

ENVIRONMENTAL HEALTH RESEARCH SCAN

VOL 8 (4) APRIL 2024



<p><u>AIR QUALITY</u></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Indoor air • Outdoor air • Radon, Other 	<p><u>CLIMATE CHANGE</u></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Extreme weather • Flooding • Sea level rise • Wildfires, Other 	<p><u>DISEASES, VECTORS, PESTS</u></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • COVID-19, Infectious disease • Animal vectors • Insect vectors • Pests, Other
<p><u>FOOD</u></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Food safety • Food security • Growing food, Other 	<p><u>BUILT ENVIRONMENT</u></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Green& blue spaces • Housing • Noise • Planning & design • Transportation, Other 	<p><u>PUBLIC HEALTH FUNDAMENTALS</u></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Communication • Health equity • Health impact assessment • Health promotion • One Health, Policy, Other
<p><u>WATER</u></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Drinking water • Recreational water • Small water systems • Wastewater, Other 	<p><u>NON-CLIMATE RELATED DISASTERS</u></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Earthquakes • Marine • Terrestrial, Emergencies, Other 	<p><u>OTHER TOPICS</u></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Cannabis products • Tobacco, nicotine products • Ionizing, non-ionizing radiation • Personal services establishments, Other
<p><u>SPECIFIC POPULATIONS</u> (children, Indigenous Peoples, older adults, other)</p>		

Environmental Health (EH) Research Scan: Aims and scope

NCCEH's EH Research Scan aims to expand awareness of topics in environmental health, in line with [NCCEH's vision](#) to be the indispensable online resource for environmental health practitioners and policy-makers across Canada. This research scan is not peer reviewed; it does not cover all research, news, and information, and NCCEH is not responsible for the accuracy of the content from media or databases. Not all links are open access; some are abstract links where paid journal subscription is required.

EDITOR PICKS

The public health paradox of wildfire smoke [journal article].

Sarah Henderson, Scientific Director, Environmental Health Services and NCCEH

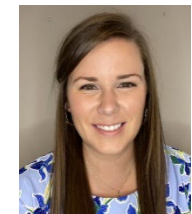
“...Here lies the public health paradox: wildfire smoke gets a lot of public and media attention when PM_{2.5} concentrations are extreme, but it causes much more harm at the lower concentrations that occur more frequently...”



Shifting the focus of reporting from record-breaking temperatures to health protective messaging during extreme heat events [journal article].

Emily Tetzlaff, PhD Candidate, University of Ottawa

“To strengthen public resilience and readiness against extreme heat, time-sensitive and evidence-based public health messages can be communicated to the public.”



A critical review of the effectiveness of electric fans as a personal cooling intervention in hot weather and heatwaves [journal article].

Glen Kenny, Professor, School of Human Kinetics, University of Ottawa, and co-authors

“Health agencies should continue to advise against fan use in air temperatures higher than 35°C, especially for people with compromised sweating capacity (eg, adults aged 65 years or older). Improving access to ambient cooling strategies...”



Climate change and health: rethinking public health messaging for wildfire smoke and extreme heat co-exposures [journal article].

Eric Coker, Senior Scientist, Environmental Health Services, BCCDC, and co-authors

“More precise, complete, and coordinated public health messaging would protect against climate-sensitive health outcomes attributable to wildfire smoke and extreme heat co-exposures.”



The right to a healthy environment: becoming law in Canada and the imperatives of environments and health [blog].

Jeffrey Brook, Scientific Director, CANUE, and Associate Professor in the Dalla Lana School of Public Health at the University of Toronto

“... We reflect on how new investments in research are essential in achieving the ambitions of Canadian Environmental Protection Act 2023.”



Cold plunge tanks: considerations for environmental public health [evidence brief].

Tina Chen, Knowledge Translation Scientist, NCEH

“...The purpose of this paper is to present the potential health risks associated with cold plunge tanks and how these risks may be mitigated.”



Avian influenza A(H5N1) in dairy farms: an update on public health and food safety concerns [blog].

Juliette O’Keeffe and Rebecca Goulding, Knowledge Translation Scientists, NCEH

“...Building on our previous 2022 blog and 2023 evidence brief about the A(H5N1) outbreak, this blog provides an update on the situation as of April 2024, and addresses key questions about transmission pathways and food safety.”



Upcoming Webinars, Webinar Recordings

National Collaborating Centre for Environmental Health

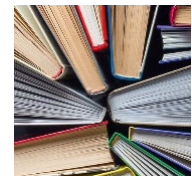
The NCEH Environmental Health webinars enable sharing and exchanging of knowledge for environmental health professionals through online presentations on current and emerging topics.



