Communication with the Public, Press, and Industry

Tuesday and Wednesday, April 6 - 7, 2010
Seattle, Washington
at EOS Alliance (NWETC) Headquarters, 650 South Orcas Street, Suite 220

Sponsor: EOS Alliance

A well-designed public relations program can supercharge your organization's image, reputation and success. During this intensive two-day course, you will obtain a fundamental background on the key issues, concepts and practice of effective communications and media relations, with the focus on environmental projects. The course is designed to provide participants with an insight on fundamentals and practicalities behind public-relations practice in the context of protocol functions and communications planning.

Price: \$495/*\$395 for Native American tribes; government employees; nonprofits; students; and AFS, NAEP, NEBC, NWAEP members; a \$50 early-bird savings applies to registrations received by March 5, 2010

[Visit the website](#)

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

News and Journal Articles

[Dry cleaning usually uses a toxic chemical, but the safety picture is unclear.](#)

Tuesday, March 09, 2010

Because a company says it's green, that doesn't make it so. Sneaky "greenwashing" cleaners are claiming to be "organic" because they use carbon-based solvents. Under that definition, even perchloroethylene is organic. Washington Post.

[See a related article: [Vienna battles toxins in drinking water](#)]

[Working outdoors reduces male kidney cancer risk, study says.](#)

Tuesday, March 09, 2010

In the largest study of its kind, scientists found that vitamin D -- produced by the skin when exposed to ultraviolet light -- was associated with a reduced rate of renal cancer of up to 73 percent among men. London Guardian, United Kingdom.

[Low birth weight may affect adult lung health.](#)

Tuesday, March 09, 2010

In a study of 627 Chinese men and women in their 40s, researchers found that participants' scores on standard lung-function tests generally lined up with their birth weights. Reuters Health.

['Eating for two' may harm baby.](#)

Tuesday, March 09, 2010

A study in pregnant mice found that diets which were high in fat or carbohydrates had an effect on almost 2,000 genes in the developing offspring, including those involved in kidney function and smell. London Times, United Kingdom.

[Scope of salmonella-tainted flavouring recall will continue to grow.](#)

Tuesday, March 09, 2010

It could take months for some companies to figure out whether a flavoring ingredient contaminated with salmonella found its way into their products, experts say. The U.S. FDA says this could turn into one of the largest-ever food recalls in North America. Canwest News Service.

[Court to decide if vaccine makers can be sued.](#)

Tuesday, March 09, 2010

The Supreme Court said on Monday that it would decide whether a federal law protects vaccine manufacturers from lawsuits in state court seeking damages for alleged design defects. The case involves a lawsuit by the parents of a child who suffered seizures after her third dose of a DTP vaccine. Reuters Health.

[See a related article: [1 in 4 parents buys unproven vaccine-autism link](#)]

[Are fire retardants putting us at risk?](#)

Tuesday, March 09, 2010

You have flame retardant chemicals in your body. They're toxic. Americans have the highest levels of anyone in the world. The chemicals are in the dust in our homes and

offices and schools. And they're showing up in our food. Environment Report.

[Yale study details how and why of BPA's dangers.](#)

Tuesday, March 09, 2010

Exposing a female fetus to a chemical found in plastics causes permanent changes in a daughter's uterus that might result in cancer -- and a research team led by a Yale doctor has figured out why. New Haven Register, Connecticut.

[See related articles: [U.S. examining possible effects of bisphenol A](#), [Md. among states seeking to limit BPA](#), [Keeping harmful chemicals out of water](#), [Decision to ban BPA in baby bottles was controversial: Documents](#), [BPA update](#), [Doyle signs bill limiting BPA use](#), [Boys and girls differ in genetic response to what mom eats](#) and [For pregnant mice, eating matters more for their sons](#)]

[Health Canada offers environmental health resource.](#)

Monday, March 08, 2010

The site includes links for information about the Workplace Hazardous Materials Information System (WHMIS), which is Canada's national hazard communication standard, as well as information about drinking water, indoor air quality, chemical substances, and the National Dosimetry Services, an agency that since 1951 has provided medical surveillance services to Canadian workers exposed to ionizing radiation. Environmental Protection.

