

May 2016

Air Quality Awareness Week is May 2-6!

Learn how air quality affects your health.



Join the twitter conversation on air quality and health

On May 5 at 1 pm Eastern Time, CDC and EPA will lead a Twitter Chat for Air Quality Awareness Week. Dr. Wayne Cascio, a cardiologist and researcher at EPA, and other experts will discuss the importance of air quality awareness for people with asthma, COPD, cardiovascular disease and other conditions.

The hashtag is #AirQualityChat.



Wildfires in a glass tube helping to protect human health

EPA researchers have developed a biomass fuel system to test emissions from different fires using various types of fuel from common trees in the U.S. The goal: to determine if different fuels and the stage of fire (hot blaze versus smoldering) provides insight into potential health impacts from inhaling smoke from forest fires.

Learn more in a blog.



Three new research centers focus on solutions to improve air quality

Three new university-based ACE Centers, funded by EPA with a \$30 million grant, will tackle pressing air quality issues for many communities across the U.S. still overburdened by air pollution. The research will be conducted in the context of climate change since we live in a changing world that is impacting our environment, including air quality.

Read the news release.

Read the blog.



Are all air sensors alike?

Air sensor testing will begin in May to evaluate the performance of some of the most popular low-cost and portable air pollution sensors, as well as other selected sensors. Researchers will publish a report of their sensor evaluations following the study.

Learn more about the air sensor study.



Generate! A game for all ages

EPA researcher Rebecca Dodder received a Presidential Early Career Award for Science and Engineering award on May 4 at a White House ceremony. Her award-winning research connects the dots between climate change, energy and air quality. One of her creative approaches to sharing science with the younger generation: a game called *Generate!*

Find out more about the game in this blog.

View Generate! game pieces and instructions.



What does climate change have to do with your air?

Climate change is making it more challenging to protect air quality. Rising temperatures and interactions of existing pollutants with changing meteorological conditions are creating new mixes of atmospheric chemicals. EPA is taking action to protect air quality by awarding grants to 12 universities to study the implications to air quality from a changing climate.

Read a blog and learn more.



Monitoring air quality from space

Air pollution does not stay in one place, but travels the globe. EPA researchers are supporting a study by NASA and South Korea to improve the capabilities of satellites to monitor air quality from space and provide answers to protect air quality overseas as well as in the U.S.

Read the fact sheet.



Air problems in Puerto Rico

Puerto Rico residents in the Tallaboa/Encarnación community are impacted by many pollution sources. A citizen science project supported by EPA researchers will provide air sensors and training for residents to collect air quality data to learn more about their air quality.

Learn more about the citizen science project.



History of Air Pollution

Since the enactment of the Clean Air Act in 1970, air quality has improved considerably for many in the U.S. Still, some 166 million Americans live in areas where air pollution remains a problem, according to a recent report by the American Lung Association.

Learn about the history of air pollution in the U.S.

Key Links

- EPA's Air Research
- EPA's Climate Change Research
- EPA's Air, Climate, and Energy Research News Past Issues
- Air-related blogs
- Climate-related blogs