

# ENVIRONMENTAL HEALTH RESEARCH SCAN

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

### Evaluating the effectiveness of masks and respirators against wildfire smoke [rapid review].

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



*“The aim of this rapid review is to assess the effectiveness of masks or respirators in reducing non-occupational exposures to gaseous and PM pollutants, specifically during combustion-derived air pollution episodes, including those caused by wildfires.”*

### Wildfire smoke and portable air cleaners: Improving air quality in schools and child care facilities [blog].

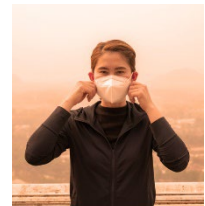
Ryan Huff, Environmental Health and Knowledge Translation Scientist, NCCEH



*“This post provides an overview of the health risks of wildfire smoke, particularly for children, and outlines best practices for using portable air cleaners (PACs) as a protective strategy in school and child care settings.”*

### Unmasking the evidence for reducing harms from wildfire smoke: The role of air cleaners and masks [webinar] [Aug 28, 2025].

Ryan Huff, Environmental Health and Knowledge Translation Scientist, NCCEH



*“This presentation will explore the different air cleaning technologies and mask types, and their effectiveness during wildfire episodes. Practical considerations and limitations of these technologies for mitigating wildfire smoke will also be discussed...”*



### A public health companion for ASHRAE Guideline 44: Protecting building occupants from smoke during wildfire and prescribed burn events [guidance document].

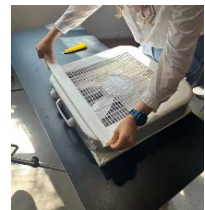
Chirag Rohit, Chief Environmental Health Officer, NWT, and co-authors



*“This NCCEH companion guide aims to support public health practitioners and allied professionals to better understand the factors that affect indoor air quality during wildfires or prescribed burns, especially during prolonged events.”*

### DIY air cleaners are an easy and cost-effective way to help ventilate homes during wildfires [The Conversation].

Anne-Marie Nicol and Prem Gundarah



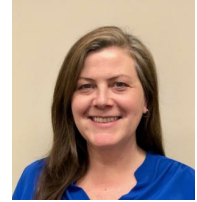
*“In British Columbia, we started [The BREATHE Project](#) to study the impacts of wildfires and distribute information about DIY air cleaners.”*

## EDITOR PICKS

From cooling towers to splash pads – Staying safe while keeping cool [blog].

Juliette O’Keeffe, Senior Scientist, NCCEH

*“This blog provides an overview of some of those hazards, and signposts to resources and guidance for reducing exposure and preventing infection while keeping people cool.”*



Updating Health Canada’s heat-health messages for the environment and climate change Canada heat warning system: a collaboration with Canadian experts

Emily Tetzlaff and co-authors

*“A review was conducted to assess the existing heat-health messages and propose new messages based on recent empirical studies. The proposed messages were reviewed to ensure that readability and equity considerations were integrated.”*



Updated look at e-scooter rideshare programs.

Ontario Agency for Health Protection and Promotion (Public Health Ontario)

*“This document serves to summarize current municipal level policies, rules, regulations, or recommendations for e-scooter rideshare programs (e.g., restricted areas, permitted areas, speed limits, parking restrictions, etc.).”*



National Adaptation Strategy 2025 [4 parts].

Office of the Auditor General of Canada

*“An improved National Adaptation Strategy and timely action to adapt to our changing climate and extreme weather are critical to protect the health, safety, and livelihoods of Canadians.”*



NCCEH eNews (Jul 2025): Rapid review: Evaluating the effectiveness of masks and respirators against wildfire smoke; more... NCCEH

*This monthly eNews highlights recent environmental health publications and more!*



July 2025 research scan.

National Collaborating Centre for Environmental Health



NCCEH webinar: AQmap in Action: tracking wildfire smoke in real time for cleaner air decisions. July 16, 2025

Brayden Nilson



## ENVIRONMENTAL HEALTH RESEARCH SCAN

### SELECTED RESOURCES

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## OUTDOOR AIR

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### 3. WATER

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## 5. BUILT ENVIRONMENT

### GREEN & BLUE SPACES

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