

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

www.naccho.org/programs/environmental-health#ehandcovid

SUMMARY

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

HIGHLIGHTS

- NACCHO successfully launched, and continues to curate, a resource library to support local health departments (LHDs) access information on environmental health and COVID-19. This resource provides both guidance documents as well as tools from NACCHO and partners that LHDs can put into use.
- NACCHO released a bi-weekly blog series for a year featuring timely tools and resources for LHDs responding to COVID-19.
- NACCHO regularly engages with the Environmental Health Directors and Managers Collaborative to vet resources, identify gaps, disseminate best practices, and evaluate resources.
- NACCHO assisted 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 (NEHA).
- NACCHO hosted environmental health webinars to provide information to LHDs responding to COVID-19.
- NACCHO continues to support the Agency for Toxic Substances and Disease Registry's "Choose Safe Places" efforts to facilitate the promotion of resources and tools for ATSDR grantees and other health departments.
- Recognizing the growing need for guidance in implementing wastewater surveillance to stay ahead of community infections of COVID-19, NACCHO released a factsheet with steps designed to help LHDs get involved.

RESOURCES

- [Environmental Health and COVID-19 Resource Library](#)
- [Environmental Health and COVID-19 Resource Roundup: Blog Series](#)
- [COVID-19 Virtual Community for Local Health Departments](#)
- [Webinar: Hygiene-related behaviors during the COVID-19 pandemic](#)
- [Webinar: Protecting Children's Environmental Health During COVID-19: supporting child care programs](#)
- [Infographic - Wastewater Surveillance: What's SARS-CoV-2 Got to Do With It?](#)

Climate Change

www.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

- NACCHO leads the Global Climate Change Workgroup, comprised of LHD officials and staff and related professionals.
- NACCHO's Global Climate Change Workgroup submitted updates to NACCHO's Climate Change policy statement to include support for green energy, as well as a focus on health equity.
- NACCHO funded 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 at the 2021 NACCHO 360 annual conference.



RESOURCES

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

Food Safety

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 completed 10 years of managing 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 Mentorship Program in 2021 and is initiating the 11th year of the program as part of the NEHA-FDA Retail Flexible Funding Model Grant Program.
- 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 as well as the Spanish version of the Guidelines in 2021.
- NACCHO is part of the Retail Food Safety Regulatory Association Collaborative that exists to leverage resources and strengths of the member associations including: the Association of Food and Drug Officials (AFDO), the U.S. Centers for Disease Control and Prevention (CDC), the Conference for Food Protection (CFP), the FDA, NACCHO, and NEHA to advance retail food initiatives and activities resulting in a reduction of foodborne illness.



RESOURCES

- [NACCHO's Foodborne Illness Outbreak Response Community of Practice](#)
- [The Retail Food Safety Regulatory Association Collaborative](#)
- [CIFOR Guidelines \(Third Edition\) - Spanish version](#)

- [Food Safety Webinar Recordings](#)
- [Food Safety Leaders' List Newsletter](#)
- [Mentorship Program for the FDA Retail Program Standards](#)

Vector Control

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 Surveillance and Control Workgroup provides technical guidance on NACCHO projects, including the Vector Summit, policy statements, and Model Practices.
- NACCHO launched the 2020 Vector Assessment in fall of 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 tickborne disease threats.
- NACCHO presented at the annual American Mosquito Control Association conference.

RESOURCES

- [Vector Control Collaborative Mentorship Program Guide](#)
- [A Practical Guide to Building Local Mosquito Control Capacity](#)



Water

www.naccho.org/water

SUMMARY

NACCHO's water program prepares local health officials for water, sanitation, and hygiene (WASH)-related emergencies, develops and shares resources for LHDs to better prepare and respond to these events, supports LHDs in utilizing the CDC's Model Aquatic Health Code (MAHC), and hosts quarterly webinars on recreational water health and safety.

HIGHLIGHTS

- NACCHO runs the Model Aquatic Health Code (MAHC) Network, which hosts quarterly webinars on a variety of topics related to the code and topics in recreational water safety.
- NACCHO piloted the Aquatic Health and Safety Pilot Program, which provided funding and technical assistance to two jurisdictions to update their pool codes, using the CDC's MAHC as a resource.
- NACCHO's WASH Emergency Preparedness and Response Workgroup met monthly to discuss current needs and gaps in resources for LHDs responding to WASH emergencies.
- NACCHO continues to maintain and promote 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](#)

[FACT SHEET]

November 2021



- [Stories from the Field: Aquatic Health & Safety Pilot Program](#)
- [Checklist: What Makes a Water-Prepared Local Health Department?](#)
- [MAHC Network Webinar Series](#)
- [Factsheet: Per- and Poly-fluoroalkyl Substances \(PFAS\)](#)

In Partnership with Public Health Law and Policy

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. 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.

HIGHLIGHTS

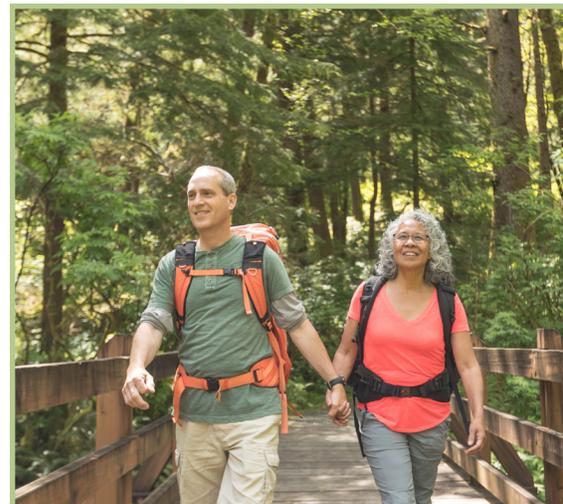
- NACCHO and partners provided funding for jurisdictions to implement a HiAP strategy as part of their childhood lead poisoning prevention implementation program and activities.
- NACCHO provided monthly technical assistance to three LHDs implementing HiAP, and provided monthly technical assistance to two environmental justice community-based organizations.
- In 2020, NACCHO consulted with the National Recreation and Parks Association to provide technical assistance to their 15 Community Nutrition Hub grantees.

RESOURCES

- [Stories from the Field: Health in All Policies + Childhood Lead Poisoning](#)
- [Boston Public Health Commission HiAP + Lead Podcast episode](#)
- [HiAP Evaluation Guidance Tool](#)
- [Mapping Lead Poisoning Prevention Services by Local Health Departments](#)

FOR MORE INFORMATION, PLEASE CONTACT:

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GENERAL ENVIRONMENTAL HEALTH INITIATIVES AT NACCHO

NACCHO's Environmental Public Health workgroup provides technical guidance on Environmental Health policies and programs.

NACCHO is part of the [Environmental Health & Equity Collaborative](#) to create healthier communities for all through partnerships, information-sharing and elevating environmental health.

View NACCHO's spring *Exchange* issue to see recent work across the environmental health portfolio.

Explore more of our work at www.naccho.org/programs/environmental-health.

Sign up for our newsletter "[The Greener Side of Local Public Health](#)."

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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