

ENVIRONMENTAL HEALTH RESEARCH SCAN

VOL 9 (3) MARCH 2025



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 This research scan is not peer reviewed; it does not cover all research, news, and information, and NCCEH is not responsible for the accuracy of the content from media or databases.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

Rabies through a One Health lens [blog].

Negar Elmieh, Environmental Health and Knowledge Translation Scientist, NCCEH

“This blog outlines rabies occurrence in Canada and underscores the importance of a One Health approach in rabies prevention and control.”



Spotlight on water for World Water Day 2025 [blog].

Juliette O’Keeffe, Senior Scientist, NCCEH

“This blog features information about World Water Day, recent updates to Guidelines for Drinking Water Quality, new consultation from Health Canada, along with additional water-related resources from NCCEH.”



Using advanced surveillance tools to understand norovirus evolution, public health impacts, and to enhance outbreak response [webinar].

Mayank Singal, BCCDC, and Natalie Prystajecy, BCCDC

“Several laboratory tools are available to the BCCDC Public Health Laboratory for norovirus surveillance and outbreak investigations. This webinar will include discussion of various tools...”



Mapping walkability for a healthier built environment in Peel Region, Ontario [healthy built environment webinar].

Michael Bennington, Peel Public Health

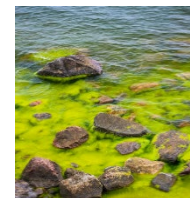
“This presentation will review the first update to Peel Walkability Composite Index, which allows us to compare the 2016 baseline indicators against indicators...”



Cyanobacteria are a growing One Health problem in BC: Current approaches and future directions [webinar].

Michael Lee, Environmental Health Services, BCCDC

“This talk will summarise what is known about the One Health impacts of cyanobacteria, the impacts of climate change and population growth, the current...”



Enhancing wildfire smoke exposure assessment: a machine-learning approach to predict indoor PM2.5 in British Columbia, Canada [article].

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

“We developed a machine learning (ML) model for estimating daily indoor and outdoor...”



EDITOR PICKS, CONTINUED

RMA Wildfire Working Group Report Rural Municipalities of Alberta

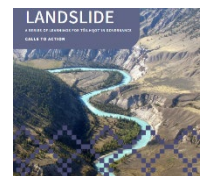
“This report is the culmination of that work and explores the current situation, analyzes reviews and after-action reports of recent wildfires, and analyzes a survey administered to municipalities.”

RMA Wildfire Working Group Report



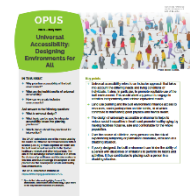
T̓silhqox Landslide. A series of learnings for T̓silhqot’in governance. Calls To Action. T̓silhqot’in National Government

“Drawing on key learnings from the 2024 T̓silhqox Landslide, the following calls to action reinforce previous calls to action from Nagwedzi̓k’an gwaneš gangu ch’inidžed ganexwilagh (The Fires Awakened Us) and Dada Nentsen Gha Yatastig....”



Universal accessibility: designing environments for all. Institut national de santé publique

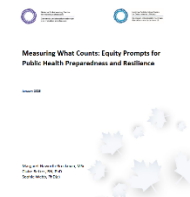
“This report provides answers to the following questions: What is universal design? What tools can be used to integrate accessibility issues into planning practices? Which places should be prioritized for intervention?”



Measuring what counts: equity prompts for public health preparedness and resilience.

National Collaborating Centre for Infectious Diseases, in partnership with the National Collaborating Centre for Determinants of Health

“This guidance has two purposes: i. to encourage decision-making and action for pandemic preparedness and response that explicitly incorporate attention to structural and social determinants of health and address health inequities; and ii. to augment....”



NCCEH eNews (Feb 2025): Getting mosquito monitoring started in your community; more...

National Collaborating Centre for Environmental Health

This monthly eNews highlights recent environmental health publications and more!



February 2025 research scan.

