

December 2017



🌿 CNHHE News 🌿

We wish the very best of the season to you and yours. May you enjoy a happy and healthy 2018 as well!

If you are reading this, you care about environmental health. No doubt, you have also been working hard to improve it, often at your own expense.

Here at the New Brunswick Lung Association, we are so very grateful for all you do. We are constantly impressed and inspired!

Although we all have good reason to get frustrated at times, I hope that we all can learn from what a wise person once said: "It is better to light a candle than to curse the darkness," (Source unclear) and carry on.

Webinar with the CMP: National Human Biomonitoring Programs

- In collaboration with Health Canada, the CNHHE hosted a teleconference/webinar on October 26, to present an overview of National Human Biomonitoring Programs carried out under the Chemicals Management Plan (CMP). The presentation included:
 - [Canadian Health Measures Survey: 10 years of biomonitoring](#)
 - [Biomonitoring in Northern Canada: Northern Contaminants Program](#)
 - [Maternal-Infant Research on Environmental Chemicals \(MIREC\) Research Platform](#)

CMP Stakeholder Advisory Council meeting and Multi-Stakeholder Workshop

- A CMP Stakeholder Advisory Council meeting and Multi-Stakeholder Workshop, hosted by Environment and Climate Change Canada and Health Canada, was held in Ottawa from November 15 and 16. CNHHE-RCSHE delegates Carol Chubb, PhD., Jennifer Beeman, Action Cancer Du Sein Du Quebec/Breast Cancer Action Quebec and Meg Sears, PhD., Prevent Cancer Now and The Ottawa Hospital Research Institute, attended and presented the following at the CNHHE Update Webinar:

- [CMP Performance Measurement: Bottom Line: Human Health](#), by Meg Sears, PhD.
- [Report by Jennifer Beeman, Action Cancer Du Sein Du Quebec/Breast Cancer Action Quebec.](#)
- [Recommendations for Chemicals Management Plan After 2020 – A Talk For CNHHE Webinar Prepared By Carroll Chubb, PhD.](#)

[Chemicals Management Plan \(CMP\) News:](#)

Alkyl Aryl Phosphites Group

- The [Draft Screening Assessment for the Alkyl Aryl Phosphites Group](#) was published for a 60-day public comment period ending on December 27, 2017.

BAPP, Mitotane and Sclareol (BATCH 12)

- The Final Screening Assessments were published for:
 - [BAPP](#)
 - [Mitotane](#)
 - [Sclareol](#)
- [The proposed Risk Management Approach Document for Mitotane](#) and
- [A notice of intent to amend the Domestic Substances List to apply the Significant New Activity provisions to BAPP](#) were also published for a 60-day public comment period ending on December 27, 2017.

Heterocycles Group

- [The Draft Screening Assessment for the Heterocycles Group](#) was published for a 60-day public comment period ending on January 10, 2018.

Mitotane

- [A proposed order adding mitotane to Schedule 1 of the Canadian Environmental Protection Act, 1999](#) was published for a 60-day public comment period ending on January 10, 2018.

Poly(bios) Group

- [The Draft Screening Assessment for the Poly \(bios\) Group](#) was published for a 60-day public comment period ending on January 17, 2018.

Trimellitates Group

- The [Draft Screening Assessment for the Trimellitates Group](#) was published for a 60-day public comment period ending on January 31, 2017.

Aliphatic Diesters Group

- The [Draft Screening Assessment for the Aliphatic Diesters Group](#) was published for a 60-day public comment period ending on January 31, 2017.

Carboxylic Acid Anhydrides Group

- The [Draft Screening Assessment for the Carboxylic Acid Anhydrides Group](#) was published for a 60-day public comment period ending on February 7, 2018.

BNST

- [A proposed order removing BNST from Schedule 1 of the Canadian Environmental Protection Act, 1999](#) was published for a 60-day public comment period ending on February 7, 2018.

Triclosan

- [A Consultation Document on a Proposed Pollution Prevention Planning Notice for Triclosan](#) was published for a 60-day public comment period ending on February 11, 2018.
- [The Federal Environmental Quality Guidelines for Triclosan](#) were published.

Selenium

- [The Final Screening Assessment for Selenium and its Compounds](#) was published. The proposed risk management approach was also published for a 60-day public comment period ending on February 14, 2018.

Substances with Low Human Health Hazard Potential

- [The Science Approach Document for Substances with Low Human Health Hazard Potential](#) was published for a 60-day public comment period ending on February 14, 2018.

Acetic Anhydride

- The [Final Screening Assessment \(FSAR\) for Acetic Anhydride](#) was published.

DEGME

- A [Notice of Intent to Amend the Domestic Substances List to vary the Significant New Activity requirements for DEGME](#) was published.

