

## Environmental Health Programs



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. NACCHO's environmental health portfolio addresses the most pressing environmental health issues facing the world today.



### Environmental Health and COVID-19

[naccho.org/programs/environmental-health](https://naccho.org/programs/environmental-health)

#### SUMMARY

Our team continues to offer support to city and county local health department (LHD) officials addressing the impacts of the coronavirus disease (COVID-19) pandemic.

#### HIGHLIGHTS

- Our wastewater surveillance infographic helped position NACCHO as a leader in this field, with the product receiving recognition from the Association of Marketing and Communications Professionals' Hermes Creative Awards 2022.
- We executed a contract with the National Academies of Sciences, Engineering, and Medicine to: convene a subject-matter expert panel to review the latest science on wastewater surveillance for SARS-CoV-2; and determine its application in local communities beyond COVID-19. In March 2022, the Committee on Community Wastewater-based Infectious Disease Surveillance was selected and approved.
- We continue to publish tools and resources on topics at the intersection of environmental health and COVID-19 such as improving air quality in schools and indoor settings and data-driven approaches used by LHDs.

#### RESOURCES

- COVID-19 Virtual Community for Local Health Departments ([virtualcommunities.naccho.org/ncov](https://virtualcommunities.naccho.org/ncov))
- Wastewater Surveillance: What's SARS-CoV-2 Got to Do With It? ([bit.ly/WastewaterSurveillanceInfographic](https://bit.ly/WastewaterSurveillanceInfographic))
- Blog Post on Collaboration During COVID-19 in Tempe, AZ ([bit.ly/3B504YD](https://bit.ly/3B504YD))
- Resource Roundup on Indoor Air Quality, Ventilation, and Filtration (the COVID-19 Edition) ([naccho.org/blog/articles/resource-roundup-indoor-air-quality-covid-19](https://naccho.org/blog/articles/resource-roundup-indoor-air-quality-covid-19)) & Infographic: Indoor Air Quality + COVID-19 ([bit.ly/IAQinfographic\\_NACCHO](https://bit.ly/IAQinfographic_NACCHO))
- Community Wastewater-based Infectious Disease Surveillance (NASEM) ([nationalacademies.org/our-work/community-wastewater-based-infectious-disease-surveillance](https://nationalacademies.org/our-work/community-wastewater-based-infectious-disease-surveillance))

## Climate Change

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

### SUMMARY

NACCHO's climate change program aims to provide LHDs with resources and information to ensure they are equipped to identify, prevent, and respond to climate-related health impacts in an equitable manner. NACCHO also provides expert opinion, analysis, and recommendations related to climate change.

### HIGHLIGHTS

- We funded three LHDs in 2022 to support their efforts to adapt to, and mitigate the health effects of, climate change.
- Our Global Climate Change Workgroup member joined the American Lung Association for a congressional briefing on local health impacts of climate change.
- We were co-sponsors of U.S. Environmental Protection Agency's *Let's Talk About Heat* Challenge, supporting development of the application, launch of the challenge, and review of applications and final selections.
- We partnered with ecoAmerica to host a Climate for Health Ambassadors Training at the 2022 NACCHO360 and Preparedness Summit Conferences.

### RESOURCES

- Climate Change Success Stories ([naccho.org/climate-change](https://naccho.org/climate-change))
- Updated Policy Statement on Climate Change ([naccho.org/uploads/downloadable-resources/07-09-Climate-Change.pdf](https://naccho.org/uploads/downloadable-resources/07-09-Climate-Change.pdf))
- EPA Announces Winners of *Let's Talk About Heat* Challenge: Winners share strategies to help communities stay safe during extreme heat ([epa.gov/newsreleases/epa-announces-winners-lets-talk-about-heat-challenge](https://epa.gov/newsreleases/epa-announces-winners-lets-talk-about-heat-challenge))

## Food Safety

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

### SUMMARY

NACCHO 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

- Initiated the first cohort of the Retail Food Safety Mentorship Program under the NEHA-FDA Retail Flexible Funding Model Grant Program ending with nearly 70 local health representatives, federal partners, and associations convening for an end-of-year meeting in Denver, CO, to share and collaborate on novel products and ideas and connect with federal regulators.
- Team presented on food safety topics at the National Environmental Health Association Annual Education Conference, the Association of Food and Drug Officials Annual Education Conference, NACCHO360, and the Integrated Foodborne Outbreak Response and Management Conference.
- Published a *News from NACCHO* column ([bit.ly/3l3EF5z](https://bit.ly/3l3EF5z)) in the *Journal of Public Health Management and Practice* based on a report ([bit.ly/3l7lrM7](https://bit.ly/3l7lrM7)) from the Food Safety Work Group on maintaining routine public health practices during the COVID-19 pandemic.
- Team hosted regular meetings of the NACCHO hosted its Foodborne Illness Outbreak Community of Practice, where professionals in the fields of retail

food regulation and industry gather to discuss emerging trends in food safety and share resources.

- As co-chair, led the Council to Improve Foodborne Outbreak Response ([cifor.us](https://cifor.us)) in-person strategic planning in 2022.
- Hosted the 2022 Retail Food Protection Seminar in collaboration with the U.S. Food and Drug Administration focusing on norovirus, including assessing employee health, investigating norovirus related foodborne illnesses, and implementing successful employee health intervention strategies.

