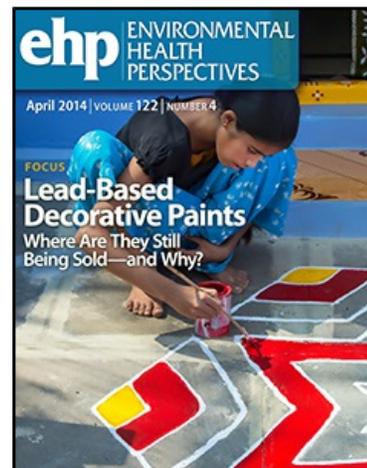


This month in EHP

The April issue of [Environmental Health Perspectives \(EHP\)](http://ehp.niehs.nih.gov/)
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(EHP) highlights concerns with unlabeled lead content in decorative paints, even after its ban for residential use, as well as the environmental and health impacts of the Navajo Nation's shift to owning, rather than leasing, surface coal mine operations on its land.



Lead in decorative paints

Decades ago, developed nations began banning lead-based paint for residential use. Yet, few developing countries regulate lead in paint. Decorative paints with high lead content remain readily available on store shelves in these countries, rarely bearing any labeling to warn consumers of the dangers they pose. An international effort is currently underway to remove lead from decorative paints once and for all.

Navajo Nation and coal mining

In January 2014, the Navajo Nation shifted from leasing all its coal-rich land to outside mining companies, to ownership, by purchasing one of its remaining surface coal mines. The controversial purchase was a bid to stabilize the tribe's economy, but critics believe the health and environmental costs of continued coal use will outweigh the economic benefits.

Featured research and related news articles this month include:

- **Associations of Filaggrin Gene Loss-of-Function Variants With Urinary Phthalate Metabolites and Testicular Function in Young Danish Men** - Chinks in the Armor? Filaggrin-Depleted Skin Could Increase Environmental Exposures
- **Birth Outcomes and Maternal Residential Proximity to Natural Gas Development in Rural Colorado** - Birth Defects and Mothers' Proximity to Natural Gas Development: Is There a Connection?
- **Outdoor Air Pollution, Preterm Birth, and Low Birth Weight: Analysis of the World Health Organization Global Survey on Maternal and Perinatal Health** - Apples to Apples: Comparing PM 2.5 Exposures and Birth Outcomes in Understudied Countries
- **An Integrated Risk Function for Estimating the Global Burden of Disease Attributable to Ambient Fine Particulate Matter Exposure** - Disease Burdens Associated with PM 2.5 Exposure: How a New Model Provided Global Estimates

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