



# Resources for Environmental Health in Atlanta & Beyond

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<http://emoryhercules.com/community/resources-environmental-health/>

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Each section of this guide highlights an environmental health concern and offers a sample resource on that topic. Many of these resources are gathered from existing materials. Please note that Emory HERCULES has not confirmed the evidence base underlying these tools and recommendations.

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**This guide was developed at the request of the Emory HERCULES Stakeholder Advisory Board. It reflects the broader importance of connecting people in and around Atlanta to scientists, governmental agencies, and non-profits—and uniting all of these groups to advance the public’s well-being.**



# Common Hazardous Products

# 1



The products people use every day contain multiple ingredients. Some of these chemical ingredients have been linked to **skin and respiratory irritation, hormone disruption, and changes in the nervous systems of humans and animals.**

**Use the resources in this section to select products and make choices that minimize your exposure to potentially hazardous chemicals.**

# Common Hazardous Products

## Sample Resource: Environmental Working Group Healthy Homes Checklist

### EWG Action Fund's Healthy Home Checklist

Check your house for common toxic chemicals and choose safer alternatives with this simple checklist for less toxic living. Online resources: [ewg.org/healthy-home-tips/checklist](http://ewg.org/healthy-home-tips/checklist)

#### KITCHEN

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- Do you cook with non-stick cookware?** Replace with cast-iron, stainless steel, or glass when possible. Stuck with it? Take care not to overheat it, which releases toxic fumes.
- Do you use plastic food containers?** We recommend glass over plastic. Never microwave food in plastic containers. For baby, use glass or BPA-free plastic bottles.
- Do you filter your tap water?** Check EWG's online tap water quality database for local contaminants, then choose a filter that removes them, if needed.
- Do you drink bottled water?** Kick the habit. For water on-the-go, get a reusable water bottle, like stainless steel (not plastic or aluminum lined with plastic).
- Any canned food in the pantry?** Cook with fresh or frozen whenever possible; most food cans (including liquid infant formula) are lined with bisphenol-A (BPA), a toxic chemical that leaches into the food.
- Do you eat conventionally grown produce?** Check EWG's *Shopper's Guide to Pesticides* to be sure you buy organic when pesticide residues are highest.
- Do you use iodized salt?** You should. Iodine is necessary to maintain healthy thyroid function.
- Do you eat high-mercury fish?** Ask before eating and head for the lower-mercury types (especially for pregnant women and young children).

#### BATHROOM

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- Do you use air fresheners?** Don't! Most contain a number of toxic chemicals that contaminate the air you breathe.
- Is there fragrance in your personal care products?** We don't know what's in "fragrance," so it's safer to choose all fragrance-free personal-care products. Always check ingredient lists to be sure.
- What kind of toothpaste do you use?** Choose fluoride-free for kids under 2 and teach older kids to rinse and spit; fluoride is toxic if swallowed. Also, pick a paste without triclosan - you'll see it on the ingredient list.
- Do you use liquid hand soap?** If so, avoid anti-bacterials - the American Medical Association recommends against using them at home.
- What material is your shower curtain?** Avoid vinyl shower curtains. If you get a new curtain (whatever the material), leave it outside for several days before using.
- Do you have extra products?** Less is more. Skipping cosmetics like hair spray and detangler, body sprays and powder is less toxic - and cheaper!

# Common Hazardous Products

EWG Action Fund's Healthy Home Checklist,  
page 2

## LAUNDRY & CLEANING CLOSET

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- Are your cleaners green?** It's hard to know without a full ingredient list, which most products don't have. Find out the ingredients by calling the manufacturer, avoid the toxic ones, and choose green-certified products whenever possible.
- Do your product labels list all ingredients?** Most don't, but they should. Support companies that disclose all ingredients by buying their products – you have a right to know.
- Do you need all those products?** Most homes can be safely cleaned with a few non-toxic ingredients: vinegar (it's anti-bacterial), baking soda, water, a HEPA vacuum, microfiber mops and cloths - and some elbow grease! Skip laundry products you don't need, like dryer sheets, fabric softener, and chlorine bleach.

## ALL AROUND THE HOUSE

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- Was your home built before 1978?** If so, it probably contains lead paint. When repainting, use a wet sanding technique to reduce dust, choose low VOC paints and always paint with the windows open for good ventilation. Keep kids away from rehab dust and loose chips.
- Got foam furniture?** Foam products (like stuffed furniture and mattresses) are often treated with toxic fire retardants, so keep them well-covered. Ask whether a product is treated before you buy and choose naturally fire-resistant materials like cotton and wool, when possible. Don't "protect" your fabrics and carpets with sprayed on chemical coatings – simply clean spills quickly.
- Do you use compact fluorescent light bulbs (CFLs)?** They contain mercury and should be handled and disposed of with care. Use them where there's no danger of breaking near children; clean up broken bulbs quickly and safely.
- Do you use pesticides or insecticides?** Try non-toxic alternatives first; pesticides are a last resort. If you choose to use them, store them out of reach of children. Organic gardening is healthier for kids and pets, since they live closer to the ground.
- Do you have a wood deck, picnic table or playground set?** Those made before 2005 likely contain arsenic. Test to confirm and either replace with safer wood or reduce your exposure by sealing it, replacing high-use areas and washing hands after touching, especially before eating.
- What materials are your kids' toys made from?** Top contaminants to avoid are: lead paint, play make-up, cadmium and lead in play jewelry, and phthalates in soft plastics (like teething rings and rubber duckies). Choosing non-toxic toys for young kids is especially important because so many end up in their mouths.



