

Climate and Health E-News

Raising Awareness about Climate Change and Public Health in the Circumpolar North

No. 105, March 16, 2012

Circumpolar Climate Events Map – See this week’s circumpolar news and events including: *concerns about shellfish, deadly avalanches, bracing for the big thaw, and Canada’s early asthma season.* [Center for Climate and Health](#)

B.C. avalanche deaths point to high risk in backcountry *March 13, 2012.* Following the third avalanche fatality in a week in the B.C. backcountry, skiers and snowmobilers are being told to steer clear of many mountain areas in B.C. and Alberta, as the risk of slides remains considerable too high and could soon hit extreme. [Calgary Herald](#)

Effects of environmental toxicants reach down through generations *March 2, 2012.* A Washington State University researcher has demonstrated that some environmental toxicants can effects on not just an exposed animal but the next three generations of offspring. The study published in the journal [PLoS One](#), looked at jet fuel, dioxin, plastics, and the pesticides DEET and permithrin. Effects included females reaching puberty earlier, increased rates in the decay and death of sperm cells and lower numbers of ovarian follicles that later becomes eggs. [ScienceDaily](#)

Alaska investigates landfill erosion and effects on state’s waters *March 15, 2012.* Coastal and river erosion is causing pollution to escape from dump sites and to be released into Alaska’s waters. To address this problem the Alaska Department of Environmental Conservation has initiated a four-year project to inventory and prioritize those sites, and to generate action plans to mitigate the impacts of erosion. [ADEC](#)

WHO publishes report on role of health in adaptation to climate change *February 12, 2012.* The World Health Organization has submitted a new report to the United National Framework Convention on Climate Change focusing on the scale of health risks of climate change. Currently the funding to address health effects of climate change covers only about 0.5% of the expected global health damage cost. The report makes recommendations on how to achieve appropriate climate health goals [WHO](#).

Videos of the Week: Buried in an avalanche in Haines Alaska *January 16, 2009,* On a heli-skiing trip out of Haines Alaska in April 2008, Chris Cardello was buried in an avalanche. This footage provides an intense first person perspective of what it was like being in the avalanche and ultimately rescued. Please note: it is not the intent of ANTHC to endorse the Avalung product. It is our intent to raise awareness for those who are traveling in the backcountry during this especially dangerous avalanche season. [YouTube](#)

Climate and Health E-News is received around the circumpolar north by people who are interested in climate change impacts and public health. For back issues click [here](#). To subscribe or unsubscribe, please click [here](#).

Regards – Mike

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