Formic Acid and Formates Substance Group

- [The Final Screening Assessment for the Formic Acid and Formates Substance Group](#) was published. Canada Gazette Notice:

<http://www.gazette.gc.ca/rp-pr/p1/2017/2017-12-16/html/notice-avis-eng.html#ne1>

2-MBS

- The [Final Screening Assessment for 2-MBS](#) was published.

Short-chain Alkanes

- The [Final Screening Assessment for Short-chain Alkanes](#) was published.

Substituted Diphenylamine Substance Grouping

- [The Final Screening Assessment for the Substituted Diphenylamine Substance Grouping](#) was published.

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Other Information and Opportunities:

[Halifax environmentalist's life's work recognized with Eco-Hero award | The Chronicle Herald](#)

- Read about environmentalist Sheila Cole receiving Nova Scotia Environmental Network's Eco-Hero Lifetime Achievement Award. Congratulations, Sheila!

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[EECOM: The Canadian Network for Environmental Education and Communication](#)

- [Clean Foundation's EnviroEd program](#) brings a team of environmental superheroes, puppets and scientists to inspire kids and teens of all ages to become advocates for a sustainable future - a future that will be in their hands. Younger children engage with interactive, puppet-centered theatre presentations, where humour, rhymes, and songs give them the tools and confidence to make a difference in their world. Clean Water and Clean Energy Schools give teachers and older children hands-on opportunities to explore innovative technologies and the impact their choices can make on the climate change challenge.

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[Environmental Defence](#)

- [Coalition for Action on Toxics](#) brings together leading experts, researchers, and representatives from health and environmental organizations with a shared belief that all Canadians deserve an equal chance to live a healthy life

in a healthy environment. The [Canadian Environmental Protection Act \(CEPA\)](#) is the law that governs the assessment of risks posed by chemical substances and enables the government to manage these risks through bans, restrictions and regulations. However, the current law is not sufficiently equipped to deal with the nature of chemicals and their risks today, leaving Canadians' health and our shared environment inadequately protected.

- High Priority Recommendations to Improve CEPA -
 - A broad coalition of organizations and individuals strongly support the recommendations made in the majority report of the House of Commons Standing Committee on Environment and Sustainable Development to improve CEPA principles and ensure greater protection to human health and our environment from toxic exposures.
 - Among other important recommendations, they endorse the following priorities:
 1. Reverse burden of proof for substances of very high concern.
 2. Incorporate alternatives assessment and substitution of toxic chemicals.
 3. Increase protections for vulnerable populations and communities.
 4. Require chemical risk assessments to include aggregate, cumulative and synergistic effects.
 5. Create national air quality standards that are legally binding and enforceable.
 6. Improve timelines and requirements for risk management actions on toxic chemicals.
 7. **Improve enforcement by bolstering CEPA's toolbox and increasing resources.**
 8. **Extend workers' right-to-know** about toxic substances to all citizens by requiring mandatory labelling of all consumer products containing toxic substances or chemicals suspected of causing adverse health effects including cancer, birth defects, reproductive harm and allergic reactions.
 9. Fix the chemical re-assessment process.
 10. Improve review and approval process for new substances.
 11. Recognize the right to a healthy environment.

- [YRE Canada](#) is a national environmental education program that gives youth the opportunity to be part of the solution by producing creative and engaging environmental journalism.

- Participants (ages 11-14 and 15-18) investigate and report on environmental issues, and propose solutions, by using video, photography or writing.
- YRE Canada is part of [Young Reporters for the Environment](#) – an international program by the Foundation for Environmental Education (FEE).
- Are you 11-18 years old? Do you have a passion for the environment and enjoy writing articles, taking photos, or making videos? Then this is for you! Every year, [YRE Canada's national competition](#) looks for the best environmental journalism by youth in Canada.
- **This year's theme:** Your Solution to Plastic Pollution
- Show us the best in youth-led environmental journalism for a chance to be published by Alternatives Journal Magazine.
- Deadline to enter: March 30, 2018



[Eco-Gift Guide](#)

- Give gifts that will really help reduce your friends and family's carbon footprint this holiday season.
 - Reusable water bottles, eco-shopping bags, and ethically sourced knick-knacks are all good environmentally friendly holiday gift options, but what if you're looking for a present that does more? What do you get for the people in your life who really want to take extra steps to reduce their carbon footprint, but aren't sure how? Look no further.
 - Every item on this alternative eco-gift guide is designed to have a REAL impact to reduce carbon pollution, through things like transportation options, home energy efficiency, and renewable power. These gifts won't cost the earth, but they can help protect it from climate change!
1. An Annual Bike Share Membership
 2. Book an Electric Vehicle test drive
 3. A Smart Thermostat
 4. Plan a home energy audit
 5. Portable solar panels or solar chargers for phones or other devices
 6. Carbon offsetting
 7. Shares in a renewable energy cooperative or solar community

Let us know if you think of any more bright ideas! If you're interested in more ways to reduce your carbon footprint sign up to hear more at www.yournextchoice.ca.

