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PRESS RELEASE

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4th Annual Children's Environmental Health Day: October 10, 2019

Collective Action for Children's Environmental Health Protection

WASHINGTON, D.C. – Thursday, October 10th, 2019 is [Children's Environmental Health \(CEH\) Day](#). The Children's Environmental Health Network (CEHN) established CEH Day in 2016, to be observed on the second Thursday of every October, to raise awareness and incite action regarding the importance of safe and healthy environments for all children. Clean air and water, safe food and consumer products, and healthy places to live, learn, and play are critical for children's health and development. CEHN Executive Director Nsedu Witherspoon states, "This year, more than ever, we need to stand up and demand better environmental health protections for our children. Federal roll-backs on clean air and water rules, the undermining of science, cuts to key state children's health programs and services, and reversal of critical actions to address climate change, threaten the health of our most vulnerable. It is our hope that the CEH Day platform will be used by all to let decision-makers know that children's environmental health is important to them and to the future of this country."

Individuals and organizations can display their support of the environment and children's health through a variety of simple actions, facilitated by tools on the website. Examples of events or activities to promote CEH Day include requesting a CEH Day city or state proclamation, hosting an educational workshop, releasing a new report or initiative, meeting with an elected official about the importance of children's environmental health issues, and organizing a stream clean-up among many other ideas. The [CEH Day Events & Activities Map](#) is an interactive tool that allows people to see and submit events and activities taking place throughout the country.

Examples of actions/events happening today for CEH Day:

The Children's Environmental Health Network is hosting its [14th Annual Child Health Advocate Awards](#) event to honor leaders in Science, Practice, Community Advocacy, Business, and Youth Leadership with respect to children's environmental health issues. This event is in Washington, DC from 2:00 – 5:00 pm ET, and is [open to the public](#).

The University of California San Francisco's Benioff Children's Hospital Oakland is providing a primer lecture on pediatric environmental health for pediatricians in training.

The Kentucky Department for Public Health in collaboration with the Kentucky Population Health Institute, is hosting the Fourth Annual Children's Environmental Health Summit on CEH Day. Topics being covered include adverse childhood events, violence and children, water,

JUUL and other POD systems, lead, child safety, immunizations, rural health, built environment, and community engagement.

The Western New York Children's Environmental Health Center is providing children's environmental health education and outreach for families in pediatric clinic, and on October 12 the center is providing community outreach at the Buffalo Baby & Toddler.

Join the Conversation and Promotions—Make Your Voice Heard

CEHN is hosting a [Twitter Chat](#) on October 10th, 2019 at 12:00 pm ET that will focus on children's environmental health in early care and education (ECE) settings, focusing on challenges and progress made to improve the health and safety of these important spaces. It will also highlight resources, initiatives, and opportunities to advance the protection of children from environmental hazards in ECE. Most importantly, the chat aims to hear and learn directly from child care and teaching professionals about their challenges and needs. Millions of the youngest and most vulnerable children attend child care programs and it is time for the conversation around quality child care to consider persistent health and developmental threats in these facilities, such as lead-based paint, asbestos, and mold.

All are invited to join the conversation on Twitter (please use the #CEHchat hashtag), and all are encouraged to promote CEH Day using the ready-made social media messages found in the [promotional toolkit](#). CEH-related campaigns or organizations in cities/states that successfully obtained a CEH Day proclamation for Oct 10, 2019 can put them to good use via a [proclamations advocacy toolkit](#). This toolkit provides ideas and sample messaging to help hold elected officials accountable to prioritize children's environmental health every day of the year, not just on CEH Day. Collectively, the proclamations and other actions taken at state, city and community levels, are a means to inspire progress towards placing children at the center of all policy and decision-making.

View a brief Video of CEH Day Partner Organizations

- Why Children's Environmental Health? <https://youtu.be/Yt1rQusBblU>

CEH Day Partners:

- 350.org
- Alliance of Nurses for a Healthy Environment
- American Federation of Teachers
- American Lung Association
- American Public Health Association
- Association of Maternal and Child Health Programs
- Association of State and Territorial Health Officials
- Asthma and Allergy Foundation of America
- Black Millennials for Flint
- Child Care Aware of America

- Center for Environmental Research and Children's Health, U.C. Berkeley
- Clean and Healthy New York
- DC Asthma Coalition
- ecoAmerica Climate for Health program
- Environmental Defense Fund
- Evangelical Environmental Network
- Getting Ready For Baby Campaign
- Green and Healthy Homes Initiative
- Green Latinos
- Health Care Without Harm
- Healthy Babies Bright Futures
- Healthy Schools Network
- International Society for Children's Health and the Environment
- Moms Clean Air Force
- National Association of County and City Health Officials
- National Association for Family Child Care
- National Association of School Nurses
- National Center for Healthy Housing
- National Children's Campaign
- National Drinking Water Alliance
- National Environmental Health Association
- Pesticide Action Network
- [Re] Build America's School Infrastructure Coalition
- Southern Adirondack Child Care Network
- Trust for America's Health
- WE ACT for Environmental Justice
- Zero Hour
- Zero to Three



About the Children's Environmental Health Network

CEHN is a national multi-disciplinary organization whose mission is to protect the developing child from environmental health hazards and promote a healthier environment. As the nation's leading organization dedicated to children's environmental health, CEHN: stimulates preventive research; promotes sound policy; provides education and training to various audiences; and elevates public awareness of environmental hazards to children. For more information, visit www.cehn.org.