[ewg.org/healthy-home-tips/checklist](http://ewg.org/healthy-home-tips/checklist)

## Common Hazardous Products

Organization Name	Services Offered	Description of Services	Phone	Web Page
<b>Beyond Pesticides</b>	Educational Materials	The least toxic way to deal with pests in homes and gardens, listed by pest type. Searchable gateway on pesticide hazards and safe pest management.	202-543-5450	<a href="http://www.beyondpesticides.org/gateway/index.php">http://www.beyondpesticides.org/gateway/index.php</a>
<b>Environmental Protection Agency</b>	Educational Materials	Explanation of Endocrine disruptors and active initiatives on the subject EPA.	N/A	<a href="http://www.epa.gov/endo/pubs/edspoverview/index.htm">http://www.epa.gov/endo/pubs/edspoverview/index.htm</a>
<b>Environmental Working Group</b>	Reports	Report on the "dirty dozen", 12 common hormone altering chemicals and how to avoid them.	N/A	<a href="http://www.ewg.org/research/dirty-dozen-list-endocrine-disruptors">http://www.ewg.org/research/dirty-dozen-list-endocrine-disruptors</a>
<b>Environmental Working Group</b>	Educational Materials	Guide on which plastics to avoid to minimize leaching.	N/A	<a href="http://www.ewg.org/research/healthy-home-tips/tip-3-pick-plastics-carefully">http://www.ewg.org/research/healthy-home-tips/tip-3-pick-plastics-carefully</a>
<b>Georgia Department of Public Health</b>	Educational Materials	Brochure on safer alternatives to common hazardous chemicals	(404) 657-6534	<a href="https://dph.georgia.gov/sites/dph.georgia.gov/files/related_files/site_page/EnvHealthChemHazSafeAlternativesBrochure.pdf">https://dph.georgia.gov/sites/dph.georgia.gov/files/related_files/site_page/EnvHealthChemHazSafeAlternativesBrochure.pdf</a>
<b>Georgia Department of Public Health</b>	Educational Materials	Brochure on safest practices when using pesticides in the home	(404) 657-6534	<a href="https://dph.georgia.gov/sites/dph.georgia.gov/files/related_files/site_page/EnvHealthChemHazIPMHomesBrochure.pdf">https://dph.georgia.gov/sites/dph.georgia.gov/files/related_files/site_page/EnvHealthChemHazIPMHomesBrochure.pdf</a>
<b>National Public Radio</b>	Educational Materials	Hormone like chemicals are found to be released in a variety of plastics, according to research.	N/A	<a href="http://www.npr.org/2011/03/02/134196209/">http://www.npr.org/2011/03/02/134196209/</a>
<b>The Green Guide</b>	Product Buying Guides	List of Green alternatives to products to reduce exposure to toxic chemicals.	N/A	<a href="http://www.thegreenguide.com/products">http://www.thegreenguide.com/products</a>



# Food Access & Healthy Eating

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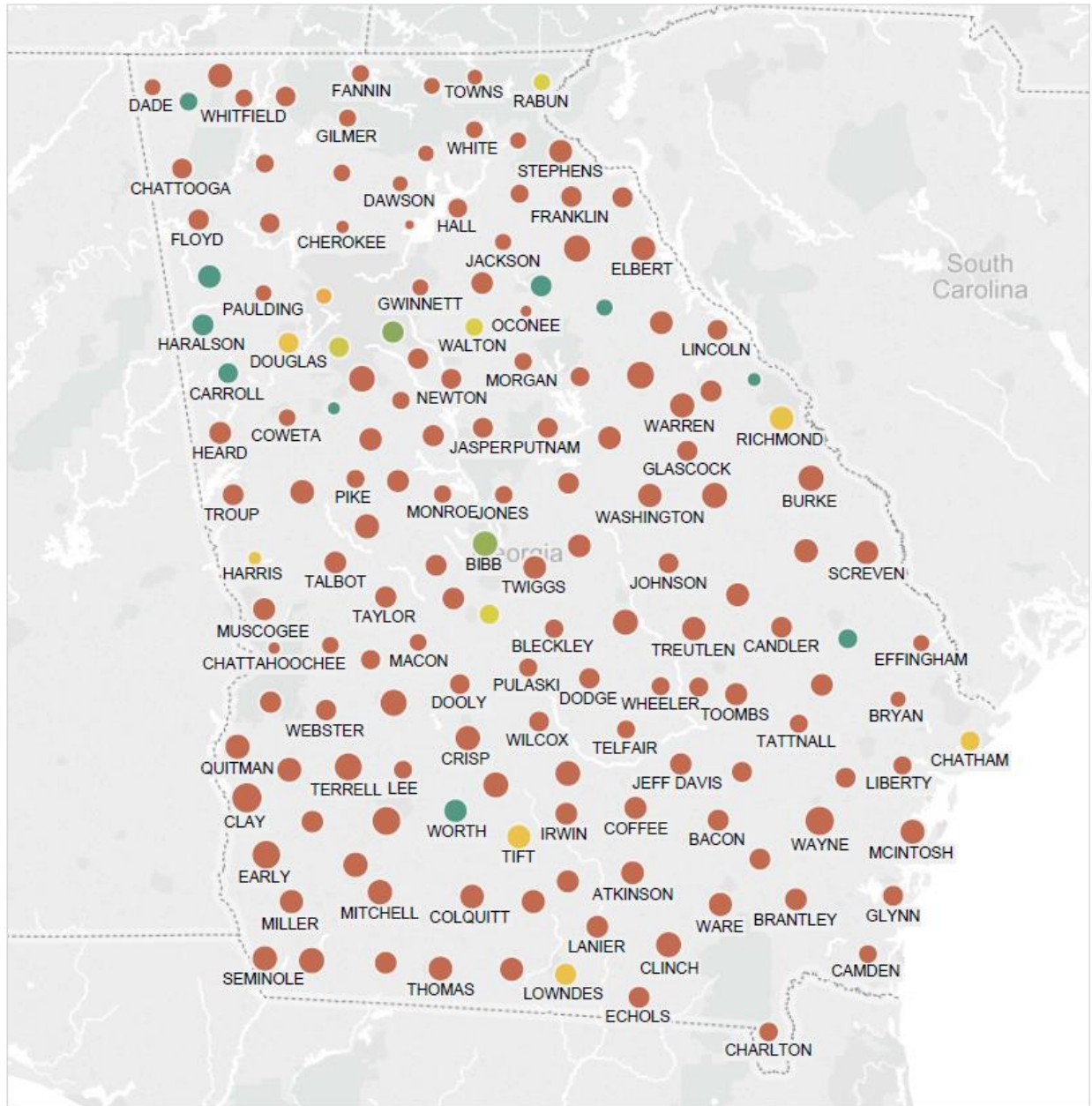
Eating nutritious food can minimize risks of obesity, diabetes, and cardiovascular disease.

