

Improving the Practice of Environmental Health

The Division of Emergency and Environmental Health Services (EEHS) provides national leadership in the development of environmental and emergency public health policy and prevention programs to improve environmental health practice nationwide. This fact sheet provides brief information about the division's five major activities.

Chemical Weapons Elimination

Ensures that the health and safety of workers and the general population are protected during the handling and destruction of the nation's chemical weapons. Reviews all chemical weapons elimination plans and works closely with the Department of Defense throughout the disposal process. Evaluates the on-site medical response capabilities to ensure that responders are prepared for any related emergencies.

Internet: <http://www.cdc.gov/nceh/demil>

Environmental Health Services

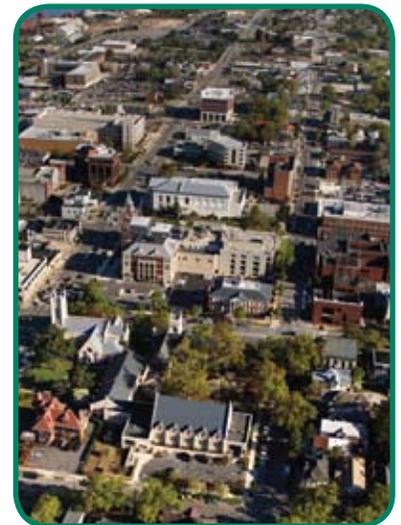
Provides technical assistance and scientific guidance to state, local, tribal, and other government agencies engaged in environmental health service programs; participates in disease outbreak investigations and identifies environmental antecedents contributing to outbreaks; and supports, through training and technical assistance, those environmental disciplines that have technology or information gaps in areas such as food safety and water and sanitation issues.

Internet: <http://www.cdc.gov/nceh/ehs>

Healthy Community Design

Promotes the designing and planning of communities to make it easier for people to live healthy, safe lives. Provides technical assistance for health impact assessments (HIAs), which can be used to evaluate objectively the potential health effects of a project or policy before it is built or implemented. Reviews environmental impact statements to assess the impact of proposed development plans on the surrounding environment, including the human environment. Provides recommendations that emphasize the potential health impacts of proposed developments and the need for strategies to reduce negative health outcomes.

Internet: <http://www.cdc.gov/healthyplaces>

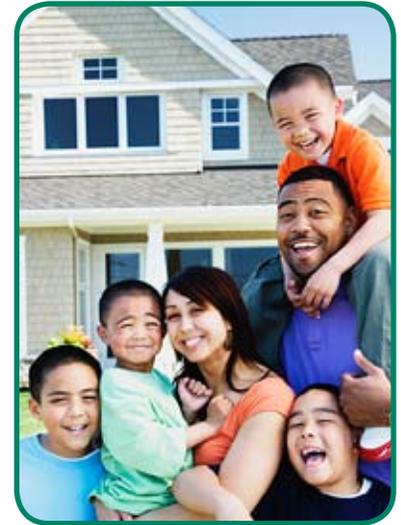


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Healthy Homes/Lead Poisoning Prevention

Works with other agencies to develop and implement an integrated national program to reduce home health hazards and eliminate childhood lead poisoning. Develops, conducts, and evaluates epidemiologic research on home health hazards and childhood lead poisoning, their causes, geographic distribution, trends, and risk factors. Provides epidemiologic assistance for special studies and investigations. Develops and helps implement a training agenda for health professionals and workers in healthy homes and childhood lead poisoning prevention activities. Serves as the lead agency for coordinating efforts to achieve national program objectives and performance standards related to the reduction of home health hazards and prevention of childhood lead poisoning.

Internet: <http://www.cdc.gov/nceh/lead/lead.htm>



Vessel Sanitation

Protects passenger and crew health by developing and implementing comprehensive sanitation programs to minimize the risk for gastrointestinal (GI) illnesses aboard cruise ships, inspects vessels to ensure compliance with the Vessel Sanitation Operations Manual, collects and monitors reports of GI illness on passenger vessels to estimate illness among passengers and detect outbreaks, and provides technical assistance to international public health officials on public health issues related to vessel sanitation.

Internet: <http://www.cdc.gov/nceh/vsp>



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