

## Environmental Health Programs



### Introduction

Environmental health focuses on the health interrelationships between people and their environment, promoting human health and well-being while fostering a safe and healthful environment. The National Association of County and City Health Officials' (NACCHO) environmental health portfolio addresses the most pressing environmental health issues facing the world today.

### Environmental Health and COVID-19

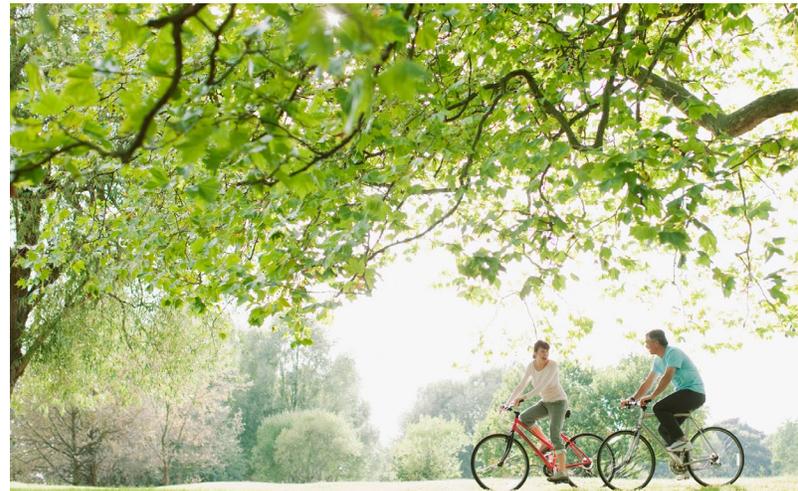
[www.naccho.org/eh/health/covid](http://www.naccho.org/eh/health/covid)

#### SUMMARY

NACCHO is supporting officials within county and city health departments to address the environmental health impacts of the novel coronavirus disease (COVID-19).

#### HIGHLIGHTS

- NACCHO is identifying the current gaps in COVID-19 environmental health resources to curate a dedicated blog series.
- NACCHO is engaging with the Environmental Health Directors and Managers Collaborative to vet resources, identify gaps, disseminate best practices, and evaluate resources.
- NACCHO is assisting local health departments (LHDs) on schools and early childcare education (ECE) settings regarding COVID-19 guidance and best practices for operation, including participating in an ECE Collaborative with the Association of State and Territorial Health Officials (ASTHO), the Children's Environmental Health Network, the National Center for Healthy Housing, and the National Environmental Health Association.
- NACCHO supports the Agency for Toxic Substances and Disease Registry's (ATSDR's) "Choose Safe Places" efforts to facilitate the promotion of resources and tools for ATSDR grantees and other health departments.



#### RESOURCES

- [Environmental Health and COVID-19 Resource Roundup: Blog Series](#)
- [COVID-19 Virtual Community for Local Health Departments](#)

### Climate Change

[www.naccho.org/climate-change](http://www.naccho.org/climate-change)

#### SUMMARY

NACCHO's climate change program helps LHDs prepare for and respond to the health effects of climate change by developing strategies to improve climate change preparedness at the local level. NACCHO also provides expert opinion, analysis, and recommendations related to climate change.

#### HIGHLIGHTS

- NACCHO leads the Global Climate Change Workgroup, comprised of LHD officials and staff and related professionals.
- NACCHO is funding three LHDs to supplement their ongoing climate change and health adaptation initiatives in 2021.

- NACCHO partnered with ecoAmerica to host a [Climate for Health Ambassadors Training](#).

#### RESOURCES

- [Essential Actions for Climate Resilience in Local Health Departments](#)
- [How to Frame the Health Impacts of Climate Change](#)
- [Climate Change Success Stories](#)

## Environmental Public Health Tracking

[www.naccho.org/tracking](http://www.naccho.org/tracking)

#### SUMMARY

NACCHO's environmental public health tracking program provides strategies to strengthen collaboration and communication between state grantees and locals working to understand the links between key environmental health indicators (e.g., air quality, carbon monoxide, lead, water quality) and disease development.

#### HIGHLIGHTS

- NACCHO increases LHD participation in the National Environmental Public Health Tracking Network and seeks to improve relationships and communication with state and national efforts.

#### RESOURCES

- [Environmental Public Health Tracking Toolkit](#)
- [Webinar Series: Contribution of Environmental Public Health Tracking Network Data](#)

## Food Safety

[www.naccho.org/food-safety](http://www.naccho.org/food-safety)

#### SUMMARY

NACCHO's food safety program supports LHDs by assessing the needs of their food safety programs, supporting them in



foodborne disease outbreak response, and helping them implement continuous quality improvement programs.

#### HIGHLIGHTS

- NACCHO runs a peer mentorship program for jurisdictions enrolled in the U.S. Food and Drug Administration's (FDA's) Voluntary National Retail Food Regulatory Program Standards.
- NACCHO's Food Safety Workgroup provides leadership and guidance to NACCHO, LHDs, and partner organizations regarding food safety efforts, health outcomes, and implications at the local level.
- As co-chair of the Council to Improve Foodborne Outbreak Response (CIFOR), NACCHO facilitated the release of the third edition of the CIFOR Guidelines in 2020.
- NACCHO is part of the Retail Food Safety Association Collaborative that exists to leverage resources and strengths of the member associations to advance retail food initiatives and activities resulting in a reduction of foodborne illness.

