

Alaska Center for Climate and Health - E-News
Raising Awareness about Climate Change Impacts on Public Health
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In Arctic, Climate Health Threats Include Giardia and Food Poisoning *March 3, 2011* - Thawing ice cellars that threaten to cause food poisoning; the first recorded case of giardia, just as beavers show up; algae blooms and thawing river banks contaminating water systems. Climate change presents new risks for food, sanitation and wellbeing in the Arctic, but little research has been done in remote villages experiencing some of the biggest temperature swings. That's beginning to change, thanks to a [pair of reports](#) by ANTHC that meld scientific data with local observations in Northwest Alaska. [Arctic Sounder](#)

New Study States Boreal Forests Shifting as Alaska Warms *March 2, 2011* - A newly published scientific study concludes Alaska's boreal forests are experiencing a widespread shift as they adapt to warming conditions. The study, which includes extensive work by University of Alaska Fairbanks researchers, appears in the new issue of the scientific journal Ecology Letters. It supports what scientists and foresters have suspected for years — that warming northern temperatures are forcing rapid changes in Alaska's forests. [Fairbanks Daily News Miner](#)

The Secret Killer in Your Garden *February 16, 2011* - Somebody is poisoning the moose of Anchorage. The entire city is a garden laced with poisonous plants. This winter, at least three moose calves have died in Anchorage after browsing on chokecherry twigs. Dozens of moose are reported dead in Anchorage every winter, and it is possible that many more moose have succumbed to poisonous plants. [Alaska Dispatch](#) (Note: ADF&G informs E-News that chokecherries are an invasive species, expanding their range in South central Alaska.)

Algae in Warming Lakes Associated with Toxins *September 14, 2010* - Earthy or musty odors, along with visual evidence of blue-green algae, also known as cyanobacteria, may serve as a warning that harmful cyanotoxins are present in lakes or reservoirs. A [USGS study](#) of cyanobacterial blooms in Midwest lakes, taste-and-odor compounds were found almost every time cyanotoxins were found, indicating odor may serve as a warning that harmful toxins are present. [ScienceDaily](#)

Alaska Climate Events Map – February was a wild month in Alaska, with blizzards and wind storms wreaking havoc all across the State. Visit our [Google Map](#) to see incidents and events that have occurred around Alaska this month, with relevance for climate and health.

The *Climate and Health E-News* is received around the circumpolar north by people who are interested in climate impact on health. For back issues or to join the mailing list visit our [website](#) or contact us via e-mail or by phone.

Regards - Mike

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