A food desert is an area where it is difficult to find produce that is fresh, affordable, and free of contamination.

The resources in this section can connect you to growers, farmers, grant programs, and educators interested in improving food quality and access.

# Food Access & Healthy Eating

Sample Resource: SNAP Acceptance at Farmers Markets (Wholesome Wave Georgia)



Pop % - SNAP Recipients

- 3.71
- 10.00
- 20.00
- 30.00
- 42.89

FM Snap Acceptance (%)



**Map 1. County SNAP Recipients and Farmers Market Acceptance**

The map indicates areas of need in Georgia counties. The areas of need are highlighted by large brown bubbles, illustrating a higher percentage of the population receiving SNAP benefits (size) and no Farmers Markets accepting SNAP in the county (color). Counties with limited need are shown with small green bubbles (low SNAP recipient percentage (size) and all Farmers Markets accepting SNAP benefits (color).

## Food Access & Healthy Eating

Organization Name	Services Offered	Description of Services	Phone	Web Page
<b>Atlanta Botanical Gardens</b>	Educational Materials	General educational materials on plants and animals, as well as a plant hotline.	404-876-5859	<a href="http://atlantabg.org/kids-schools/educator-resources">http://atlantabg.org/kids-schools/educator-resources</a>
<b>Atlanta Botanical Gardens</b>	Classes and Applied Learning	Classes for kids and adults, including cooking and planning a vegetable garden.	404-876-5859	<a href="http://atlantabg.org/events-classes/adult-classes">http://atlantabg.org/events-classes/adult-classes</a>
<b>Environmental Protection Division</b>	Reports	Reports on the fish eating guidelines, with reports of consumption restrictions by region. Also contains guide tailored to pregnant and nursing women on fish consumption.	N/A	<a href="http://epd.georgia.gov/fish-consumption-guidelines">http://epd.georgia.gov/fish-consumption-guidelines</a>
<b>Environmental Working Group</b>	Educational Materials	Fish consumption calculator to determine safe levels given your age, gender, and heart disease status.	N/A	<a href="http://www.ewg.org/research/ewg-s-consumer-guide-seafood/seafood-calculator">http://www.ewg.org/research/ewg-s-consumer-guide-seafood/seafood-calculator</a>
<b>Georgia Department of Public Health</b>	Educational Materials	Resources for the healthy consumption of fish (in regards to mercury levels).	N/A	<a href="http://dph.georgia.gov/fish-consumption-guidelines">http://dph.georgia.gov/fish-consumption-guidelines</a>
<b>Georgia Food Oasis</b>	Educational Materials	Information on eating, cooking, and growing to prevent unhealthy eating due to food deserts.	N/A	<a href="http://georgiafoodoasis.org/">http://georgiafoodoasis.org/</a>
<b>Georgia Organics</b>	Educational Materials	Many resources for consumers to learn about the benefits of organic food.	678-702-0400 ext 208	<a href="https://georgiaorganics.org/news-center/">https://georgiaorganics.org/news-center/</a>
<b>Georgia Organics</b>	Grants and Funding	List of grants offered for farm-to-school activities.	678-702-0400 ext 208	<a href="http://georgiaorganics.org/for-schools/grants">http://georgiaorganics.org/for-schools/grants</a>
<b>Georgia SHAPE</b>	Grants and Funding	Numerous grant opportunities for schools. While actual grants may change, many current grants involve farm-to-school programs.	N/A	<a href="http://www.georgiashape.org/story/learn-how-your-school-can-win-grant">http://www.georgiashape.org/story/learn-how-your-school-can-win-grant</a>
<b>Let's Move!</b>	Grants and Funding	Application and guidelines for schools to apply for a salad bar.	N/A	<a href="http://www.saladbars2schools.org/get-a-salad-bar/schools/">http://www.saladbars2schools.org/get-a-salad-bar/schools/</a>
<b>National Public Radio</b>	Educational Materials	Food desert locator map of the United States to help understand the problem of food deserts in Georgia.	N/A	<a href="http://www.npr.org/blogs/thesalt/2013/03/13/174112591/how-to-find-a-food-desert-near-you">http://www.npr.org/blogs/thesalt/2013/03/13/174112591/how-to-find-a-food-desert-near-you</a>