#### RESOURCES

- [NACCHO's Foodborne Illness Outbreak Response Community of Practice](#)
- [CIFOR Guidelines \(Third Edition\)](#)
- [Mentorship Program for the FDA Retail Program Standards](#)

## Health in All Policies

[www.naccho.org/health-in-all-policies](http://www.naccho.org/health-in-all-policies)

#### SUMMARY

NACCHO's Health in All Policies (HiAP) program aims to increase awareness among decision makers and other stakeholders about the public health implications of policies and builds the capacity of LHDs to participate in cross-sector work to improve the health of the community.

#### HIGHLIGHTS

- With partners, NACCHO offered a funding opportunity for jurisdictions to implement a HiAP strategy as part of their childhood lead prevention implementation program and activities.
- NACCHO hosted a monthly HiAP webinar series in 2020.
- NACCHO provided monthly technical assistance to four LHDs implementing HiAP.

#### RESOURCES

- [Environmental Health Fact Sheet: Health Department Strategies for Implementing Health in All Policies to Reduce and Prevent Lead Exposure](#)



- [Stories from the Field Case Studies: 2019 Health in All Policies](#)
- [Report: Lessons Learned: HiAP + Pb Collaborative](#)
- [HiAP Promising Strategies, Opportunities for Action, and Key Assets for Implementation Fact Sheets](#)
- [Health in All Policies: Experiences from Local Health Departments](#)

## Healthy Community Design

[www.naccho.org/healthy-community-design](http://www.naccho.org/healthy-community-design)

### SUMMARY

NACCHO's healthy community design program strengthens the capacity of LHDs to participate in decision-making processes and extend their role in issues related to the built environment (e.g., land use planning and community design) to improve community health outcomes.

### HIGHLIGHTS

- In 2019, NACCHO began serving on the External Advisory Committee for the Physical Activity Policy Research and Evaluation Network (PAPREN).
- In 2020, NACCHO began consulting with the National Recreation and Parks Association to provide technical assistance to their 15 Community Nutrition Hub grantees.
- In July 2020, NACCHO and the Trust for Public Land, funded by the National Endowment for the Arts Our Town grant program, completed the [Health, Arts, Parks, and Equity Toolkit \(HAP-E Toolkit\)](#).
- In October 2020, NACCHO and ASTHO released a request for proposals to fund up to 50 communities at \$50,000 each to evaluate their work to advance health equity by addressing social determinants of health.

### RESOURCES

- [Promoting Children's Environmental Health at Early Care and Education Centers](#)

## Vector Control

[www.naccho.org/vector-control](http://www.naccho.org/vector-control)

### SUMMARY

NACCHO's vector control program supports LHDs in protecting their communities from the bacterial and viral diseases transmitted by mosquitoes, ticks, rodents, and other emerging vectors.

### HIGHLIGHTS

- The Vector Control Workgroup provides technical guidance on NACCHO projects, including the Vector Summits, policy statements, and Model Practices.
- NACCHO launched the 2020 Vector Assessment in fall 2020, with results due in 2021.
- NACCHO launched the fourth cohort of the Vector Control Collaborative Program in March 2020, a funded peer mentorship program to strengthen the ability of local communities to detect and respond to mosquito- and tick-borne disease threats.



### RESOURCES

- [The Role of Local Environmental Health Departments in Tick-Related Activities and Services](#)
- [Mosquito Control Capabilities in the U.S.](#)
- [Vector Surveillance and Control Workshops for LHDs Serving Hurricane-Affected Areas \(January 2019\) and the Second Annual Vector Control Summit \(April 2019\)](#)
- [Vector Control Collaborative Mentorship Program Guide](#)

# [FACT SHEET]

December 2020



## Water

[www.naccho.org/water](http://www.naccho.org/water)

### SUMMARY

NACCHO's water program prepares local health officials for potable water-related emergencies, provides grants to local water facilities to update water fluoridation systems, and hosts bi-monthly webinars on recreational water health and safety.

### HIGHLIGHTS

- NACCHO runs the Model Aquatic Health Code (MAHC) Network, a community for MAHC users, subject matter experts, and those hoping to learn about the code itself. The network hosts bi-monthly webinars on a variety of topics related to the code.
- NACCHO's Water, Sanitation, and Hygiene (WASH) Emergency Preparedness and Response Workgroup meets on a monthly basis to discuss current needs and gaps in resources for LHDs responding to WASH emergencies.
- NACCHO released an open-access WASH Resource Library with more than 100 resources to help LHDs prepare for, and respond to, water emergencies.

### RESOURCES

- [WASH Resource Library](#)
- [Pool Code Updates and Use of the Model Aquatic Health Code in Local Jurisdictions](#)
- [MAHC Network Webinar Series](#)
- [Water, Sanitation, and Hygiene Emergency Preparedness Stories from the Field](#)

### FOR MORE INFORMATION, PLEASE CONTACT:

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### GENERAL ENVIRONMENTAL HEALTH INITIATIVES AT NACCHO

NACCHO's Environmental Public Health Workgroup provides leadership and guidance on environmental health policies and programs.

The Local Environmental Health Directors & Managers Collaborative connects leaders for peer learning. Get involved: <http://bit.ly/2O3TO7T>.

*Explore all of NACCHO's environmental health programs, resources, and opportunities at [www.naccho.org/programs/environmental-health](http://www.naccho.org/programs/environmental-health).*

**NACCHO**

National Association of County & City Health Officials

The National Connection for Local Public Health

[www.naccho.org](http://www.naccho.org)



The mission of the National Association of County and City Health Officials (NACCHO) is to improve the health of communities by strengthening and advocating for local health departments.

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