National Collaborating Centre for Environmental Health



ENVIRONMENTAL HEALTH RESEARCH SCAN

SELECTED RESOURCES

1. Coker ES, Ho W, Paul N, Lee MJ, Dickson JM, Greif O, et al. **Enhancing wildfire smoke exposure assessment: a machine learning approach to predict indoor PM2.5 in British Columbia, Canada.** ACS ES&T Air. 2025;2(1):73-89. Available from: <https://doi.org/10.1021/acsestair.4c00204>.
2. Huff RD, Rider CF, Lo T, Hardy KI, El-Bittar N, Ryu MH, et al. **Woodsmoke and diesel exhaust: distinct transcriptomic profiles in the human airway epithelium.** bioRxiv. 2025:2025.02.26.640436. Available from: <https://www.biorxiv.org/content/biorxiv/early/2025/03/02/2025.02.26.640436.full.pdf>.
3. National Collaborating Centre for Environmental Health. **Feb research scan.** Vancouver, BC: NCCEH; 2025 01 23 Feb. Available from: <https://ncceh.ca/sites/default/files/2025-02/NCCEH%20Research%20Scan%20-202502.pdf>.
4. National Collaborating Centre for Environmental Health. **NCCEH eNews (Feb 2025): Getting mosquito monitoring started in your community; more...** Vancouver, BC: NCCEH; 2025 01 23 Feb. Available from: <https://app.cyberimpact.com/newsletter-view-online?ct=us4DN4fk5qLonmcAxZ14Dlwsh0ZcghMPZ7WUFttfkdhcA00drdc7iRcICSPZDEaHkJl-bTZM5xb2ahbSWJ70IkiZcSIhJDD3D0Xh2dpMtlI9KVyljk4YxQhOzTlliMdd>.
5. Bennington M. **Mapping walkability for a healthier built environment in Peel Region, Ontario [healthy built environment webinar].** Vancouver, BC: National Collaborating Centre for Environmental Health; 2025 03 12 Mar 12. Available from: <https://ncceh.ca/events/upcoming-webinars/mapping-walkability-healthier-built-environment-peel-region-ontario>.
6. Elmieh N. **Rabies through a One Health lens [blog].** Vancouver, BC: National Collaborating Centre for Environmental Health; 2025 03 14 Mar 14. Available from: <https://ncceh.ca/resources/blog/rabies-through-one-health-lens>.
7. O’Keeffe J. **Spotlight on water for World Water Day 2025 [blog].** Vancouver, BC: National Collaborating Centre for Environmental Health; 2025 03 14 Mar 14. Available from: <https://cnse.ca/resources/blog/spotlight-water-world-water-day-2025>.
8. Singal M, Prystajek N. **Using advanced surveillance tools to understand norovirus evolution, public health impacts, and to enhance outbreak response [webinar].** Vancouver, BC: National Collaborating Centre for Environmental Health; 2025 04 03 Apr 3. Available from: <https://ncceh.ca/events/upcoming-webinars>.

1. AIR QUALITY

INDOOR AIR

1. Brooks SK, Patel SS, Weston D, Greenberg N. **Psychological effects of mould and damp in the home: scoping review.** Housing Studies. 2025;40(2):323-45. Available from: <https://doi.org/10.1080/02673037.2023.2286360>.

2. Gorlach J, Gazda D, Trusz A, Walaszczyk J, Szczeńiak S, Piekarska K. **Ventilation and air conditioning systems are a source of antibiotic-resistant bacteria - A review.** *Build Environ.* 2025;271. Available from: <https://doi.org/10.1016/j.buildenv.2025.112583>.
3. Liao L, Kong S, Du M. **The effect of clean heating policy on individual health: Evidence from China.** *China Economic Review* (1043951X). 2025;89. Available from: <https://doi.org/10.1016/j.chieco.2024.102309>.
4. Metcalfe R, Roth S. **Making the invisible visible: the impact of revealing indoor air pollution on behavior and welfare.** Grantham Research Institute on Climate Change and the Environment; 2025 Feb. Available from: <https://www.lse.ac.uk/granthaminstitute/wp-content/uploads/2025/02/working-paper-422-Metcalfe-Roth.pdf>.
5. Mustafa M, Cook MJ, McLeod RS. **A critical review of ventilation effectiveness in naturally ventilated spaces from the perspective of sustainability and health.** *Build Environ.* 2025;270. Available from: <https://doi.org/10.1016/j.buildenv.2024.112471>.
6. Patra SS, Jiang J, Liu J, Steiner G, Jung N, Boor BE. **Flame-Free Candles Are Not Pollution-Free: Scented Wax Melts as a Significant Source of Atmospheric Nanoparticles.** *Environ Sci Technol Lett.* 2025;12(2):175-82. Available from: <https://doi.org/10.1021/acs.estlett.4c00986>.
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OUTDOOR AIR

1. Environment and Climate Change Canada. **Population exposure to outdoor air pollutants. Canadian environmental sustainability indicators.** Ottawa, ON: Government of Canada; 2025. Available from: <https://www.canada.ca/content/dam/eccc/documents/pdf/cesindicators/population-exposure-air-polluants/2025/Population-exposure-outdoor-air-pollutants.pdf>.
2. Huff RD, Rider CF, Lo T, Hardy KI, El-Bittar N, Ryu MH, et al. **Woodsmoke and Diesel Exhaust: Distinct Transcriptomic Profiles in the Human Airway Epithelium.** *bioRxiv.* 2025:2025.02.26.640436. Available from: <https://www.biorxiv.org/content/biorxiv/early/2025/03/02/2025.02.26.640436.full.pdf>.
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RADON, OTHER

1. National Institute of Environmental Health Sciences. **Air pollution and your health.** Durham, NC: NIEHS; 2025 [updated Mar]; Available from: <https://www.niehs.nih.gov/health/topics/agents/air-pollution>.

