

ENVIRONMENTAL HEALTH RESEARCH SCAN

VOL 9 (6) JUNE 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 This research scan is not peer reviewed; it does not cover all research, news, and information, and NCCEH is not responsible for the accuracy of the content from media or databases.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

Ready-to-eat meats field guide for environmental health officers [guide].

Tina Chen, Environmental Health and Knowledge Translation Scientist, NCCEH

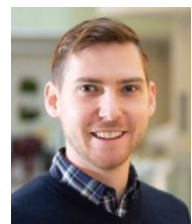
“...the purpose of this field guide is to provide general information to support regulatory personnel with food safety risk assessments when inspecting micro, small, and medium-sized RTE meat production operations such as butcher shops or restaurants...” more



Indoor air filtration during wildfires: impacts on air quality and health [rapid review].

Ryan Huff, Environmental Health and Knowledge Translation Scientist, NCCEH, and co-authors

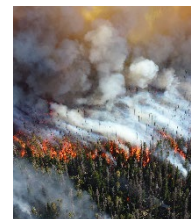
“This rapid review seeks to identify, appraise and summarize available research evidence to support evidence-informed decision making in public health during episodes of combustion-derived air pollution.”



What effect does using indoor air filtration or air cleaning during combustion-derived air pollution episodes have on human health endpoints? [rapid review].

Neil-Sztramko, S.E., Traynor, R.L., Camargo, K., Leung, T., Tutt, E., Dobbins, M.

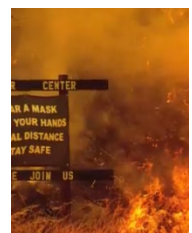
“The evidence is uncertain whether air filtration during combustion-derived air pollution episodes is associated with improved cellular-level health outcomes”



What effect does wearing a face mask during combustion-derived air pollution episodes have on human health endpoints? [rapid review].

Neil-Sztramko, S.E., Traynor, R.L., Camargo, K., Tutt, E., Dobbins, M.

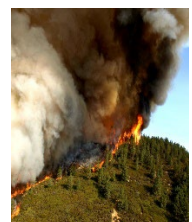
“This rapid review highlights the lack of published, peer-reviewed research on the effects of wearing a face mask during combustion-derived air pollution episodes (e.g., wildfires) on human health endpoints (e.g., any direct or indirect acute or long-term health outcome, use of emergency services or hospitalizations, and cellular-level outcomes).”



What effect does public health messaging about wildfire smoke have on behaviours and human health outcomes? [rapid review].

Neil-Sztramko, S.E., Gentles, S.J., Clark, E., Caldwell, S., Camargo, K., Leung, T., Traynor, R.L., Dobbins, M.

“Overall, the quantitative findings of this review are limited by low or very low certainty in the evidence. This was mostly due to the small number and size of studies, study design limitations, and heterogeneity of study outcomes”

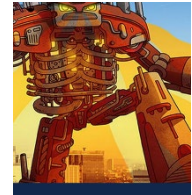


EDITOR PICKS, CONTINUED

Heat action day [June 2, 2025].

International Federation of Red Cross and Red Crescent Societies

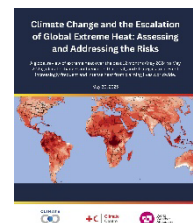
“As climate change creates ‘super-charged’ heatwaves, they are also claiming more lives. This year, Heat Action Day’s #BeatTheHeat message focuses on recognizing the signs of heat exhaustion.”



Climate change and the escalation of global extreme heat 2025: assessing and addressing the risks.

Climate Central

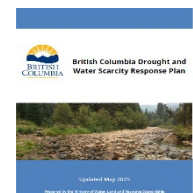
“...Over the 12-month period, 4 billion people — about 49% of the global population — experienced at least 30 days of extreme heat (hotter than 90% of temperatures observed in their local area over the 1991-2020....” more



British Columbia drought and water scarcity response plan.

British Columbia Ministry of Water, Land and Resource Stewardship

“By being prepared to respond to drought, communities and water suppliers are better able to protect water resources for potable use (drinking water), sanitation, fire protection, agriculture, industry, fish, aquatic ecosystems and a range of economic activities.”



Heat safety planning recommendations for outdoor events.

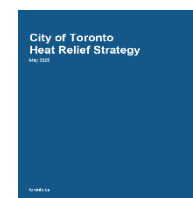
Island Health.

This guide provides suggestions for event organizers on how to reduce heat exposure and avoid heat injuries at outdoor events.



City of Toronto heat relief strategy

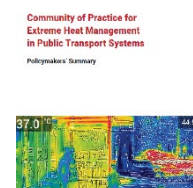
“The 2025 Heat Relief Strategy outlines the hot weather response activities coordinated by the Hot Weather Response Coordinating Committee, with a focus on providing targeted relief for the most vulnerable populations who will have the highest risk of negative health outcomes due to extreme heat.”



Community of practice for extreme heat management in public transport systems. Policymakers’ summary.

Coalition for Disaster Resilient Infrastructure

“This CDRI guidance document addresses the growing impact of extreme heat on public transport systems. It outlines challenges, key frameworks, practical recommendations, and real-world examples, providing a roadmap for developing heat-resilient infrastructure



ENVIRONMENTAL HEALTH RESEARCH SCAN

SELECTED RESOURCES

1. Aziz F, Wang X, Mahmood MQ, O’Keeffe J. **Assessing human health risks associated with wastewater flooding.** Environ Impact Assess Rev. 2025;115:108031. Available from: <https://www.sciencedirect.com/science/article/pii/S0195925525002288>.
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5. National Collaborating Centre for Environmental Health. **Ready-to-eat meats field guide for environmental health officers [practice guide].** Vancouver, BC: NCCEH; 2025 May. Available from: <https://ncceh.ca/resources/videos-tools/ready-eat-meats-field-guide-environmental-health-officers>.
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1. AIR QUALITY

INDOOR AIR

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FOOD SAFETY

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1. Menko P, Olstad D, Buttazzoni A, Minaker L. **Food deserts, food mirages, and gentrification in Toronto, Canada.** Health Place. 2025;94:103490. Available from: <https://www.sciencedirect.com/science/article/pii/S1353829225000802>.
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GROWING FOOD, OTHER

1. Feng X, Liu Z, Vo Duy S, Parent L, Barbeau B, Sauvé S. **Temporal trends of 46 pesticides and 8 transformation products in surface and drinking water in Québec, Canada (2021–2023):**

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3. WATER

DRINKING WATER

1. Choi SE, Simon L. **Projected Outcomes of Removing Fluoride From US Public Water Systems.** *JAMA Health Forum.* 2025;6(5):e251166-e. Available from: <https://doi.org/10.1001/jamahealthforum.2025.1166>.
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SMALL WATER SYSTEMS

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4. CLIMATE CHANGE

EXTREME WEATHER

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