[One hospital's simple measure to defeat infections.](#)

Monday, March 08, 2010

Nearly 100,000 patients die every year in the U.S. from infections they get in hospitals. A major cause of hospital-acquired infections, remarkably, is poor hand-washing. Philadelphia Inquirer, Pennsylvania.

[Burn plants seem cleaner, but facts debated.](#)

Sunday, March 07, 2010

Every year, Dutchess County's trash-burning incinerator in the Town of Poughkeepsie releases 3,777 tons of global-warming carbon dioxide, along with 333 tons of soot, sulfur compounds and various other pollutants, according to environmental reports. Poughkeepsie Journal, New York.

[Can technology solve nuclear's problems?](#)

Sunday, March 07, 2010

Will nuclear power plants become safe, viable options in the coming decades? Where do we put all of the waste from those new nuclear power plants if Yucca Mountain is closed? Talk of the Nation, NPR.

[Fat American children: Many causes, a lifetime of effects.](#)

Sunday, March 07, 2010

The percentage of American children who are overweight or obese has been growing for decades, and now nearly one in three has a body mass index that's greater than normal. Los Angeles Times, California.

[See a related article: [Obesity risks start before birth](#), [Striking number of obesity risks hit minority kids](#) and [Childhood obesity linked to heart ills](#)]

[Studies show danger of even small amounts of lead in children's blood.](#)

Sunday, March 07, 2010

High doses of lead have for some time been linked to chronic kidney damage. But a recent study out of Johns Hopkins Children's Center found that even small levels of lead exposure may be damaging to children's kidneys. Los Angeles Times, California.

[Climate change may extend allergy season: study.](#)

Saturday, March 06, 2010

Sneezing, congestion, and runny noses from hay fever may be lasting longer because climate change may be extending pollen seasons, doctors in Italy said on Monday. Reuters.

[Years after war, the battle for benefits continues.](#)

Saturday, March 06, 2010

Some 700 thousand U.S. veterans served in the Gulf War in 1990 and '91. Of them, some 200,000 have reported symptoms of Gulf War Illness. So, the VA has committed to investigating disability claims for thousands of Gulf War vets who were previously denied benefits. Living On Earth.

[See a related article: [Judge throws out soldiers' chemical exposure suit](#)]

Dust bunnies tainted with toxins?

Friday, March 05, 2010

Around 60 percent of floor dust comes from soil stuck on shoes. And if someone lives near a contaminated Superfund site or industrial plant, that dirt could be loaded with toxins. Discovery News.

Leukemia: the price of living close to an oil refinery?

Friday, March 05, 2010

Swedish scientists have discovered a remarkable increase in the incidence of leukemia in people living close to an oil refinery. Environmental Health News.

Feds targeting three pollutants.

Friday, March 05, 2010

Delaware has made strides in improving its air quality, but a "national solution" is necessary to curb emissions from out-of-state power plants, the state's top environmental official told lawmakers Thursday. Wilmington News Journal, Delaware.

EPA drastically underestimates coal waste pollution's threat to human and environmental health.

Thursday, March 04, 2010

The Environmental Protection Agency (EPA) has severely underreported the severity of coal ash waste pollution and its threat to human and environmental health throughout the United States, a new independent study released February 24 by the Environmental Integrity Project (EIP) and Earthjustice says. AlterNet.

[See a related article: [Disposal of spilled coal ash a long, winding trip](#)]

EPA adds 10 sites to the Superfund list.

Thursday, March 04, 2010

After years of languishing as the neglected stepchild of environmental enforcement, there are signs that the Environmental Protection Agency's Superfund program is beginning a big shift in priorities for cleaning up federal toxic waste sites, advocates say. Christian Science Monitor.

Cigarette smoking may raise prostate cancer risk.

Thursday, March 04, 2010

Cigarette smoking may increase a man's risk for developing and dying from prostate cancer, pooled data from 24 studies involving 21,600 men with the disease indicates. Reuters Health.

