

July Compendium of Events, News, Resources, and Research Results for ROCIS Stakeholders

Tom Phillips is compiling a monthly compendium of events, news, information resources, and research results that is related to our common interest in reducing outdoor pollutants in indoor spaces. The July compendium is below, and highlights will be posted on the [ROCIS website](#).

Click [here](#) to sign up for this monthly compendium, ROCIS event updates and briefs, and to learn more about the ROCIS stakeholder air quality initiative involving low cost monitoring and interventions.

In this compendium ...

EVENTS

(Note: Most of these groups also have listservs to help track upcoming events, reports, etc.)

- ✓ Did You Miss the July 9, 2015 Community Air Monitoring Training?
- ✓ July & August 2015 Collaborative for High Performance Schools (CHPS).
- ✓ August 6-7, 2015 American Society of Interior Designers, Impact Summit 2015, Orlando, FL.
- ✓ October 7, 2015 Federal Interagency Committee on Indoor Air Quality (CIAQ).

NEWS

- ✓ The HUD Funding for Healthy Homes Technical Studies is Available.
- ✓ Schools Turn to Propane Buses as Stricter Emissions Standards Loom.
- ✓ Unsafe levels of toxic pollutants found in heavily fracked Ohio County.
- ✓ Coke plant in Tonawanda, NY hit with \$12M air pollution fines, a prison sentence, community service and a plant upgrade.

INFORMATION RESOURCES (This month's focus: Health & Children)

- ✓ Survey finds medical professionals lack awareness of health and built environment links.
- ✓ Handy summary of health symptoms, signs, and health effects for health professionals.
- ✓ Extensive recommendations for protecting children from various environmental hazards.
- ✓ DIY and professional steps to assess and prevent odor problems in and around buildings.

RESEARCH RESULTS

[California Air Resources Board \(CARB\) Research Seminars and Reports](#), including:

- ✓ Health Effects of Central Valley Particulate Matter.
- ✓ Reducing Air Pollution Exposure in Passenger Vehicles and School Buses.
- ✓ Risk of Pediatric Asthma Morbidity from Multipollutant Exposures.
- ✓ Evaluation of Pollutant Emissions from Portable Air Cleaners.

ABSTRACTS AND LINKS (for the above items)

EVENTS

(Note: Most of these groups also have listservs to help track upcoming events, reports, etc.)

Did You Miss the July 9, 2015 Community Air Monitoring Training?

EPA presented a webinar on using low cost monitors by citizens and communities.

Access the webinar archive, resources and [Read the News Item](#).

EVENTS (Continued)

July & August 2015 Collaborative for High Performance Schools (CHPS).

Free training webinars on high performance sustainable schools.

[Read More.](#)

August 6-7, 2015 American Society of Interior Designers, Impact Summit 2015, Orlando, FL.

ASID has new focus on healthy and wellness in the built environment, including healthy products, housing, and communities.

[Read More.](#)

October 7, 2015 Federal Interagency Committee on Indoor Air Quality (CIAQ).

Quarterly webinars on agency activity updates, and guest speakers on current issues such as spray polyurethane foam insulation. Previous presentations are also posted. Speaker proposals are being sought. [Read More.](#)

NEWS

The HUD Funding for Healthy Homes Technical Studies is Available.

Pre-applications are due July 16, 2015. A minimum of 20 applicants will be invited to submit full applications through a "full application" NOFA. Approximately \$2 million in funding is available to fund applicants to this NOFA in FY 2015 with maximum awards of \$700,000.

[Read More.](#)

Schools Turn to Propane Buses as Stricter Emissions Standards Loom.

For many Americans, propane is that stuff from the home improvement store that fuels backyard barbecues and patio dinners. But in a growing number of cities across the country, it is what gets children to school. Of the top 25 school bus markets, 19 have propane-fueled vehicles in their fleets, including New York, Chicago, Houston, Los Angeles, Miami, Philadelphia and Phoenix

[Read More.](#)

Unsafe levels of toxic pollutants found in heavily fracked Ohio County.

Emissions from fracking operations may be exposing people to some toxic pollutants at levels higher than the U.S. Environmental Protection Agency considers safe for long-term exposure, according to scientists from Oregon State University and the University of Cincinnati. The researchers took air samples in Carroll County, Ohio, where there are 480 permitted wells the most in any of the state's 88 counties. The team found chemicals released during oil and gas extraction that can raise the risk of cancer and respiratory ailments.