2023-2024 Research Scans

National Collaborating Centre for Environmental Health

These monthly Research Scans highlights recent environmental health publications by topic and provides easy access to article abstracts and report summaries to support public health professionals, researchers, planners, students, and others working in public health.



Videos and Tools

National Collaborating Centre for Environmental Health

NCEH has resources on dozens of important environmental health topics presented in various forms including [Evidence Reviews](#), [Evidence Briefs and Research Scans](#), [Subject Guides](#), [Blogs](#), [Webinar Recordings](#), and [Videos and Tools](#). Please see [this page](#) for more information concerning these document types.



ENVIRONMENTAL HEALTH RESEARCH SCAN

SELECTED PUBLICATIONS

1. Brook J. **The Right to a Healthy Environment: Becoming law in Canada and the imperative of environments and health research.** Vancouver, BC: National Collaborating Centre for Environmental Health; 2024 Mar 20. Available from: <https://ncceh.ca/resources/blog/right-healthy-environment-becoming-law-canada-and-imperative-environments-and-health#:~:text=The%20right%20to%20a%20healthy%20environment%20is%20recognized,Bill%20S-5%20receiving%20Royal%20Assent%20in%20Parliament%20%28CEPA2023%29.>
2. Chen T. **Cold plunge tanks: considerations for environmental public health [evidence brief].** Vancouver, BC: National Collaborating Centre for Environmental Health; 2024 Apr 24. Available from: [Cold plunge tanks: Considerations for environmental public health | National Collaborating Centre for Environmental Health | NCCEH - CCSNE.](#)
3. Coker ES, Stone SL, McTigue E, Yao JA, Brigham EP, Schwandt M, Henderson SB. **Climate change and health: rethinking public health messaging for wildfire smoke and extreme heat co-exposures.** Front Public Health. 2024;12. Available from: [https://www.frontiersin.org/journals/public-health/articles/10.3389/fpubh.2024.1324662.](https://www.frontiersin.org/journals/public-health/articles/10.3389/fpubh.2024.1324662)
4. Henderson SB, Nguyen PDM, Yao JA, Lee MJ. **The public health paradox of wildfire smoke.** BC Medical Association Journal. 2024;66(3):93,5. Available from: [https://bcmj.org/bc-centre-disease-control/public-health-paradox-wildfire-smoke.](https://bcmj.org/bc-centre-disease-control/public-health-paradox-wildfire-smoke)
5. National Collaborating Centre for Environmental Health. **March research scan.** Vancouver, BC: NCCEH; 2024 Mar 20. Available from: [https://ncceh.ca/sites/default/files/2024-03/NCCEH%20Research%20Scan%20-202403.pdf.](https://ncceh.ca/sites/default/files/2024-03/NCCEH%20Research%20Scan%20-202403.pdf)
7. National Collaborating Centre for Environmental Health. **NCCEH eNews (March 2024): Water storage and emerging challenges in a changing climate; more...** Vancouver, BC: NCCEH; 2024 Mar 21. Available from: [https://app.cyberimpact.com/newsletter-view-online?ct= EJGVon1B-ZU9cMmhZ24Uqnsylderrc1U9JqLqmQXTUdLUXtGJG7NXf6_d2Xhtfwrq81jmRhG9FxaGUR7_S5lw~.](https://app.cyberimpact.com/newsletter-view-online?ct= EJGVon1B-ZU9cMmhZ24Uqnsylderrc1U9JqLqmQXTUdLUXtGJG7NXf6_d2Xhtfwrq81jmRhG9FxaGUR7_S5lw~)
8. O’Keeffe J, Goulding R. **Avian influenza A(H5N1) in dairy farms: an update on public health and food safety concerns [blog].** Vancouver, BC: National Collaborating Centre for Environmental Health; 2024 Apr 22. Available from: [Avian influenza A\(H5N1\) in dairy farms: An update on public health and food safety concerns | National Collaborating Centre for Environmental Health | NCCEH - CCSNE.](#)

1. AIR QUALITY

INDOOR AIR

1. British Columbia Lung Foundation. **DIY air cleaners.** Vancouver, BC: BC Lung Foundation; 2024. Available from: [https://bclung.ca/diyaircleaners.](https://bclung.ca/diyaircleaners)

OUTDOOR AIR

1. O'Sharkey K, Meng Q, Mitra S, Paik S-a, Liu J, Shen J, et al. **Associations between brake and tire wear-related PM2.5 metal components, particulate oxidative stress potential, and autism spectrum disorder in Southern California.** *Environ Int.* 2024;185:108573. Available from: <https://www.sciencedirect.com/science/article/pii/S0160412024001594>.

