

Climate and Health E-News

Raising Awareness about Climate Change and Public Health in the Circumpolar North
No. 146, January 25, 2013

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

LEO Network Map – Click [here](#) for this month's map or visit our [archive](#).

Do melting glaciers promote earthquakes? As recently [posted](#) by local environmental observers ([LEO](#)), there have been a lot of earthquakes in Southeast Alaska. Could melting glaciers play a role? A 2004 study in the journal of [Global and Planetary Change](#) found that melting glaciers in Icy Bay and Malaspina regions destabilized faults and may have hastened the 1979 St. Elias quake. [Geotimes](#)

Is human health and tree health connected? *January 16, 2013.* For Geoffrey Donovan, a research forester and his colleagues, the loss of 100 million trees was an unprecedented opportunity to study impacts on human health. In an analysis of 18 years of data from 1,296 counties in 15 states, researchers found that Americans living in areas infested by the emerald ash borer, a beetle that kills ash trees, suffered from an additional 15,000 deaths from cardiovascular disease and 6,000 more deaths from lower respiratory disease when compared to uninfested areas. [ScienceDaily](#)

Native population at higher risk of illness or death from flu. *January 16, 2013.* Influenza is now widespread in 47 states. During the 2009 H1N1 influenza pandemic, Native people died at a rate four times greater than other races and ethnic groups. According to a 2009 Centers for Disease Control and Prevention (CDC) and IHS [study](#), the factors that produce a higher influenza mortality rate among AI/ANs are unknown but might include higher prevalence of underlying chronic health conditions, and delayed access to health care. [Indian Country Today](#)

Swedish preschoolers not getting enough Vitamin D.

January 23, 2013. An Umeå university [study](#) finds that although children's food contains the recommended levels of vitamin D, the sunlight was not enough to keep their vitamin D levels elevated. One in four pre-school children in northern Sweden does not have enough vitamin D in the body at the end of the summer to get them through the dark winter, reports news agency TT. [Radio Sweden](#)

Video of the week – hunter falls through ice *January 16, 2013.* A hunter who broke through ice on the Colorado River was rescued after spending more than 30 minutes in frigid water. The man had gone onto the ice after a dog that was retrieving a duck or goose. The dog was fine and running around in the 14-degree weather when firefighters arrived. [Huffington Post](#)

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, click [here](#).

Regards – Mike

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Safe, Healthy, Sustainable Communities