[Read More.](#)

NEWS (Continued)

Coke plant in Tonawanda, NY hit with \$12M air pollution fines, a prison sentence, community service and a plant upgrade.

Authorities initially were alerted to problems by the plant's neighbors, who in 2005 used buckets and plastic bags to collect air samples after becoming concerned that the ever-present dusting of black soot on their houses, cars and patio furniture was connected to their seemingly high rates of cancer and other illnesses. "In our complaint, we alleged that Tonawanda failed to install air pollution controls. They failed to properly monitor for gas leaks," Assistant U.S. Assistant Attorney General John Cruden said on Monday's call. "We alleged they failed to conduct inspections that they should have. We believe that they failed to adequately train their employees and we alleged that they failed to file correct reports about harmful pollutants."

Read more [at Buffalo News](#), [at the Department of Justice](#), and [from the EPA](#).

INFORMATION RESOURCES (This month's focus: Health & Children)

Survey finds medical professionals lack awareness of health and built environment links. Medical, construction, and human resource professionals and buildings owners (residential and nonresidential sectors) were surveyed about health and wellness in buildings. Homeowners were more concerned with the energy savings and aesthetics than the health impacts of their home. The best investment types and metrics related to health are also discussed. The report recommends several actions to drive investment in healthy buildings.

McGraw Hill Construction, 2014.

The Drive Toward Healthier Buildings: The Market Drivers and Impact of Building Design and Construction on Occupant Health, Well-Being and Productivity.

[Read the Study.](#)

Handy summary of health symptoms, signs, and health effects for health professionals.

The quick reference table on symptoms, by pollutant class, and questions for use in patient intake and medical history, are especially helpful in identifying potential indoor and outdoor pollutant sources. It does not include some newer issues such as endocrine disruptor compounds and semivolatile organic compounds.

American Lung Association et al., 1994.

Indoor Air Pollution: Introduction for Health Professionals.

[Read More.](#)

Extensive recommendations for protecting children from various environmental hazards.

American Academy of Pediatrics, 2014.

Pediatric Environmental Health, 3rd Edition.

[Read More.](#)

DIY and professional steps to assess and prevent odor problems in and around buildings. Checklists and diary forms are included.

InspectAPedia, 2015.

Six Steps to Finding & Curing the Source of Building Odor Problems: Procedure Used to Find & Remove Odors Gases & Smells in or around Buildings.

[Read More.](#)

RESEARCH RESULTS

[*California Air Resources Board \(CARB\) Research Seminars and Reports, including:*](#)

Kent Pinkerton, et al., University of California, Davis. May 27, 2015.

Health Effects of Central Valley Particulate Matter.

[View the Presentation.](#) [Listen to the Presentation \(WMV\).](#) [Alternate Version \(MP4\).](#)

[Read about the Research Project.](#)

[Watch the Interview.](#)

Yifang Zhu, University of California, Los Angeles. April 21, 2015

Reducing Air Pollution Exposure in Passenger Vehicles and School Buses.

[View the Presentation.](#) [Listen to the Presentation \(WMV\).](#) [Alternate Version \(MP4\).](#)

[Read about the Research Project.](#)

Ralph J. Delfino and M. J. Kleeman, Ph.D., University of California, Irvine, and University of California, Davis. April 7, 2015.

Risk of Pediatric Asthma Morbidity from Multipollutant Exposures.

[View the Presentation.](#) [Listen to the Presentation \(WMV\).](#) [Alternate Version \(MP4\).](#)

[Read about the Research Project.](#)

[Watch the Interview.](#)

Hugo Destailats, Lawrence Berkeley National Laboratory. November 4, 2014.

Evaluation of Pollutant Emissions from Portable Air Cleaners.

[View the Introduction.](#)

[View the Presentation.](#) [Listen to the Presentation \(WMV\).](#) [Alternate Version \(MP4\).](#)

[Read about the Research Project.](#)

[Watch the Interview.](#)

That's it for the July Compendium!

Please send us event information, news, resources, research results for next month's compendium. Visit the ROCIS website for current and past compendiums, as well as the ROCIS white papers, and archives from meetings and webinars.

Cheers,

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