2. FOOD

FOOD SAFETY

1. Gao P, Md. Shaarani S, Mohd Noor NQI. **Recent advances in inspection technologies of food safety health hazards for fish and fish products.** Crit Rev Food Sci Nutr. 2025;65(6):1109-25. Available from: <https://doi.org/10.1080/10408398.2023.2289077>.
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FOOD SECURITY

1. Centre for Indigenous Environmental Resources. **The impact of climate change on Indigenous food security and safety in Indigenous communities. The relationship between food security and climate change.** Maryland, Winnipeg, MB: Centre for Indigenous Environmental Resources; 2025; Available from: <https://yourcier.org/the-impacts-of-climate-change-on-food-security-and-safety-in-indigenous-communities-2/>.
2. Neokye EO, Wang X, Thakur KK, Quijón PA, Nawaz RA. **Climate change impacts on oyster aquaculture - Part II: Impact assessment and adaptation measures.** Environ Res. 2024;259:119535. Available from: <https://doi.org/10.1016/j.envres.2024.119535>.
3. Quach A, Yohannes S, Olstad DL, Campbell DJ, Corrigan C, Beall RF. **An environmental scan of financial incentives to increase access to healthy foods: How, how much, and how often?** BMC Public Health. 2025;25(1):689. Available from: <https://doi.org/10.1186/s12889-025-21855-9>.
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GROWING FOOD, OTHER

1. Islam K, Sabau G, Dawson J, Cheema M, Daraio J, Galagedara L. **Evaluating Agricultural Sustainability in Newfoundland, Canada: Insights from a Data Envelopment Analysis (DEA) Approach.** SSRN. 2025. Available from: <http://dx.doi.org/10.2139/ssrn.5127875>.
2. Pret V, Falconnier GN, Affholder F, Corbeels M, Chikowo R, Descheemaeker K. **Farm resilience to climatic risk. A review.** Agronomy for Sustainable Development (Springer Science & Business Media BV). 2025;45(1):1-24. Available from: <https://link.springer.com/article/10.1007/s13593-024-00998-w>.

3. WATER

DRINKING WATER

1. Agbasi JC, Egbueri JC, Pande CB, Khan MYA, Ighalo JO, Uwajingba HC, et al. **Review of the Potential Effects and Remediation Strategies of Microplastic Pollutants in Drinking Water Sources.** *Analytical Letters*. 2025;58(5):799-839. Available from: <https://www.tandfonline.com/doi/full/10.1080/00032719.2024.2343366>.
2. Health Canada. **Guidance on Sampling and Mitigation Measures for Controlling Lead Corrosion.** Ottawa, ON: Health Canada; 2025 Feb. Available from: <https://www.canada.ca/en/health-canada/services/publications/healthy-living/guidance-controlling-corrosion-drinking-water-distribution-systems.html>.
3. Isaacson KP, Verma A, Whelton AJ, Youngblood JP, Shah AD. **Formation and aqueous phase leaching of organic compounds following thermal degradation of commercial drinking water plastic pipes.** *J Hazard Mater*. 2025;489:137562. Available from: <https://www.sciencedirect.com/science/article/pii/S0304389425004765>.
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5. World Health Organization. **Rotaviruses: background document for the WHO guidelines for drinking-water quality and the WHO guidelines on sanitation and health.** Geneva: World Health Organization; 2025 2025-02-20 WHO/HEP/ECH/WSH/2025.27. Available from: <https://iris.who.int/handle/10665/380575>.
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RECREATIONAL WATER

1. Kevill JL, Herridge K, Li X, Farkas K, Malham SK, Robins P, et al. **Comparative impact of sunlight and salinity on human pathogenic virus survival in river, estuarine, and marine water microcosms.**

Water Res. 2025;278:123411. Available from:
<https://www.sciencedirect.com/science/article/pii/S0043135425003240>.

SMALL WATER SYSTEMS

1. First Nations Health Authority. **Protecting our Water is a Sacred and Shared Responsibility**. West Vancouver, BC: FNHA; 2025 Mar 19. Available from: <https://www.fnha.ca/about/news-and-events/news/protecting-our-water-is-a-sacred-and-shared-responsibility>.
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WASTEWATER, OTHER

1. Knudson J. **Climate Change Could Soon Raise Our Exposure to Viruses From Sewage**. Discover Magazine. 2025. Available from: <https://www.discovermagazine.com/health/climate-change-could-soon-raise-our-exposure-to-viruses-from-sewage>.
2. Parkes MW, Horwitz P. **Attending to the mesoscale: Watersheds and Health**. PLOS Water. 2025;4(2):e0000347. Available from: <https://doi.org/10.1371/journal.pwat.0000347>.
3. Petculescu I, Hynds P, Brown RS, Boudou M, McDermott K, Majury A. **Development of a “big data” groundwater microbial contamination index and spatial comparisons with enteric infection rates in southern Ontario**. Sci Total Environ. 2024;947:174408. Available from: <https://doi.org/10.1016/j.scitotenv.2024.174408>.