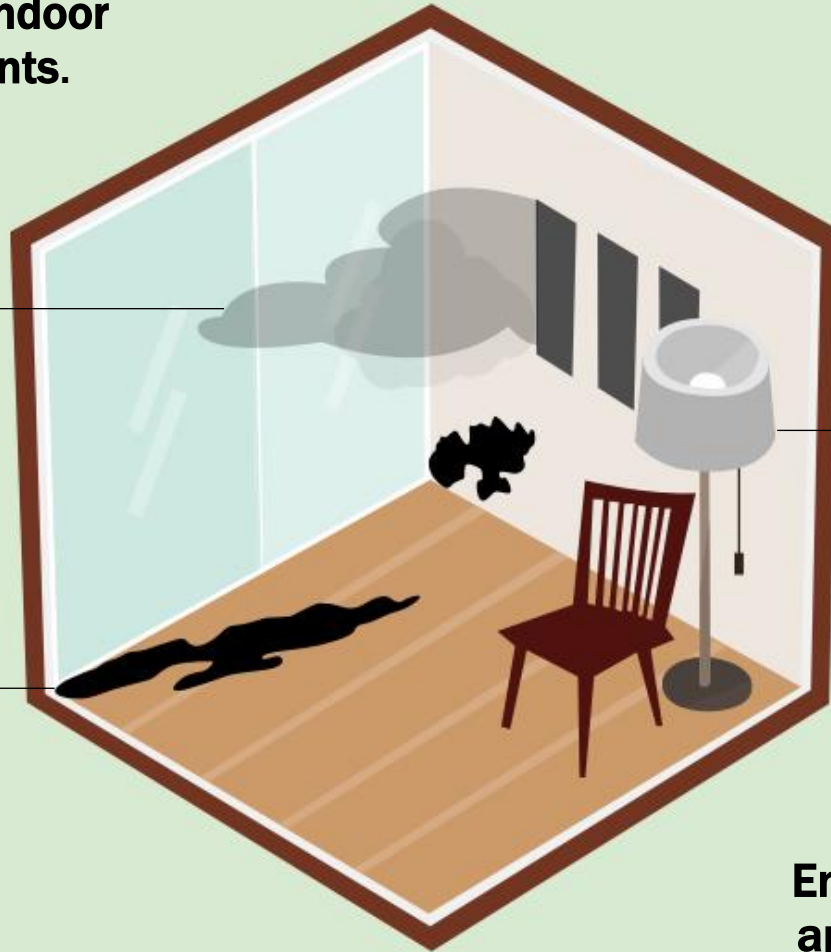
## Food Access & Healthy Eating

Organization Name	Services Offered	Description of Services	Phone	Web Page
<b>UGA Cooperative Extension</b>	Educational Materials	Soil testing and preparation resources	N/A	<a href="http://extension.uga.edu/agriculture/soil/">http://extension.uga.edu/agriculture/soil/</a>
<b>What's on My Food?</b>	Educational Materials	Searchable list of common foods and what pesticides are found on them. Also details health effects of these pesticides.	510-788-9020	<a href="http://whatsonmyfood.org/food.jsp?food=AL">http://whatsonmyfood.org/food.jsp?food=AL</a>
<b>Whole Kids Foundation</b>	Educational Materials	School garden resource center, complete with instructions on building, tending, and recipes.	N/A	<a href="https://www.wholekidsfoundation.org/resources/school-lunch-nutrition-resources">https://www.wholekidsfoundation.org/resources/school-lunch-nutrition-resources</a>
<b>Wallace Center</b>	Grants and Funding/Educational Materials	Provides grants, workshops, and technical assistance to strengthen sustainable food-growing practices	N/A	<a href="http://www.wallacecenter.org/">http://www.wallacecenter.org/</a>
<b>Atlanta Local Food</b>	Reports	Conducts and aggregates research on local food and food policy	N/A	<a href="http://www.atlantlocalfood.org/">http://www.atlantlocalfood.org/</a>
<b>Westside Food Oasis</b>	Educational Materials	Features tips and recipes for healthy cooking; hosts idea-sharing and funding platforms	678-553-5982	<a href="http://georgiafoodoasis.org/">http://georgiafoodoasis.org/</a>
<b>Food Well Alliance</b>	Grants and Funding	Offers grants to enhance community food security and access, healthy lifestyles, economic development, and environmental stewardship.	N/A	<a href="http://www.foodwellalliance.org/">http://www.foodwellalliance.org/</a>
<b>Captain Planet Foundation</b>	Grants and Funding	Provides small grants to support environmental stewardship projects and helps implement "Learning Gardens" and "Planeteer Clubs."	404-522-4270	<a href="http://captainplanetfoundation.org/">http://captainplanetfoundation.org/</a>

# Healthy Homes & Buildings

3

**Poor ventilation leads to the build-up of indoor air pollutants.**



**Indoor mold can cause respiratory irritation and worsen asthma symptoms.**

**Energy efficient appliances can save money and reduce air pollution.**

**Consult the resources in this section to learn about updating the safety and sustainability of your home or building.**



# Healthy Homes & Buildings

Sample Resource: CDC-ATSDR/EPA Indoor Air Quality Fact Sheet



## Indoor Air Quality Fact Sheet

Poor indoor air quality comes from many sources. It can lead to suffering from lung diseases such as asthma. It can also cause headaches, dry eyes, nasal mucus, nausea and tiredness. People who already have lung problems have a greater chance of having these symptoms.

