

ENVIRONMENTAL HEALTH RESEARCH SCAN

WITH COVID-19 SECTIONS

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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 This research scan is not peer reviewed; it does not cover all research, news, and information, and NCCEH is not responsible for the accuracy of the content from media or databases.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.

COVID-19 Publications are listed in the sections above and there are also **COVID-19 Additional Topics**.

EDITOR PICKS

The Omicron variant - Updating our knowledge as the surge subsides [blog]

Juliette O’Keeffe (right), Environmental Health Knowledge Translation Scientist, NCCEH; Angela Eykelbosh; and Anne-Marie Nicol

“This blog provides an update on what we know about the Omicron variant, which may be important to continuing to manage the current wave and prepare for future variants.”



“Out of the box” food safety considerations for meal kits [blog]

Kelsey James, Environmental Health Knowledge Translation Scientist, NCCEH

“This blog discusses the food safety implications of meal kits and provides information that can be communicated to manufacturers and consumers of meal kits by environmental health practitioners.”



Mobilizing extreme cold response plans for people experiencing homelessness [blog]

Leah Rosenkrantz, Environmental Health Knowledge Translation Scientist, NCCEH

“This blog explores factors that exacerbate the health risks of extreme cold events for people experiencing homelessness such as frostbite and hypothermia, discusses the evidence on mobilizing extreme cold response plans to reduce such risks, and examines additional environmental health risks that may arise during an extreme cold event.”



Canadian green spaces during COVID-19: public health benefits and planning for resilience [evidence review]

Angela Eykelbosh (right), Environmental Health Knowledge Translation Scientist, NCCEH and Anna Chow

“One of the key messages in this paper is that parks, and green spaces more broadly, should be viewed as public health assets, increasing resilience during the current pandemic and during future climate-related disruptions. Accordingly, environmental public health should take opportunities to participate in park planning and design to ensure best health outcomes.”



Human health risk assessments addressing artificial turf and crumb rubber [guidance document]

Angela Eykelbosh, Environmental Health Knowledge Translation Scientist, NCCEH

[Image: [CC BY-SA 3.0](#) File:Urbeach-high-park-splashpad.jpg]



EDITOR'S PICKS, *continued*

Climate change in the Arctic and radon gas: a rising threat from the ground up [blog]

Art Nash and Anne-Marie Nicol (right), Environmental Health Knowledge Translation Scientist, NCCEH



“As global attention focuses more on climate action, there is little time to spare for the already melting permafrost. Current estimates suggest that over 3 million northern residents will be impacted by permafrost degradation and loss by 2050.”... more

Analysis of community deaths during the catastrophic 2021 heat dome: Early evidence to inform the public health response during subsequent events in greater Vancouver, Canada [journal article]

Sarah B Henderson, Scientific Director, Environmental Health Services, BCCDC, and co-authors



“Risk of death during the heat dome was associated with deprivation, lower neighborhood greenness, older age, and sex. Public health response should focus on...”

Time to think 15-minute cities for health and equity [blog]

Anna Chow, Environmental Health Knowledge Translation Scientist, NCCEH



“The 15-minute city concept can work to provide benefits that can improve quality of life, reduce carbon footprint, and to help promote health and health equity. Connections with local residents in underserved populations in planning efforts can address equity concerns. In also recognizing that spaces can be flexible and adapt to multiple uses, the 15-minute city can provide a more liveable and accessible community for all.”

Lead in drinking water: homes and schools [topic page]

National Collaborating Centre for Environmental Health

The resources listed here are intended to assist environmental and public health professionals to:

- *Understand the key issues around lead in drinking water including exposure, health effects, and current guidelines*
- *Provide practical advice on sampling, testing, and mitigating lead exposure in schools and childcare settings*
- *Understand the issues associated with identification and replacement of lead service lines (LSL)*

ENVIRONMENTAL HEALTH RESEARCH SCAN

SELECTED NCCEH RESOURCES

1. Chow A. **Time to think 15-minute cities for health and equity [blog]**. Vancouver, BC: National Collaborating Centre for Environmental Health; 2022 Feb 14. Available from: <https://ncceh.ca/content/blog/time-think-15-minute-cities-health-and-equity>.
2. Crooks V, Rosenkrantz L. **Spatially exploring COVID-19 risks in BC neighbourhoods [webinar]**. Vancouver, BC: National Collaborating Centre for Environmental Health; 2022 Jan 25. Available from: <https://ncceh.ca/content/webinar-recording-spatially-exploring-covid-19-risks-bcs-neighbourhoods>.
3. Eykelbosh A. **Human health risk assessments addressing artificial turf and crumb rubber [guidance document]**. Vancouver, BC: National Collaborating Centre for Environmental Health; 2022 Mar 1. Available from: <https://ncceh.ca/documents/guide/human-health-risk-assessments-addressing-artificial-turf-and-crumb-rubber-0>.
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6. Lalonde C. **Backyard swimming pool rentals: Making a splash with some environmental public health risks [blog]**. Vancouver, BC: National Collaborating Centre for Environmental Health; 2022 Mar 2. Available from: <https://ncceh.ca/content/blog/backyard-swimming-pool-rentals-making-splash-some-environmental-public-health-risks>.
7. Nash A, Nicol A-M. **Climate change in the Arctic and radon gas: a rising threat from the ground up [blog]**. Vancouver, BC: National Collaborating Centre for Environmental Health; 2022 Mar 11. Available from: <https://ncceh.ca/content/blog/climate-change-arctic-and-radon-gas-rising-threat-ground>.
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12. Rosenkrantz L. **Mobilizing extreme cold response plans for people experiencing homelessness [blog]**. Vancouver, BC: National Collaborating Centre for Environmental Health; 2022 Mar 9. Available from: <https://ncceh.ca/content/blog/mobilizing-extreme-cold-response-plans-people-experiencing-homelessness>.

British Columbia Centre for Disease Control

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INDIGENOUS ENVIRONMENTAL HEALTH

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AGRICULTURAL OPERATIONS

BIOLOGICAL AGENTS

BUILT ENVIRONMENT, ACTIVE TRANSPORTATION

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 15. Klicnik I, Cullen JD, Doiron D, Barakat C, Ardern CI, Rudoler D, et al. **Leisure sedentary time and physical activity are higher in neighbourhoods with denser greenness and better built environments: an analysis of the Canadian Longitudinal Study on Aging**. *Appl Physiol Nutr Metab*. 2022;47(3):278-86. Available from: <https://cdsciencepub.com/doi/abs/10.1139/apnm-2021-0438>.
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CHEMICAL AGENTS – METALS, GENERAL

General

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Plastics, Microplastics

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CHEMICAL AGENTS – PESTICIDES

CHEMICAL AGENTS – SHALE GAS

CHILDREN'S ENVIRONMENTAL HEALTH

1. Anabitarte A, Ibarluzea J, García-Baquero G, Santa Marina L, Fernández-Somoano A, Tardón A, et al. **Effects of residential greenness on attention in a longitudinal study at 8 and 11–13 years.** *Environ Res.* 2022;210:112994. Available from: <https://www.sciencedirect.com/science/article/pii/S0013935122003218>.
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CLIMATE CHANGE

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COVID-19 ADDITIONAL TOPICS & GUIDANCE



CONTENTS

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OCCUPATIONAL GUIDANCE

Occupational

PUBLIC FACILITIES

Transportation (see separate category, 'Transit, Transportation')

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