

# Environmental Health



"Many communities lack access to nutritious, affordable food; are denied safe places to walk and exercise, or live near polluting factories. The health risks for these families are greater. We support research and action to help ensure healthy environments for all."  
--APHA Executive Director Georges Benjamin

Environmental health is a branch of public health that focuses on the links between people and their environment, promotes human health and well-being, and develops healthy and safe communities. Environmental health is a vital part of any effective public health system. The field strives to improve policies and programs to minimize chemical and other environmental exposures in air, water, soil, and food to safeguard people and provide healthier environments for communities.

## Focus Areas:

- Children's Environmental Health
- Climate Change
- Environmental Public Health Tracking
- Empowering Environmental Health Professionals
- Healthy Community Design

- Lead Contamination
- Preventing Chemical Exposure
- Understanding Environmental Health
- Partners

We collaborate with organizations and colleagues, including the American Public Health Association's Environment Section, to ensure that all regions have access to healthy environments. We also stress the significance of environmental justice and equity.

Emergencies such as the Zika virus outbreak, Hurricane Katrina, and the Flint, Michigan drinking water crisis illustrate the effects environmental health problems may have on vulnerable people. Pregnant women and their fetuses are the most vulnerable to Zika. Flint's lead-contaminated drinking water was more widespread in low-income communities. Furthermore, many low-income households have been unable to rebuild for several years that followed Hurricane Katrina.

APHA draws national attention to environmental health concerns and promotes better policy that protects the public's health, well-being, and quality of life in all of the nation's communities. To promote our environmental health efforts, we create specific educational messages that emphasize the link between population health and healthy individuals.

### **Reference Link of the Article:**

<https://www.apha.org/topics-and-issues/environmental-health>

### **Image Link:**

[https://www.google.co.in/url?sa=i&url=https%3A%2F%2Fwww.aap.org%2Fen%2Fpatient-care%2Fenvironmental-health%2F&psig=AOvVaw3TSZ9o0opUOsqOA8doEDNk&ust=1667474642036000&source=images&cd=vfe&ved=0CA0QjRxqFwoTCJDHnKCxj\\_sCFQAAAAAdAAAAABAS](https://www.google.co.in/url?sa=i&url=https%3A%2F%2Fwww.aap.org%2Fen%2Fpatient-care%2Fenvironmental-health%2F&psig=AOvVaw3TSZ9o0opUOsqOA8doEDNk&ust=1667474642036000&source=images&cd=vfe&ved=0CA0QjRxqFwoTCJDHnKCxj_sCFQAAAAAdAAAAABAS)