### Common Indoor Air Pollutants

- Molds
- Pollen
- Dander from pet fur
- Secondhand smoke
- Formaldehyde
- Fumes emitted by imported drywall
- Carbon monoxide that comes from burning propane, other gases and fuels, and charcoal
- Household products such as cleaners and pesticides

### How to Improve Indoor Air Quality

- Open windows or run air conditioning or ventilation systems to bring in fresh air.
- Clean to get rid of dust and pet fur.
- Fix water leaks to help keep mold away.
- Use bug spray only when absolutely necessary.
- Do not smoke inside.
- If you see or smell mold, clean it up with detergent and water or a mix of no more than 1 cup of bleach mixed with 1 gallon of water. Never mix bleach with ammonia.
- If you smell gas, do not light any flames or sparks and leave the building right away.

**If you think poor indoor air is making you sick, please see or call a doctor.**

## Healthy Homes & Buildings

Organization Name	Services Offered	Description of Services	Phone	Web Page
<b>Atlanta Paint Disposal</b>	Recycling and Safe Disposal	Commercial business dealing specifically with paint recycling.	404-333-8763	<a href="http://www.atlantapaintdisposal.com/index-2.html">http://www.atlantapaintdisposal.com/index-2.html</a>
<b>Beyond Pesticides</b>	Educational Materials	The least toxic way to deal with pests in homes and gardens, listed by pest type. Searchable gateway on pesticide hazards and safe pest management.	202-543-5450	<a href="http://www.beyondpesticides.org/gateway/index.php">http://www.beyondpesticides.org/gateway/index.php</a>
<b>Centers for Disease Control</b>	Classes and Applied Learning	Trainings on healthy homes and lead poisoning prevention, case studies in lead toxicity, and pediatric environmental health.	800-CDC-INFO	<a href="http://www.cdc.gov/nceh/lead/toolstraining.htm">http://www.cdc.gov/nceh/lead/toolstraining.htm</a>
<b>Centers for Disease Control</b>	Educational Materials	Tips for healthy homes for the following topics: drinking water, indoor air quality, emergencies and disasters, injury prevention, food safety, and poisoning prevention.	800-CDC-INFO	<a href="http://www.cdc.gov/healthyhomes/index.html">http://www.cdc.gov/healthyhomes/index.html</a>
<b>Database of State Incentives for Renewables and Efficiency</b>	Grants and Funding	List of all financial incentives for green and healthy homes and businesses in the state of Georgia.	N/A	<a href="http://programs.dsireusa.org/system/program?state=GA">http://programs.dsireusa.org/system/program?state=GA</a>
<b>Earth 911</b>	Recycling and Safe Disposal	Searchable database of locations to drop off your household hazardous wastes.	N/A	<a href="http://search.earth911.com/">http://search.earth911.com/</a>
<b>Earth Craft</b>	Product Buying Guides	EarthCraft Certified homes save on energy costs and address indoor air quality.	404-604-3636	<a href="http://www.earthcraft.org/homeowners/homeowner-faqs/">http://www.earthcraft.org/homeowners/homeowner-faqs/</a>
<b>Environmental Protection Agency</b>	Product Buying Guides	Searchable list of products given the EPA's Design for the Environment Product Label for cleaning products with the least environmental health hazard.	N/A	<a href="http://www2.epa.gov/saferchoice">http://www2.epa.gov/saferchoice</a>
<b>Environmental Protection Agency</b>	Product Buying Guides	Indoor airPLUS is a certification for homes that are designed to protect your family from indoor air pollution.	N/A	<a href="https://www.epa.gov/indoorairplus">https://www.epa.gov/indoorairplus</a>
<b>Environmental Protection Agency</b>	Classes and Trainings / Educational Materials	Comprehensive guides on how to develop indoor air quality programs for schools. Offers action kits, connections with success stories in your area, and National Schools Network for other IAQ programs. Educational materials on asthma, mold, radon, smoke free homes, and general indoor air quality.	N/A	<a href="http://www.epa.gov/iaq/index.html">http://www.epa.gov/iaq/index.html</a>
<b>Environmental Protection Agency</b>	Educational Materials	Purchasing tool suite to help purchasers consider the environment along with price and performance in their product searches.	N/A	<a href="http://www.epa.gov/epp/pubs/greenguides.htm">http://www.epa.gov/epp/pubs/greenguides.htm</a>

