

Local Universities are preparing for the Health Effects of Climate Change

Michigan State University, Michigan

Background

Michigan State University (MSU) is a major institution with many colleges, academic departments, and service organizations. MSU has a statewide, national, and global reach. The home population and primary audience served is the state of Michigan with its 83 counties and 10 million people. Approximately 75% of the population is urban, with most living in the metro Detroit region.

MICHIGAN STATE UNIVERSITY EXTENSION

Much of academic research in the area of climate change at MSU is related to impacts on human health and is carried out in several academic departments. Climate change communication to Michigan is carried out primarily through MSU Extension, which has educators in each of the 83 counties. Major climate change topics of concern include fluctuations in levels of the Great Lakes,

including health impacts of flooding sewage systems along the coasts; impacts on agriculture; and preparedness in the rural areas, especially the rural Upper Peninsula.

Goal

MSU's goal is to protect the health of Michigan residents through climate change research, education and public service.





Objectives

- Participate in a diverse climate change and health initiative coordinated by the Michigan Department of Health and Human Services, which is primarily focused on public education and preparedness
- Participate in statewide climate change initiative communicating research findings related to adaptation, mitigation, and preparedness directly to the state's 45 local health departments and through MSU Extension
- Work with local health departments through MSU Extension educators, and others, to disseminate information to local communities
- Monitor public beliefs, attitudes, and concerns regarding climate change, which vary considerably throughout the state through MSU Outreach and Engagement

MICHIGAN STATE UNIVERSITY | Climate Change at MSU

FOR MORE INFORMATION, PLEASE CONTACT:

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The mission of the National Association of County and City Health Officials (NACCHO) is to be a leader, partner, catalyst, and voice with local health departments.

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