



CNHHE News



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

Mercury

- [A Consultation Document on the Proposed Amendments of the Products Containing Mercury Regulations](#) was published for a public comment period ending on April 2, 2018.

Thiocarbamates Group

- [The Draft Screening Assessment for the Thiocarbamates Group](#) was published for a 60-day public comment period ending on April 4, 2018.

Thioperoxydicarbonic Diamide ([$(H_2n) C(S)] 2s_2$), Tetramethyl- [Tmtd]

- The [Risk Management Scope for TMTD](#) was published for a 60-day public comment period ending on April 4, 2018.

Cyanides

- [The Draft Screening Assessment](#) and [Risk Management Scope for Cyanides](#) were published for a 60-day public comment period ending on April 11, 2018.

Selenium and its Compounds

- [A proposed order adding selenium and its compounds to Schedule 1 of the Canadian Environmental Protection Act, 1999](#) was published for a 60-day public comment period ending on April 18, 2018.

Priority B Micro-organisms

- [The Final Screening Assessments](#) for *Trichoderma reesei* strain ATCC 74252, *Bacillus circulans* strain ATCC 9500, *Bacillus megaterium* strain ATCC 14581, *Chaetomium globosum* strain ATCC 6205 and *Micrococcus luteus* strain ATCC 4698 (Priority B micro-organisms) were published. A notice of intent to amend the Domestic Substances List to apply the Significant New Activity provisions of the Canadian Environmental Protection Act, 1999 to

Trichoderma reesei strain ATCC 74252 was also published for a 60-day public comment period ending on April 25, 2018.

Fatty Amides group

- [The Draft Screening Assessment for the Fatty Amides Group](#) was published for a 60-day public comment period ending on April 25, 2018.

Isophorone Diisocyanate (IPDI)

- [The Draft Screening Assessment for Isophorone Diisocyanate \(IPDI\)](#) was published for a 60-day public comment period ending on May 2, 2018.

Seven Hydrocarbon-based Substances

- [The Draft Screening Assessment for Seven Hydrocarbon-based Substances](#) was published for a 60-day public comment period ending on May 9, 2018.

Epoxy Resins Group

- [The Draft Screening Assessment for the Epoxy Resins Group](#) was published for a 60-day public comment period ending on May 23, 2018.

Toluene diisocyanates (TDI)

- [A Proposed Pollution Prevention Planning Notice in respect of TDIs](#) was published for a 60-day public comment period ending on May 23, 2018.

Enterobacter Aerogenes Strain ATCC 13048

- [The Final Screening Assessment for Enterobacter Aerogenes Strain ATCC 13048](#) (Priority A micro-organism) was published.

Bacillus Thuringiensis Strain ATCC 13367

- [The Final Screening Assessment for Bacillus Thuringiensis Strain ATCC 13367](#) (Priority B micro-organism) was published.

4-Vinylcyclohexene (4-VCH)

- [The Final Screening Assessment for 4-Vinylcyclohexene \(4-VCH\)](#) was published.

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Other Opportunities and Information:

[World Health Organization](#)

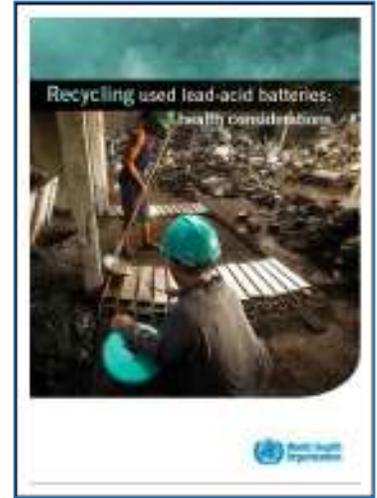
[Recycling used lead-acid batteries: health considerations](#)

The manufacture of lead-acid batteries accounts for about 85% of the global demand for refined lead metal. Much of this demand is met by recycled lead and a key source is, in fact, the recycling of lead-acid batteries. Lead recycling is an important cause of environmental contamination and human exposure. This is a concern because of the significant and long-lasting impacts of lead exposure on human health.

While much of the responsibility for ensuring the sound management of used lead-acid batteries lies with the environment sector, the health sector also has a part. Measures include ensuring that health-care practitioners have training on, and resources for, the diagnosis and management of lead poisoning, educating local communities on the health hazards of lead, and taking action to inform the responsible authorities when lead poisoning associated with recycling is discovered. Furthermore, health ministries should aim to ensure the availability of blood lead testing capacity and work with industry to reduce employee exposures.

This document is a summary of a more detailed WHO publication called *Recycling used lead-acid batteries: health considerations*, which is available at:

http://www.who.int/ipcs/assessment/public_health/lead/en/



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[Équiterre](#)

[Play the eco-friendly way](#)

The school break is coming up and many kids will be spending a lot of time playing. So we'd like to tell you about a few environmental and health issues linked to all those playthings our little—and big—ones love so much. Équiterre also wants to give you some great inexpensive and eco-friendly ideas for having fun.