Cell phone warnings Maine panel weighs cancer alerts.

Thursday, March 04, 2010

Ignoring the health risks of heavy cell phone use invites a cancer epidemic, supporters of a bill requiring manufacturers to put labels on mobile phones and packaging said Tuesday. Brattleboro Reformer, Vermont.

[See related articles: [Cell-phone safety](#), [Green your phone, save your brain](#) and [Cell phones and electromagnetic radiation a growing concern](#)]

Plasticizers kept from leaching out.

Thursday, March 04, 2010

Scientists working with the widely used plasticizers known as phthalates have locked down these compounds, preventing them from migrating. The research may lead to improved versions of hard plastics that don't leach their ingredients. Science News.

[See related articles: [Hidden dangers of phthalates](#), [Phthalates predispose mice to allergies](#), [Relationship between environmental phthalate exposure and the intelligence of school-aged children](#) and [Association of exposure to phthalates with endometriosis and](#)

[uterine leiomyomata: Findings from NHANES, 1999-2004.\]](#)

What's best for kids: Bottled water or fountains?

Thursday, March 04, 2010

Tap water may be better for kids than sugary sodas, but many schools have lead-contaminated water. National Geographic News.

Fat rats skew research results.

Wednesday, March 03, 2010

Failure to recognize that many laboratory animals live unhealthy lives may be leading researchers to misinterpret their findings, potentially misdirecting efforts to develop therapeutic drugs. Nature.

Study points to high cost of polluted air.

Wednesday, March 03, 2010

Foul, filthy air is wafting over California and making people sick to the tune of almost \$200 million a year in hospital expenses, according to a Rand Corp. study released today. San Francisco Chronicle.

[See related articles: [Air pollution: It's not just your lungs that suffer](#), [Clearing the air at American ports](#), [AQMD cracks down on ports](#) and [Chronic social stress and susceptibility to concentrated ambient fine particles in rats](#)]

Tap water contaminant 'castrates' frogs.

Wednesday, March 03, 2010

An herbicide [atrazine] that contaminates the tap water consumed by millions of Americans has been found to produce gender-bending effects in male frogs, "chemically castrating" some and turning others into females, a study shows. USA Today.

[See related articles: [Frogs: Clues to how weed killer may feminize males](#) and [Sex change chemicals in river](#), plus others regarding pesticides: ['Pesticide drift' eluding efforts to combat it](#); [Pesticide exposure deprives Yaqui girls of breastfeeding -- ever](#); [Neurobehavioral deficits and increased blood pressure in school-age children prenatally exposed to pesticides](#); [Perturbation of lipids and glucose metabolism associated with previous 2,4-D exposure: a cross-sectional study of NHANES III data, 1988-1994](#); [Pesticides pose health risks](#) and [Derived from flowers, but not benign: Pyrethroids raise new concerns](#)]

Secondhand smoke damages arteries in teens: Study.

Wednesday, March 03, 2010

Children as young as 13 who have evidence of secondhand smoke in their blood also have visibly thicker arteries, Finnish researchers reported on Tuesday. Reuters.

[See a related article: [Where there's no smoke](#)]

Cost of food-borne illnesses is deemed much higher than earlier estimates.

Wednesday, March 03, 2010

A new report has found that the health-related costs of food-borne illnesses total \$152 billion a year, including medical bills, lost wages and lost productivity. That's more than four times an earlier USDA estimate. Los Angeles Times, California.

EPA makes polluters pay less.

Wednesday, March 03, 2010

The Environmental Protection Agency is riling many businesses with proposals to regulate greenhouse gases for the first time, but data suggest it has been slow out of the gate under President Barack Obama in enforcing existing regulations on traditional pollutants. Wall Street Journal.

Use of acetaminophen in pregnancy associated with increased asthma symptoms in children.

Tuesday, March 02, 2010

Children who were exposed to acetaminophen prenatally were more likely to have asthma symptoms at age five in a study of 300 African-American and Dominican Republic children living in New York City. Columbia Center for Children's Environmental Health.