## Healthy Homes & Buildings

Organization Name	Services Offered	Description of Services	Phone	Web Page
<b>Georgia Department of Public Health</b>	Educational Materials	Brochure on safest practices when using pesticides in the home	404-657-2700	<a href="https://dph.georgia.gov/sites/dph.georgia.gov/files/related_files/site_page/EnvHealthChemHaziIPMHomesBrochure.pdf">https://dph.georgia.gov/sites/dph.georgia.gov/files/related_files/site_page/EnvHealthChemHaziIPMHomesBrochure.pdf</a>
<b>Georgia Department of Public Health</b>	Reports	Pamphlet explaining health concerns with mold as well as remediation	404-657-2700	<a href="http://dph.georgia.gov/sites/dph.georgia.gov/files/EnvHealth/Misc/IndoorAirBrochure.pdf">http://dph.georgia.gov/sites/dph.georgia.gov/files/EnvHealth/Misc/IndoorAirBrochure.pdf</a>
<b>Georgia Department of Public Health</b>	Reports	Summary of current projects dealing with indoor air quality by the Georgia DPH, including smoke free homes and mold.	404-657-2700	<a href="http://dph.georgia.gov/indoor-air-quality">http://dph.georgia.gov/indoor-air-quality</a>
<b>Georgia Department Of Community Affairs</b>	Educational Materials	The Georgia Tenant Handbook listing rights as a renter and how to proceed with disputes.	N/A	<a href="http://www.dca.state.ga.us/housing/housingdevelopment/programs/downloads/Georgia_Landlord_Tenant_Handbook.pdf">http://www.dca.state.ga.us/housing/housingdevelopment/programs/downloads/Georgia_Landlord_Tenant_Handbook.pdf</a>
<b>Green Seal</b>	Consumer Purchasing Guide	Gives out the Green Seal to products meeting scientifically derived standards of sustainability.	202-872-6400	<a href="http://www.greenseal.org/">http://www.greenseal.org/</a>
<b>Housing and Urban Development</b>	Educational Materials	Information about common issues in homes, including allergies, asthma, carbon monoxide, and home safety.	N/A	<a href="http://portal.hud.gov/hudportal/HUD?src=/program_offices/healthy_homes/hhi">http://portal.hud.gov/hudportal/HUD?src=/program_offices/healthy_homes/hhi</a>
<b>Indoor Air Quality Association</b>	Classes and Applied Learning	Classes and Trainings for topics including indoor environmentalists, microbial remediation, microbial investigator, mold remediation, and fundamentals of indoor air quality.	844-802-4103	<a href="http://www.iaqa.org/education">http://www.iaqa.org/education</a>
<b>Indoor Air Quality Association</b>	Educational Materials	Educational videos and materials for indoor air quality, specifically dealing with mold.	844-802-4103	<a href="http://www.iaqa.org/">http://www.iaqa.org/</a>
<b>Live Thrive Atlanta</b>	Recycling and Safe Disposal	Information about a new recycling center opening April 2 that will take paint, household chemicals, electronics, tires, plastics, textiles, styrofoam, mattresses, bulbs, batteries, FOG, and others.	404-600-6386	<a href="http://livethrive.org/charm">http://livethrive.org/charm</a>
<b>National Center for Healthy Housing</b>	Educational Materials	Searchable list of healthy home resources, by areas such as contaminant free, pest free and ventilated.	410-992-0712	<a href="http://www.nchh.org/resources.aspx">http://www.nchh.org/resources.aspx</a>
<b>Southface</b>	Classes and Applied Learning	Classes and trainings on topics such as creating sustainable buildings through improving homes for health, safety and energy efficiency; includes distance learning options	404-872-3549	<a href="http://www.southface.org/learning-center/trainings/">http://www.southface.org/learning-center/trainings/</a>



## Healthy Homes & Buildings

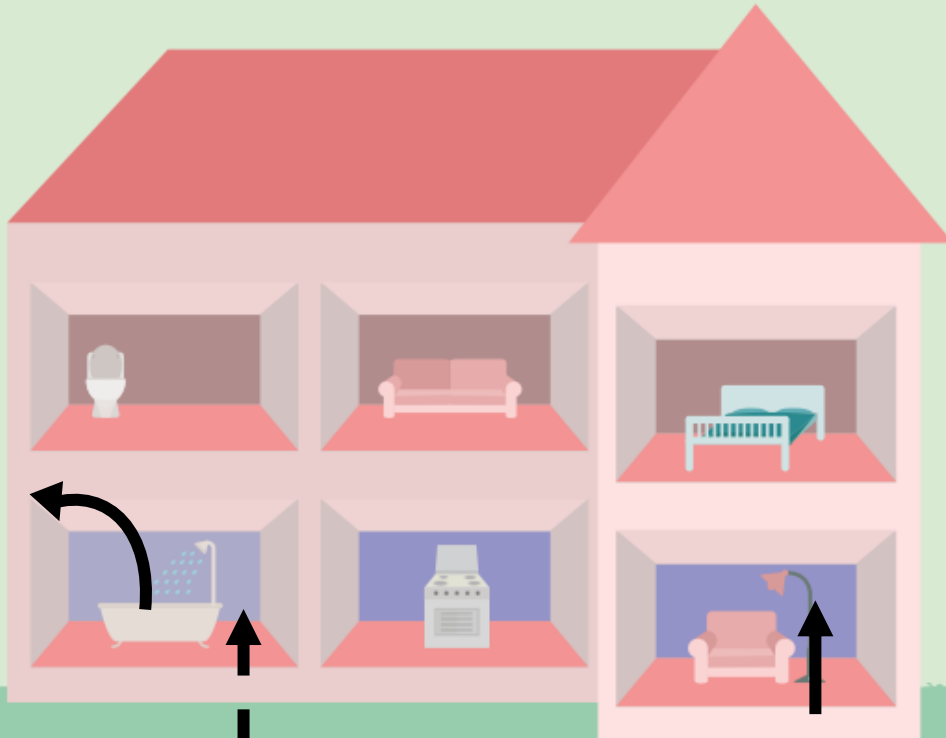
Organization Name	Services Offered	Description of Services	Phone	Web Page
<b>Southface</b>	Grants and Funding	Grants to green gives nonprofits the opportunity to build or renovate healthier and more energy efficient work spaces.	404-872-3549	<a href="http://www.southface.org/green-building-services/programs/grants-to-green-for-non-profits">http://www.southface.org/green-building-services/programs/grants-to-green-for-non-profits</a>
<b>The Community Foundation of Greater Atlanta</b>	Grants and Funding	Grants to green gives nonprofits the opportunity to build or renovate healthier and more energy efficient work spaces.	404-688-5525	<a href="http://cfgreateratlanta.org/Community-Leadership/Current-Initiatives/Grants-to-Green.aspx">http://cfgreateratlanta.org/Community-Leadership/Current-Initiatives/Grants-to-Green.aspx</a>

