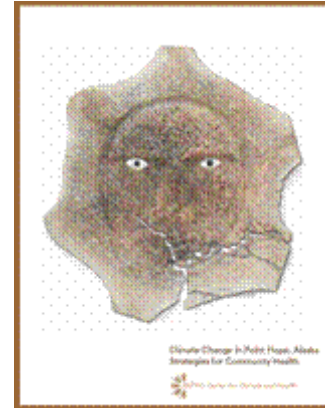


1. Climate Change Affects Health in Rural Alaska Community – Center for Climate and Health

(August 30, 2010) In [Point Hope](#), Alaska climate change is increasing the risk of injury, interfering with the harvest of traditional foods, altering water quality, and decreasing food security. These are some of the findings from the final report published today by the Alaska Native Tribal Health Consortium (ANTHC) Center for Climate and Health. The report is entitled, *Climate Change in Point Hope, Alaska, Strategies for Community Health*. This is the first in a series of local assessments aimed at describing climate change effects on public health in Alaska. The report describes impacts, explores positive and negative health effects, and offers specific recommendations for adaptation strategies. [Read Report](#)



Climate Effects in Point Hope, AK

2. Taking the Chill out of Arctic Homes – Arctic Sounder (August 25, 2010) The success of an innovative new home in Anaktuvuk Pass - which uses a wind power, solar panels and design features of traditional Nunamiut sod housing - is changing the way houses will be designed



Prototype home in Anaktuvuk Pass (CCHRC)

and built on the North Slope. The house used just 87 gallons of heating fuel from November to June. Other homes typically use about 100 gallons of fuel per month. It also cost a lot less to build - just \$220,000, compared to a normal three-bedroom home in Anaktuvuk Pass, which runs upwards of \$570,000. The house was the prototype in an effort to find ways of building better, more cost-effective houses in rural Alaska, which "grew out of the fact that estimates for new housing were so extraordinary," [Read Story](#)

3. Fairbanks Air Pollution Associated with Increased Rates of Hospitalization – Epidemiology

Bulletin (August 30, 2010) Particulate matter (PM) is air pollution that is made up of solid and/or liquid matter such as dust, metals, smoke, soot, and organic compounds. Exposure to elevated concentrations of PM <math><2.5\ \mu\text{m}</math> in diameter (PM_{2.5}) has been associated with adverse cardiovascular and respiratory health events. Common sources of PM_{2.5} include combustion products (e.g., from power plants and automobiles) and wood smoke. The State of Alaska Division of Public Health reviewed air quality data from a monitoring station



Wildfire smoke in Fairbanks - July 2004

in downtown Fairbanks, and medical records from Fairbanks Memorial Hospital (2003-2008), and found that increased concentrations of ambient PM2.5 levels were associated with increased risk of hospitalizations due to cerebrovascular disease and respiratory tract infections. [Read Bulletin](#)

If you have an observation or an update you would like to include in our E-News or have added to our Alaska Climate Events Map, send a message to mbrubaker@anthc.org. To join the E-News mailing list, just respond to this message with your contact (e-mail/name) information. Click [> here](#) for prior E-News archived at the Arctic Health Library.

Regards – Mike

Michael Brubaker
Center for Climate and Health
Alaska Native Tribal Health Consortium
7033 East Tudor Road
Anchorage, Alaska 99507
Tel. (907) 729-2464
<http://www.anthc.org/chs/ces/climate/index.cfm>
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