[Radiation risks prompt push to curb CT scans.](#)

Tuesday, March 02, 2010

Federal regulators, radiology groups and hospitals are launching efforts to scale back use of the scans, also called CAT scans, amid growing evidence that they are exposing patients to radiation that may elevate the risk of cancer in the future. Wall Street Journal.

[See related articles : [CT scans for children face more scrutiny](#) and [Chip of tooth tells radiation dose](#)]

[While we were sleeping...GM food and the brink of no return.](#)

Monday, March 01, 2010

Beneath public radar, there has been a silent infiltration of GMOs into our food supply with minimal testing and misrepresented results. Salem News, Oregon.

[Rulings restrict clean water act, foiling E.P.A.](#)

Monday, March 01, 2010

Thousands of the nation's largest water polluters are outside the Clean Water Act's reach because the Supreme Court has left uncertain which waterways are protected by that law, according to interviews with regulators. As a result, some businesses say that the law no longer applies to them. New York Times.

[For frogs, and perhaps humans, there's something strange in the water.](#)

Monday, March 01, 2010

Medications leaking into groundwater are producing strange effects on the frogs of Connecticut, effects that could be a harbinger of safety concerns for humans, too, researchers say. Greenwich Time, Connecticut.

[The danger of daily aspirin.](#)

Sunday, February 28, 2010

Public-health officials are scaling back official recommendations for the painkiller to target a narrower group of patients who are at risk of a heart attack or stroke. The concern is that aspirin's side effects, which can include bleeding ulcers, might outweigh the potential benefits when taken by many healthy or older people. Wall Street Journal.

[Fertility problems may not affect kids' coordination.](#)

Saturday, February 27, 2010

Despite some concerns to the contrary, parents' fertility problems may have little effect on their children's risk of coordination problems as they reach school age, a new study finds. Reuters Health.

[Chemicals: Innocent or guilty?](#)

Thursday, February 25, 2010

CNN's Dr. Sanjay Gupta explains why a 1976 toxic chemical law may be putting Americans at risk. CNN.

[See a related article: [States push EPA, Congress to curb business confidentiality claims for chemicals](#)]

[FDA creates partnership to boost regulatory science.](#)

Thursday, February 25, 2010

The agency will collaborate with the National Institutes of Health in an effort to more quickly rule on the safety and effectiveness of new products and procedures. Los Angeles Times, California.

[Poor are agents, victims of environmental damage.](#)

Thursday, February 25, 2010

Growing environmental degradation is going to become one of the major problems even for economic managers, as the vicious combination of increasing population and deteriorating environment is expected to further worsen the state of poverty in Pakistan. Karachi News International, Pakistan.

[Hormone replacement tied to lung cancer risk.](#)

Thursday, February 25, 2010

Women who use hormone replacement therapy combining estrogen and progesterone may have a higher risk of lung cancer than non-users, a new study finds. Reuters Health.

Fish oil is no snake oil.

Thursday, February 25, 2010

Recent reports on the health benefits of fish oil sound almost too good to be true. The omega-3 fatty acids that it contains have been shown to reduce the risk of heart attacks and strokes and slow the formation of plaques in the arteries, and they may also lower blood pressure. Discover.

[See a related article: [PCBs found in fish oil capsules, suit says](#)]

Sunscreen's zinc factor ends up in blood.

Thursday, February 25, 2010

People who use a lot of sunscreen could be at risk of having "larger than normal" quantities of zinc in their bloodstream, with new evidence showing zinc particles penetrate the skin and are absorbed into the body. Sydney Australian, Australia.

Suspected carcinogen found in fruit juice.

Wednesday, February 24, 2010

Researchers at the University of Copenhagen have found extremely high levels of the toxic substance antimony in prepackaged juice drinks. Copenhagen Post, Denmark.

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!](#)

[Forward email](#)

✉ [SafeUnsubscribe®](#)

Email Marketing by



Collaborative on Health and the Environment | P.O. Box 316 | Bolinas | CA | 94924