

This month in EHP

The August issue of Environmental Health Perspectives (EHP)

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focuses on advances in the study of harmful algal blooms (HABs), and public communication successes and challenges during environmental crises, with the West Virginia chemical spill into the Elk River as a case in point.



Keeping Tabs on HABs: New Tools for Detecting, Monitoring, and Preventing Harmful Algal Blooms

Emerging technologies enable researchers to study the ecology of harmful algal blooms, in both fresh and saltwater environments, more precisely and efficiently than ever before. Improved communication capabilities, higher-resolution satellite imagery, and smaller, more powerful sensors have contributed to significant advances in recent years, at the same time that HAB activity has escalated worldwide.

Crisis and Emergency Risk Communication: Lessons From the Elk River Spill

In the chaos of an unfolding environmental crisis, the public's urgent need for accurate, credible information sometimes goes unmet. The January 2014 chemical spill in West Virginia's Elk River is a case in point. The story of the Elk River spill provides valuable examples of public communications that worked well, and improvements that can be applied next time a disaster occurs.

Featured research and related news articles this month include:

Heat-Related Mortality and Adaptation to Heat in the United States -Learning to Take the Heat: Declines in U.S. Heat-Related Mortality

Prenatal Polybrominated Diphenyl Ether Exposures and Neurodevelopment in U.S. Children Through 5 Years of Age: The HOME Study - More Evidence for PBDEs as Neurotoxicants: Cohort Study Corroborates Earlier Findings

Arsenic Thiolation and the Role of Sulfate-Reducing Bacteria from the Human Intestinal Tract - Fire in the Belly? Sulfur-Reducing Gut Microbes Fuel Arsenic Thiolation

Bisphenol A and Reproductive Health: Update of Experimental and Human Evidence, 2007-2013 - BPA and Reproductive Health: Reviewing the Current State of the Science

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