

Climate and Health E-News

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

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Circumpolar Climate Events Map - Click [here](#) for this month's map or visit our [archive](#).

Local Environmental Observer (LEO) Network Map - Click [here](#) for this month's map or visit our [archive](#). You can also visit us on [Facebook](#).

A peek inside the "walrus diaries" *December 5, 2012*. On a small skiff in the Chukchi Sea, Tony Fischbach and a team of scientists look for groups of walrus resting on the sea ice. Starting in 2007, when the ice disappeared, walrus began hauling out on Alaska's north coast. Fischbach's walrus diaries have revealed that animals forced on shore are swimming huge distances to find food. [APRN](#)

Time for climate change action in Arctic Canada *November 30, 2012*. Survival in the warming world of Nunavik and Nunatsiavut means doing things in a different way to protect the regions' residents and resources. This means taking actions to improve quality of life, safeguard the environment and facilitate sustainable development, says a new [report](#) by ArcticNet. [NunatsiaqOnline](#)

Therapy lights to help depressed Swedes *December 3, 2012*. Many northerners love the long and cold winter, despite lack of proper daylight. Others get depressed. The local energy company in Umeå, the largest city in northern Sweden, has installed phototherapy lights at the bus stop shelters. The idea is to help the citizens to cope with the loss of natural light. [Barents Observer](#)

Why is the flu more common during winter? *December 4, 2012*. Influenza, commonly known as the flu, has distinct transmission patterns around the world. In temperate regions, influenza peaks during the winter, while in some tropical regions, the disease tends to correspond with the rainy season. Environmental engineers have now shown the relationship between the influenza viability in human mucus over a large range of relative humidity, from 17 to 100 percent. [ScienceDaily](#)

Rabies in Alaska, Rabid Wolverine Found on North Slope *December 2012*. Rabies in Alaska is endemic in a small number of arctic fox along Alaska's coast but spills over frequently to red fox, sometimes in epidemic numbers. The highest number of cases in foxes occurs in late winter, especially in the year after a lemming/vole population explosion. Rabies is also occasionally found among wolves, dogs and recently even a single wolverine on the North Slope. [Alaska Fish and Wildlife News](#)

Video of the Week: Newtok, Keeping Culture. This is part five of a five-part series about climate change impacts on one coastal village. This segment looks at Mertarvik, the new relocation site of the village. While it sits on a rock that makes it safe from erosion, aside from a barge landing and a few homes, it's a long way from being a functioning community. But for Newtok, however, there's no turning back. [KTUU](#)

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

Regards – Mike

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Safe, Healthy, Sustainable Communities