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[Equiterre](#)

- [Legislation Against Obsolescence](#)

Imagine a law that ensures products last for years and don't wear out too soon. A world where products can be easily repaired. A society free of obsolescence—or almost. Like to join us in drafting provisions for this law? READY? LET'S GO!

If we want to curb obsolescence, the law should focus not just on manufacturers and retailers, but consumers, too, as they all have an influence on a product's durability, at different stages of its lifecycle. The law could therefore consider the manufacturing, marketing, use and end-of-life phases of products.

Time for some blue-sky thinking!

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[Canadian Partnership for Children's Health & Environment](#)

- [Bust that Dust](#)

- House dust is one of the main sources of children's exposure to toxic substances, most of which come from normal wear-and-tear on consumer products.



- Clean with a good quality vacuum, or simply a damp cloth or wet mop. (Dry dusting just circulates the dust back into the air.) Vacuum or wet-mop once a week; twice a week if you have a crawling child.
- Take your shoes off at the door to minimize the amount of dirt brought inside. Use washable entrance mats, and launder them separately from clothing.
- Reduce the amount of dust in the home by minimizing clutter and by storing toys in closed containers.

Want to learn more? Check out these CPCHE resources and FAQs:

- [Bust that Dust. Reducing dust in your home... for your children's health.](#) Attractive rack card with simple tips for families.

- [What's on the Menu Today?](#) CPCHE flyer on toxic chemicals in dust
- [Child Health and the Environment – A Primer](#) (see section on Indoor Air and Dust, page 65, and more dustbusting tips on page 101)
- [Safe Renovations: Introduction](#) – part of the CPCHE [safe renovations](#) fact sheet series
- Playing it Safe: [Carpets](#)

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[David Suzuki Foundation](#)

- [‘The Dirty Dozen’ cosmetic chemicals to avoid](#)

Some of the ingredients in beauty products aren't that pretty. U.S. researchers report that one in eight of the 82,000 ingredients used in personal care products are industrial chemicals, including carcinogens, pesticides, reproductive toxins, and hormone disruptors. Many products include plasticizers (chemicals that keep concrete soft), degreasers (used to get grime off auto parts), and surfactants (they reduce surface tension in water, like in paint and inks). Imagine what that does to your skin, and to the environment.

We surveyed Canadians to see how many of the “Dirty Dozen” ingredients below appeared in their cosmetics, and [our findings](#) show that 80 per cent of entered products contained at least one of these toxic chemicals.

For more detailed information on the “Dirty Dozen”, please see below or check out our “Dirty Dozen” backgrounder:

[DOWNLOAD THE “DIRTY DOZEN” BACKGROUNDER](#)

You can avoid harmful chemicals when you [use our sustainable shopper's guide](#), and audit your bathroom cupboard using this list of harmful ingredients:

1. [BHA and BHT](#)
2. [Coal tar dyes](#): p-phenylenediamine and colours listed as “CI” followed by a five digit number
3. [DEA-related ingredients](#)
4. [Dibutyl phthalate](#)
5. [Formaldehyde-releasing preservatives](#)
6. [Parabens](#)
7. [Parfum](#) (a.k.a. fragrance)

8. [PEG compounds](#)
9. [Petrolatum](#)
10. [Siloxanes](#)
11. [Sodium laureth sulfate](#)
12. [Triclosan](#)

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[Prevent Cancer Now](#), [Chemical Sensitivities Manitoba](#) and [Canadian Environmental Law Association](#)

- Read the joint submission to the [Standing Committee on Health: Antimicrobial Resistance Prevention with removal of antimicrobial chemicals from consumer goods](#), November 24, 2017.

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[ECO Canada](#)

- [Internship Program](#)
- As the leading provider of employment programs that contribute to the development of the environmental workforce for the past 20 years, we are the source for employers and candidates to receive internship funding support. Our program gives eligible employers who work in science, technology, engineering, mathematics (STEM) or natural resources up to 50% of an **intern's salary (up to \$15,000) for new full-time** environmental jobs. Employers may also use this program to fund multiple new positions!

The Canadian Network for Human Health and the Environment (CNHHE) is concerned with broad human health-related environmental issues relating to air, water, soil, food, climate- change and consumer products.

Membership is open to non-governmental, research, and healthcare professionals, government policy-makers and individuals who are interested in the connections between human health and environmental exposures.

A primary focus of the network is to educate about and engage members in the [Chemicals Management Program \(CMP\)](#) of [Health Canada](#) and [Environment and Climate Change Canada](#)

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