RADON, OTHER

1. Chen J. **A Study on Geographic Correlation between Indoor Radon Exposure and Leukemia Incidence in Canada.** *Health Phys.* 2024;126(5):315-21. Available from: <https://doi.org/10.1097/hp.0000000000001813>.

2. FOOD

FOOD SAFETY

1. Casu A, Camardo Leggieri M, Toscano P, Battilani P. **Changing climate, shifting mycotoxins: A comprehensive review of climate change impact on mycotoxin contamination.** *Compr Rev Food Sci Food Saf.* 2024;23(2):e13323. Available from: <https://www.ncbi.nlm.nih.gov/pubmed/38477222>.
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FOOD SECURITY

1. Clement S, Kozicky S, Hamilton C, Murphy R. **Envisioning a community food hub to support food security: A community engagement process at a post-secondary institute.** Canadian Food Studies / La Revue canadienne des études sur l'alimentation. 2024;11(1):192-210. Available from: <https://canadianfoodstudies.uwaterloo.ca/index.php/cfs/article/view/645>.
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4. U. S. Environmental Protection Agency, U. S. Department of Agriculture Food Drug Administration. **Draft National Strategy for Reducing Food Loss and Waste and Recycling Organics.** Environmental Protection Agency; 2023 [updated 2023-12-13]; Available from: <https://policycommons.net/artifacts/11341522/untitled/>.

GROWING FOOD, OTHER

1. Tatebe K, Watson K, Robert N, Kreitzman M, Polasub W, Mullinix K. **Food Systems Planning in Canada. A toolkit of priority practices for planners.** Richmond, BC: Kwantlen Polytechnic University, Institute for Sustainable Food Systems; 2024 Mar. Available from: <https://www.kpu.ca/sites/default/files/Institute%20for%20Sustainable%20Food%20Systems/Priority%20Practices%20for%20Planners%20Full%20Toolkit.pdf>.
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3. WATER

DRINKING WATER

1. Absalan F, Hatam F, Prévost M, Barbeau B, Bichai F. **Climate change and future water demand: Implications for chlorine and trihalomethanes management in water distribution systems.** J

Environ Manage. 2024;355:120470. Available from:

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RECREATIONAL WATER

1. Desta BN, Sanchez J, Heasley C, Young I, Tustin J. **Environmental factors associated with Escherichia coli concentration at freshwater beaches on Lake Winnipeg, Manitoba, Canada**. PLOS Water. 2024;3(4):e0000143. Available from: <https://doi.org/10.1371/journal.pwat.0000143>.

SMALL WATER SYSTEMS

WASTEWATER, OTHER

1. Canadian Water and Wastewater Association. **Adoption of natural infrastructure in the water sector. A summary report on current status**. CWWA; 2024. Available from: https://cwwa.ca/wp-content/uploads/2024/03/NIRReport_final.pdf.

4. CLIMATE CHANGE

EXTREME WEATHER

1. Abbinett J, Schramm PJ, Widerynski S, Saha S, Beavers S, Eaglin M, et al. **Heat Response Plans: Summary of Evidence and Strategies for Collaboration and Implementation**. Atlanta, GA: US Centers for Disease Control and Prevention; 2024 Apr. Available from: https://www.cdc.gov/climateandhealth/docs/HeatResponsePlans_508.pdf.
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FLOODING

1. Magalhaes SM, Lundy A, Youssef S, Simmons H, Cameron J, Beykzadeh A. **The impacts of flooding events on mental health in New Brunswick.** Fredericton, NB: New Brunswick Institute for Research, Data and Training; 2023 Sep. Available from:

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SEA LEVEL RISE

WILDFIRES, OTHER

1. Gellman J, Wibbenmeyer M. **Wildfire Smoke in the United States**. Washington, DC: Resources for the Future; 2024 Apr. Available from: https://media.rff.org/documents/WP_24-04_v5.pdf.
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5. BUILT ENVIRONMENT

GREEN & BLUE SPACES

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HOUSING

NOISE

PLANNING & DESIGN

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TRANSPORTATION, OTHER

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6. NON-CLIMATE RELATED DISASTERS

EARTHQUAKES

MARINE

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