## Healthy Homes & Buildings

# Lead & Radon

4

Lead may be found in soil, paint, and plumbing. Lead is associated with learning and behavioral problems.



Radon, a colorless and odorless gas, can enter homes and buildings through the soil. Radon is linked to lung cancer.

Use the resources in this section to monitor and control levels of lead and radon in your home or building.

# Lead & Radon

## Sample Resource: Questionnaire to Determine Need for Child Lead Testing (GA DPH)



Brenda Fitzgerald, MD, Commissioner | Nathan Deal, Governor

2 Peachtree Street NW, 15th Floor  
Atlanta, Georgia 30303-3142  
[www.health.state.ga.us](http://www.health.state.ga.us)

### **Georgia Healthy Homes and Lead Poisoning Prevention Program Risk Factors Assessment Questionnaire**

1. Does your child live in or often visit a house that may have been built before 1978?
2. Does your child live in or often visit a house, built before 1978, that is being remodeled or is having paint removed?
3. Does your child live with or often visit another child that had or has an elevated blood lead level?
4. Does your child live with anyone that works at a job where lead may be found or has a hobby that uses lead?
5. Does your child chew on or eat non-food items like paint chips or dirt?
6. Does your child live near an active lead smelter, battery recycling plant, or other industry likely to release lead?
7. Does your child receive medicines such as greta, azarcon, kohl, or pay-loo-ah?

When using the questionnaire, blood lead tests should be done immediately if the child is at high risk (one or more “yes” or “I don’t know” answers on the risk assessment questionnaire) for lead exposure.

## Lead & Radon

Organization Name	Services Offered	Description of Services	Phone	Web Page
<b>Centers for Disease Control</b>	Technical Assistance / Classes and Applied Learning / Educational Materials	When lead is present, special measures must be taken for lead remediation. Here, the CDC lists certification programs for renovators. Trainings on healthy homes and lead poisoning prevention, case studies in lead toxicity, and pediatric environmental health. Comprehensive guide about lead, healthy homes checklists, policy tools, and case studies. Trainings on healthy homes and lead poisoning prevention, case studies in lead toxicity, and pediatric environmental health.	800-CDC-INFO	<a href="http://www.cdc.gov/nceh/lead/tooIstraining.htm">http://www.cdc.gov/nceh/lead/tooIstraining.htm</a>
<b>Centers for Disease Control</b>	Reports	Morbidity and Mortality reports on blood lead levels, as long with state-by-state data and a list of current programs.	800-CDC-INFO	<a href="http://www.cdc.gov/niosh/topics/ABLES/">http://www.cdc.gov/niosh/topics/ABLES/</a>
<b>Centers for Disease Control</b>	Educational Materials	Description of how lead enters the environment and the pathways by which you may be exposed.	800-CDC-INFO	<a href="http://www.atsdr.cdc.gov/toxfaqs/TF.asp?id=93&amp;tid=22">http://www.atsdr.cdc.gov/toxfaqs/TF.asp?id=93&amp;tid=22</a>
<b>Consumer Product Safety Commission</b>	Reports	Explains why DIY lead tests kits are not reliable, and why a professional should be used.	800-638-2772	<a href="http://www.cpsc.gov/en/Newsroom/News-Releases/2008/CPSC-Staff-Study-Home-Lead-Test-Kits-Unreliable/">http://www.cpsc.gov/en/Newsroom/News-Releases/2008/CPSC-Staff-Study-Home-Lead-Test-Kits-Unreliable/</a>
<b>DeKalb County Board of Health</b>	Testing and Screening	Form to request a home radon test kit (County Residents Only).	404-508-7900	<a href="http://www.dekalbhealth.net/envhealth/report-environmental-health-issues/">http://www.dekalbhealth.net/envhealth/report-environmental-health-issues/</a>
<b>Fulton County Cooperative Extension</b>	Testing and Screening	Contact information to request a free radon test kit (County Residents Only).	770-535-8290	<a href="http://www.fultoncountyga.gov/latest-news/5765-fulton-county-cooperative-extension-offers-assistance-to-homeowners-concerned-about-radon">http://www.fultoncountyga.gov/latest-news/5765-fulton-county-cooperative-extension-offers-assistance-to-homeowners-concerned-about-radon</a>
<b>Georgia Department of Community Affairs</b>	Reports	Reports by county on Radon in Georgia. Radon is a indoor air quality hazard with a high risk for many Georgia counties.	N/A	<a href="http://www.ga-radon.info/">http://www.ga-radon.info/</a>
<b>Georgia Department of Public Health</b>	Testing and Screening	If there is demonstrated blood lead levels in children, Georgia DPH will do home inspections to determine the source.	N/A	<a href="http://dph.georgia.gov/lead-home-investigations">http://dph.georgia.gov/lead-home-investigations</a>
<b>Georgia Department of Public Health</b>	Reports	Highlights the strategies by which Georgia hopes to meet the lead components of the HealthyPeople 2020 goals.	N/A	<a href="http://dph.georgia.gov/healthy-homes-and-lead-poisoning-prevention">http://dph.georgia.gov/healthy-homes-and-lead-poisoning-prevention</a>

