

Alaska Climate and Health E-News
Raising Awareness about Climate Change and Public Health
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Tundra fires could accelerate climate warming *July 27, 2011* The 2007 [Anaktuvuk River fire](#) covered more than 400 square miles on the North Slope of the Brooks Range. The fire consumed up to 30 percent of the insulating layer of organic matter that protects the permafrost. A University of Florida study published in [Nature](#) shows that their impact could extend far beyond the areas blackened by flames. [Science Daily](#)

Fingerprinting fugitive dust: tacking soil microbes back to their source *July 22, 2011* – Each community of soil microbes has a unique fingerprint that can potentially be used to track soil back to its source, right down to whether it is dust from a rural road or from a farm field. By analyzing the fatty acid content in the community of soil microbes, scientists can track dust back to its source. USDA is using this technology to understand how to help prevent erosion in damage soils. [ScienceDaily](#)

Relating chronic disease in Arctic populations to Vitamin D deficiency *July 26, 2011* Aboriginal populations living in the Arctic are at high risk for vitamin D deficiency due to limited sunlight and the low dietary intake of Vitamin D, which today is being related to decreased consumption of traditional foods. Major changes in diet over the past 50 years have been associated with increases in chronic disease. A new article examines the risk factors for vitamin D deficiency in Arctic populations and provides recommendations. [Nutrition Reviews](#)

Will climate change enhance the boreal forest? *June 6, 2011* Scientists wonder whether a longer growing season could translate into improved growing conditions for boreal forests. The findings by researchers from the University of Alberta raises new questions about the future of boreal trees species and how well they may be able to compete with broad leaf trees. [ScienceDaily](#)

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

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

Regards - Mike

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