

Alaska Climate and Health E-News
Raising Awareness about Climate Change and Public Health
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Flooding in Juneau caused by break of glacial ice dam *July 21, 2011* Unusual draining of a glacial lake left residents along the Mendenhall River a little nervous about just how high the water would rise. The event is the result of a “Jökulhaup”, the term used for draining of a glacial basin caused by ice damming. The size of this particular basin is approximately 72,000 square meters and the resulting runoff is causing water to surge down the face of the Mendenhall Glacier, and flooding in Juneau. Sarah Day [Juneau Empire](#)

Heat stroke in Alaska’s Arctic *July 20, 2011* The occasional day that may seem unusually warm in a city like Anchorage, may give way to complaints from uncomfortably sweaty citizens, but chances are they have good ways to find relief by staying indoors or seeing a movie in an air conditioned theater. But in the Far North, extremes don’t have to be measured in large temperature leaps. A steady increase of a few degrees year after year is enough to cause big changes. Jill Burke, [Alaska Dispatch](#)

Heat wave fosters toxic algae in touristy lakes *July 20, 2011* A prolonged heat wave in the central U.S. has fostered the growth of a dangerous form of algae in lakes and ponds, threatening swimmers and livestock and scaring away tourists during the busy summer season. Sean Murphy, [Associated Press](#)

Exotic species come north to Nunavut. People in Nunavut are encountering plant and animal species they have never seen before in the Canadian Arctic. Life forms that are not native to Nunavut’s environment have started showing up in the last few years, including a wasp-like insect that was recently photographed by Niore Iqalukjuak or Arctic Bay. [CBC](#)

Climate change forces early spring in Alberta, Canada *July 7, 2011* A new study shows that climate change over the past 70 years has pushed some of the Alberta, Canada native wildflowers and trees into earlier blooming times, making them vulnerable to damaging frosts, and ultimately threatening reproduction. Bloom dates of prairie crocuses and aspen trees have advanced by two weeks. [ScienceDaily](#)

Alaska Climate Events Map – Visit our [Google Map](#) to see and read about the incidents and events that have occurred around Alaska during the past month.

Climate and Health E-News is received around the circumpolar north by people who are interested in climate impacts on health. For back issues or to join the mailing list, visit our [website](#). *Please* click following link if you would like to [subscribe or unsubscribe](#).

Regards - Mike

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