SOME TOYS ARE MORE HARMFUL THAN THEY LOOK

First, a huge amount of petrochemical-based materials, such as plastics and chemical additives, are used to manufacture kid's toys and games. And they're often over packaged to make them stand out on store shelves. Not to mention all the materials required to make electronic toys!

Toys also have a lifetime that is way too short. Being flimsy, they soon wind up in the trash. And when they're not cool anymore, they're often left to gather dust. Manufacturers focus on trends, such as film and television characters to increase their appeal. Plus, children's interests change as they grow up!

Some toys are potentially dangerous to children's health. In 2009, the magazine [60 million consommateurs](#) in Europe revealed that toxic and carcinogenic substances were found in 30 out of 66 toys tested. To raise awareness among parents about the dangers, Women in Europe for a Common Future (WECF) created [a list of the principal hazardous chemicals](#) found in toys and their possible health effects on children.

Think we're killjoys? Don't worry, there are plenty of ways to have fun that are healthful and eco-friendly!

1. MAKE YOUR OWN TOYS AND GAMES

What about DIY board games? It's easy to make cards and counters with your children. It'll stimulate their creativity, too. You can also reinvent the classics, like [Snakes and Ladders](#) or the indispensable [Monopoly](#).

Many games in stores can be played with very few—or no—materials: [Werewolves of Miller's Hollow](#), for instance, or the guessing game, [La boulette](#) [A variant of Times Up]. The possibilities are endless. Check out Wisebread's [8 amazing board games, 10 more ideas](#) from Marie Claire (in French with some links to websites in English) and Pomme D'Api's list of [15 original activities](#) your kids can do at home

Other ideas:

- Make a [Mancala](#) with egg cartons and marbles
- Make [salt dough](#)
- Organize organic cooking sessions

2. BORROW GAMES

You can borrow a wide variety of board games and video games from most municipal libraries. And it's free! They also host [related activities](#). Some libraries offer an [interlibrary loan service](#), so you can order a game if your local library doesn't have it.



Did you know that [toy libraries](#) in Quebec lend toys and games? Yearly memberships range from \$5 to \$30. It's a good way to teach children to look after things and how to buy less. The best thing is they can play a wide variety of games for even more fun!

Some stores, like [Randolph](#) and [Ludold](#) in Anjou, rent out games. You can try one out for a weekend (\$5 or more) or a whole week (\$10 or more). Why not rent a game for you and your friends, as well as for the kids? A simple Google search and you're all set. Another option is board game cafés. [Here are some you'll find throughout Quebec](#).

3. BUY USED GAMES

Thrift stores are full of used toys in good condition at very low prices. When you drop in and buy something, you can give away the toys and games your children no longer play with. Or give them to a charity that will pass them on to children in need, like [Big Brothers Big Sisters](#) and the [Montreal Children's Hospital Foundation](#). [Some toy libraries](#) also organize flea markets.

If your toys are not in mint condition, [Réno-Jouets](#) in Quebec City repairs, cleans and resells toys at low prices.

4. OPT FOR ECO-FRIENDLY OR LOCALLY MADE TOYS

It's impossible to buy a 100% green toy. Just making them requires a significant amount of energy and, most of the time, non-renewable materials. A toy is considered green when its energy use is below the average. So before you buy, be sure to think about a toy's lifetime and how much use it's going to get. Do you really need it? Is it strong or will it reach its end of life soon? Is it part of the latest fad? Is it recyclable or biodegradable?

More tips to help guide your buying decisions:

- Ask the manufacturer about all stages of the toy's life cycle, from design to end of life.
- Opt for toys made from renewable materials, such as:
 - Raw untreated and unfinished wood from renewable forests;
 - Natural, organic fabrics and fibres (cotton, hemp, linen);
 - Natural rubber;
 - Natural dyes and paints.
- Choose materials recovered from recycling
- Look for independent, eco-friendly brands
- To go a step further, browse buyers' guides such as [Consoglobe](#), [WECE](#) and [Ecoconso](#)

Local toy manufacturers

There are many toy manufacturers in Quebec and Canada, and some support eco-friendly practices. We recommend the [Signélocal.com](#) online directory to quickly find what you're looking for.

[7 gorgeous cuddly toys for babies made in Quebec](#)

[Des enfantillages - Handmade toys and workshops for kids](#)

[Zenit Longboards](#)

[Quistitine - Handmade toys](#)

[Jules mon poisson bulle - Educational and Sustainable Artifacts](#)

[Cowboy Sam - Green toys for babies and children](#)

5. PLAY OUTSIDE!

Nothing beats playing outside with your kids to relax and have fun. It's a great way to burn off energy and teach your kids to lead a healthy lifestyle. According to a [study by Kino-Québec](#), physical activity has a significant impact on youth mental health, in particular on self-esteem, stress and anxiety. In Quebec, [15% of preschool children suffer from anxiety or depression](#).