4. CLIMATE CHANGE

EXTREME WEATHER

1. Boudreault J, Campagna C, Lavigne É, Chebana F. **Projecting the overall heat-related health burden and associated economic costs in a climate change context in Quebec, Canada**. Sci Total Environ. 2025;958:178022. Available from: <https://doi.org/10.1016/j.scitotenv.2024.178022>.
2. CalHeatScore. **The Reality of Heat in California**. Sacramento, CA: CalEPA / Office of Environmental Health Hazard Assessment; 2025. Available from: <https://calheatscore.calepa.ca.gov/>.
3. Canadian Urban Institute. **Climate Ready Infrastructure Information Session [video]**. Toronto, ON: Canadian Urban Institute; 2025. Available from: <https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=JwktXiiV5Hg>.
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9. Linett A, Ahmed M, Vaniartha V. **Tenant Rights & Extreme Weather Events: An Analysis of Indoor Temperature Requirements in U.S. and Canadian Landlord-Tenant Law.** 2023. Available from: <https://ubclimatehub.ca/wp-content/uploads/2023/12/Tenant-Rights-Extreme-Weather-Events.pdf>.
10. Ma Y, Yu Y, Zhao L, Liu Q, Ni J, Lin Z, et al. **The modifying role of residential greenness on the association between heat waves and adverse birth outcomes: Results from the ELEFANT project.** *Environ Res.* 2025;271:121118. Available from: <https://www.sciencedirect.com/science/article/pii/S001393512500369X>.
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13. Tetzlaff EJ, Meade RD, O'Connor FK, Kenny GP. **Knowledge, Awareness, Practices, and Perceptions of Risk and Responsibility Related to Extreme Heat:: An Exploratory Survey of Older Adults in Canada.** *J Public Health Manag Pract.* 9900. Available from: https://journals.lww.com/jphmp/fulltext/9900/knowledge_awareness_practices_and_perceptions.444.aspx.
14. Tetzlaff EJ, Richards BJ, Wagar KE, Harris-Mostert RC, Journeay WS, O'Connor FK, et al. **A Content Analysis of Web-Based Heat Stress Materials Published by Occupational Health and Safety Ministries, Associations, and Agencies in Canada.** *New Solutions: A Journal of Environmental & Occupational Health Policy.* 2025;34(4):306-26. Available from: <https://doi.org/10.1177/10482911241298948>.
15. World Government Summits, PwC. **Building resilience with innovation to tackle the climate emergency.** *World Governments Summit;* 2025. Available from: <https://www.pwc.com/m1/en/world-government-summit/documents/building-resilience-with-innovation-to-tackle-the-climate-emergency.pdf>.
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FLOODING

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SEA LEVEL RISE

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WILDFIRES, OTHER

1. Baliaka HD, Ward RX, Bahreini R, Dillner AM, Russell AG, Seinfeld JH, et al. **Notes from the Field: Elevated Atmospheric Lead Levels During the Los Angeles Urban Fires - California, January 2025.** *MMWR Morb Mortal Wkly Rep.* 2025;74(5):69-71. Available from: <https://pubmed.ncbi.nlm.nih.gov/39977375/>.
2. Brauer M. **The Lasting Damage of Wildfires. The health impacts of wildfires are observed years after the initial blaze.** 2025 [Jan 24]; Available from: <https://www.thinkglobalhealth.org/article/lasting-damage-wildfires>.
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4. Coker ES, Ho W, Paul N, Lee MJ, Dickson JM, Greif O, et al. **Enhancing wildfire smoke exposure assessment: a machine learning approach to predict indoor PM2.5 in British Columbia, Canada.** *ACS ES&T Air.* 2025;2(1):73-89. Available from: <https://doi.org/10.1021/acsestair.4c00204>.
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6. Heibati B, Renz H, Lacy P. **Wildfire and wood smoke effects on human airway epithelial cells: A scoping review.** *Environ Res.* 2025;272:121153. Available from: <https://www.sciencedirect.com/science/article/pii/S0013935125004049>.
7. McMahon K, Howard S. **Plastic water pipes leach dangerous chemicals when damaged in wildfires.** 2025 Mar 7. Available from: <https://www.ehn.org/wildfires-plastic-pipes-2671289040.html>.

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