### RESOURCES

- Study: Analysis of Factors Influencing the Implementation of Risk-Based Inspections ([bit.ly/RBImplementationStudy](https://bit.ly/RBImplementationStudy) | [bit.ly/RBInfographicFinal](https://bit.ly/RBInfographicFinal))
- Study: Analysis of Factors Impacting the Implementation of Effective Intervention Strategies ([bit.ly/riskfactorstudy2022](https://bit.ly/riskfactorstudy2022))
- NACCHO's Foodborne Illness Outbreak Response Community of Practice ([virtualcommunities.naccho.org](https://virtualcommunities.naccho.org))
- Food Safety Webinar Recordings ([naccho.org/programs/environmental-health/hazards/food-safety#webinars](https://naccho.org/programs/environmental-health/hazards/food-safety#webinars))
- Retail Program Standards Networks Issue Brief ([bit.ly/RPSNissuebrief](https://bit.ly/RPSNissuebrief))
- 2022 Retail Food Protection Seminar ([bit.ly/2022retailseminar](https://bit.ly/2022retailseminar))

## Vector Control

[naccho.org/vector-control](https://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 Surveillance and Control Workgroup provided technical guidance on NACCHO projects, including policy statements and Model Practices.
- We published findings from the 2020 National Vector Assessment and is gearing up to release the new questionnaire for the planned 2023 assessment. Results were published in the *Journal of Public Health Management and Practice*, *Wing Beats* magazine, and presented at Vector Week and the Mid-Atlantic Tick Summit this year.
- Launched the fifth cohort of the Vector Control Collaborative Program, where four sites were awarded \$10,000 each to work as mentor/mentee pairs in building capacity to vector control and surveillance.

### RESOURCES

- 2020 National Vector Assessment Report ([bit.ly/2020VAreport](https://bit.ly/2020VAreport))
- 2020 National Vector Assessment Infographic ([bit.ly/2020VAInfographic](https://bit.ly/2020VAInfographic))
- Vector Control Collaborative Mentorship Program Guide ([bit.ly/VCCProgramGuide](https://bit.ly/VCCProgramGuide))

## Water

[naccho.org/water](https://naccho.org/water)

### SUMMARY

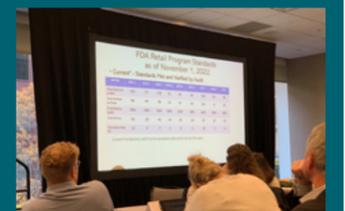
NACCHO's water program prepares LHDs for water, sanitation, and hygiene (WASH)-related emergencies and supports utilization of the CDC's Model Aquatic Health Code (MAHC).



### Helpful Links

Lookout for Year 3 Mentorship Applications in the summer of 2023 from the NEHA-FDA RFFM Grant Program at [neha.org/retailgrants](https://neha.org/retailgrants).

Learn all about the Retail Food Safety Regulatory Association Collaborative at [retailfoodsafetycollaborative.org](https://retailfoodsafetycollaborative.org).



## [FACT SHEET]

December 2022



### HIGHLIGHTS

- NACCHO ran quarterly webinars on a variety of topics related to the MAHC and other topics in recreational water safety.
- The team presented at the NEHA Educational Conference on our 2020 Aquatic Health and Safety Pilot Program.
- NACCHO successfully launched a pilot Wastewater Surveillance Mentorship program matching one mentor (City of Tempe, AZ) with two mentees (Genesee and Orleans County, NY, and Chautauqua County, NY) to help build wastewater surveillance capacity.
- Backed by EPA funding ([bit.ly/3v26UJS](https://bit.ly/3v26UJS)), NACCHO connected small/rural LHDs with the University of Illinois Urbana-Champaign researchers about how a wastewater monitoring network can be rapidly and effectively designed and deployed.
- NACCHO and CDC launched *Preparing for Water, Sanitation, & Hygiene (WASH)-Related Emergencies Among People Experiencing Homelessness* project with five awardees in Cambridge, MA, Franklin, OH, Franklin, MO, Minneapolis, MN, and Tulare, CA.

### RESOURCES

- MAHC Network Webinar Series ([naccho.org/mahc#webinars](https://naccho.org/mahc#webinars))
- Wastewater Surveillance Mentorship Pilot Program ([bit.ly/3v3RPYm](https://bit.ly/3v3RPYm))

## In Partnership with Public Health Law and Policy

### HIGHLIGHTS

- NACCHO provided funding to three local health departments (Kent County, MI; Franklin County, OH; and Minneapolis, MN) as they use HiAP to address childhood lead interventions.
- NACCHO published several resources on Choose Safe Places (CSP) and Environmental Justice, local and state health department collaboration, and Health in All Policies strategies in advancing the goals of CSP on a centralized NACCHO webpage.

### RESOURCES

- Choose Safe Places - NACCHO ([bit.ly/NACCHOChooseSafePlaces](https://bit.ly/NACCHOChooseSafePlaces))
- Seven Health Department Strategies for Implementing Health in All Policies to Prepare for the Health Impacts of Climate Change ([eweb.naccho.org/prd/?na891pdf](https://eweb.naccho.org/prd/?na891pdf))

For more information, please contact [environmentalhealth@naccho.org](mailto:environmentalhealth@naccho.org).



### MORE ENVIRONMENTAL HEALTH INITIATIVES AT NACCHO

- Our Environmental Public Health workgroup, now with a dozen members, meets monthly to provide technical guidance on Environmental Health policies and programs.
- We are part of APHA's Environmental Health & Equity Collaborative to create healthier communities for all through partnerships, information-sharing, and elevating environmental health.
- Explore our work at [naccho.org/programs/environmental-health](https://naccho.org/programs/environmental-health).
- Sign up for our newsletters and request to join our various Communities of Practice at [naccho.org/programs/environmental-health#involved](https://naccho.org/programs/environmental-health#involved).

# NACCHO

National Association of County & City Health Officials

The National Connection for Local Public Health



Public Health  
Prevent. Promote. Protect.

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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