EXTRA INFO: IT'S SUMMER CAMP REGISTRATION TIME. HOW ABOUT A CAMP WITH A FOCUS ON THE ENVIRONMENT?

In March, you have to start thinking about registering for summer camps. Why not treat your kids to some time on a farm or in the woods? They'll get to connect with nature and learn about farming and the environment.

Have you heard about [Farm to School Quebec](#)? It's a non-profit organization set up by a former [Laure Waridel bursary winner](#). [Watch the video and have a look at the photos](#) to see what it's all about. Children discover the wonders of the natural world and how food makes it way to our plates. [Fous de nature \[Nature fans\]](#) also offers various kids day camps across Quebec.

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[The Environmental Health Association of Quebec](#)

[Environmental Sensitivities Awareness Day - Online Bilingual Conference, May 12 2018.](#)

For over 30 years patients have been seeking help from primary care physicians for new and emerging medical conditions. In the early years, sceptics challenged the physiological validity of the symptoms but over time, a large body of scientific evidence has grown that supports that these conditions are biological. Education and awareness of the research has not been sufficiently



disseminated to medical professionals and politicians. For Environmental Sensitivities Awareness Day, we have gathered a group of experts to help make us more aware of the medical, social and legal issues of Environmental Sensitivities.



[Environmental Sensitivities](#)

May is Environmental Sensitivities (ES) month.

The term Environmental Sensitivities includes Multiple Chemical Sensitivity (MCS) and Electro Hypersensitivity (EHS)

What can you do to help people who suffer from this medical condition?

Become a Scent-Free Healthy Household!

Take a keen look at your personal and cleaning products.

- www.lesstoxicguide.ca
- www.ewg.org/skindeep

Be Aware of Electromagnetic Radiation Electromagnetic hypersensitivity, also known as electro-sensitivity or electro-hypersensitivity, is a disorder in which a person presents symptoms caused or aggravated by magnetic fields or waves. For solutions visit: www.em3e.com

If you know people who have this medical condition, please accommodate their needs - you are also helping yourself and your family!

If you suffer from this medical condition, know that we at ASEQ-EHAQ are working hard to create awareness and education, and to obtain recognition and appropriate health and social services for sufferers in Quebec.

[Read more here!](#)



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[CoPEH - Canada](#)

[Course on Ecosystem Approaches to Health](#)

Registration for the May 2018 CoPEH-Canada course and webinar series on ecosystem approaches to health is now open to all graduate students and professionals in Canada and elsewhere interested in the topic.

This part online, part face-to-face graduate level course on ecosystem

approaches to health is being offered at three sites in May 2018: Montréal (UQAM), Southern Ontario (University of Guelph), and Prince George (University of Northern British Columbia). Eight 90-minute sessions will be conducted as simultaneous webinars across the three sites and the rest of the time will be locally run sessions, including field trips. We offer a rigorous, hands-on pedagogical approach, illustrated through a case study.

This course is available to graduate students from all disciplines and also to professionals interested in these themes. It is possible to register for the full course for credit at one of the participating universities or to follow the webinars only, on-line (a certificate of completion is provided).

The 90-min webinars (8) will run from 1 to 2:30 (EST)/10 to 11:30 (PST) on Tuesdays and Thursdays from May 1st to May 24th. The course will run on these same days and include the webinars, plus field visits, lectures and activities. The webinar topics TENTATIVELY* include the following:



Orientation to Hybrid Course/Webinar Series: Introduction, History of Principles of Ecohealth, & Negotiating Health Activity (2hrs)
Transdisciplinarity & Knowledges
Resilience & Sustainability
Sex, Gender, & Equity
Resource Extraction
Complexity & Systems Thinking
Gender & Knowledge Translation
Universities in their Watersheds, Social Networks Activity & Closing (2hrs)

*This list is provided here to give an idea of the type of content covered in the 8 webinars and may change.

For those interested in taking the 2018 course or following the webinar series and to register, please contact us at copeh-can@uqam.ca.

For more information visit our [course webpage](#).

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[National Collaborating Centre for Aboriginal Health](#)

[Challenges in health equity for Indigenous peoples in Canada](#)

In their commentary on two papers in the [Lancet's Series on Canada](#), authors Greenwood, de Leeuw and Lindsay draw attention to the persistent health inequities experienced by First Nations, Inuit and Métis peoples, despite Canada's commitment to addressing health equity both domestically, through its universal healthcare system, and internationally. These inequities are rooted not only in historical and contemporary colonialism, colonial policies and legislation, but are also perpetuated by unique barriers to accessing healthcare.

[Read the web story](#) | [LINK \(open access\)](#)



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](#)

CONTACT US:

Phone: (506)-455-8961 ext. 105

Email: cnhhe-rcshe@nb.lung.ca

FOLLOW US:

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