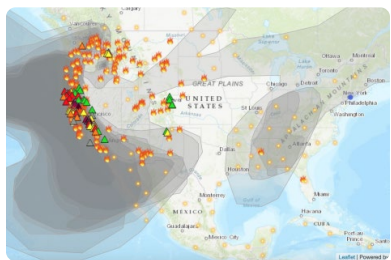


Difficult decisions. Changing landscapes. Complicated information. Schools have faced amplified challenges over the last two years. While we aren't offering any quick fixes here, you will find some straightforward resources to help you create healthier environments for your learners and teachers. Please share with staff, parents, and networks. To view online or access past issues go to <https://www.epa.gov/children/healthy-schools-news-pacific-northwest>.

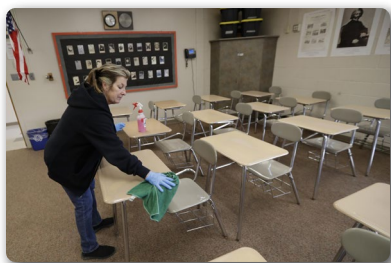
Reducing Wildfire Smoke in Schools

Wildfire smoke can travel long distances, exposing people near and far to poor air quality. Children are especially vulnerable to health effects from smoke. That's because they breathe more air relative to their size, spend more time outdoors, are more active than adults, and they are still growing and developing. Check out this [one-pager](#) about reducing wildfire smoke at your school. Track smoke and wildfires near you: <https://fire.airnow.gov/>.



Schools and COVID-19

EPA supports healthy indoor environments in schools during the COVID-19 pandemic. We have compiled a set of [health and safety resources](#). You'll find tips for maintaining healthy indoor environments, along with links to CDC and EPA coronavirus guidance.



Key tip: Ensure school HVAC systems are operating properly, with outdoor ventilation air maintained at or above design minimum values.

Healthy School Supply List

Health and safety is an important consideration for school supply list items. The chemicals in some supplies, for example wipes and markers, could trigger asthma or allergies. Washington Department of Health has assembled a [list for a healthier classroom](#). Be sure to also consult your own internal policies.

Webinars on Demand

Reopening? Creating clean and healthy schools requires mastering the school environment using a [comprehensive approach](#) to indoor air quality management. Take some time to view webinars about virus mitigation strategies, including ventilation, filtration, and supplemental air purification. [View these webinars on EPA's website](#).

3D Printer Concerns

Low-cost 3D printers are increasingly being used to create unique objects from digital models. However, studies have found that the 3D printing process releases gases and particulates which could pose health risks to users. EPA researchers are [studying the characteristics and health effects of 3D printer emissions](#) to protect users as the market for these printers grows.

September is National Preparedness Month

Ready.Gov offers important guidance for educators and organizations. [This page](#) features preparedness, planning, response, and recovery resources to help you integrate the needs of children and youth into your disaster planning efforts.





Congratulations to EPA's 2021 [Presidential Environmental Youth Award](#) winner! Luna Abadía founded the [Effective Climate Action Project](#), a youth-led organization in Portland, OR. ECAP aims to focus public attention on systemic solutions to climate change, using multi-lingual, interactive climate simulations and online education for youth and adults.

Reducing Lead in Drinking Water

Lead is a toxic metal that is harmful to human health. There is no safe blood lead level for children. EPA's [3Ts for reducing lead in drinking water](#) are Training, Testing, and Taking Action. The 3Ts guide schools and childcares in building voluntary programs to reduce lead levels in drinking water. Manuals, checklists, templates, and toolkits are included.



View

School-specific
Resources

View

Child Care-specific
Resources

View

Additional
Resources

Healthy School NEWS is published by the U.S. Environmental Protection Agency Region 10. Region 10 includes the states of Washington, Idaho, Alaska and Oregon and the tribes within those boundaries. For general information about school environmental health or to provide feedback on this newsletter, please contact Andrea Lindsay at lindsay.andrea@epa.gov.

To be added to or removed from the distribution list, please email lindsay.andrea@epa.gov with your request. Contact Region 10's Public Environmental Resource Center, the education, publication and information gateway to EPA's Region 10 Office, for free publications and educational resources for your school. Call (800) 424-4EPA or email epa-seattle@epa.gov.

EPA Schools: www.epa.gov/schools

EPA Environmental Education: <https://www.epa.gov/education>

EPA Children's Environmental Health: www.epa.gov/children

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