## Lead & Radon

Organization Name	Services Offered	Description of Services	Phone	Web Page
<b>Georgia Tech</b>	Reports	Reports on OSHA standards, hazard assessment, surveillance, and mitigation guides. Consultation available WITHOUT fines.	404-407-7431	<a href="http://www.oshainfo.gatech.edu/">http://www.oshainfo.gatech.edu/</a>
<b>HealthyPeople 2020</b>	Reports	Reports on the HealthyPeople 2020 objective to lower blood lead levels in children.	N/A	<a href="http://www.healthypeople.gov/node/4357/data_details">http://www.healthypeople.gov/node/4357/data_details</a>
<b>Housing and Urban Development</b>	Code Enforcement/Reporting	If your home/rental unit was built before 1978, and you did not receive disclosure of information about lead-based paint, visit this link for contact information to report a violation.	N/A	<a href="http://portal.hud.gov/hudportal/HUD?src=/program_offices/healthy_homes/enforcement/disclosure">http://portal.hud.gov/hudportal/HUD?src=/program_offices/healthy_homes/enforcement/disclosure</a>
<b>Housing and Urban Development</b>	Educational Materials	Information on what precautions to take against lead for homes built before 1978.	N/A	<a href="http://portal.hud.gov/hudportal/HUD?src=/program_offices/healthy_homes">http://portal.hud.gov/hudportal/HUD?src=/program_offices/healthy_homes</a>
<b>Occupational Safety and Health Administration</b>	Code Enforcement/Reporting / Educational Materials	Reporting of suspected unsafe work conditions, including exposure to lead. Information on occupations typically exposed to lead, their routes, and thresholds for action.	800-321-OSHA	<a href="https://www.osha.gov/SLTC/lead/">https://www.osha.gov/SLTC/lead/</a>
<b>UGA Cooperative Extension</b>	Educational Materials	Information on radon with Georgia-specific resources	706-542-4879	<a href="http://www.fcs.uga.edu/extension/home-radon">http://www.fcs.uga.edu/extension/home-radon</a>



# Recycling & Safe Disposal

5

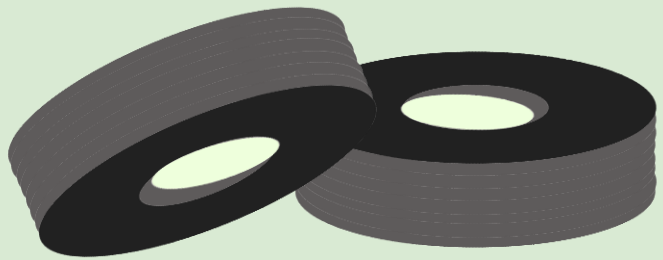
Recycling electronics, mattresses, and bulbs can help reduce garbage in landfills and keep air and water sources clean.



**Improper disposal of materials can cause health risks.**



Emptying paints and solvents down the drain or onto the ground can damage plumbing and water supplies.



Illegally dumped tires are highly flammable, encourage mosquito breeding, and can contaminate soil.

**The resources in this section can help you dispose of hard-to-recycle materials and hazardous waste products. Learn more about Georgia's scrap tire program [here](#).**



# Recycling & Safe Disposal

Sample Resource: US Environmental Protection Agency fact sheet

# BE SMART

Some household products contain ingredients that can harm you, your family and the environment.

- Drain Openers
- Oven Cleaners
- Automotive Oil and Fuel Additives
- Grease and Rust Removers
- Glue
- Bug and Weed Killers
- Mold and Mildew Removers
- Paint Thinners, Strippers and Removers



**ALWAYS READ AND FOLLOW THE LABELS BEFORE YOU USE ANY PRODUCT.  
NEVER MIX PRODUCTS TOGETHER. IN CASE OF POISONING, CALL 1-800-222-1222.  
FOR DISPOSAL INFORMATION, CALL EARTH 911 (1-877-EARTH-911)**

**Remember: Be safe. Be smart. Protect your family's health and your environment!**

**EPA**  
United States  
Environmental Protection Agency (EPA)  
Washington, DC 20460

FP-623 (11-05-02)  
October 2006  
www.epa.gov/osw

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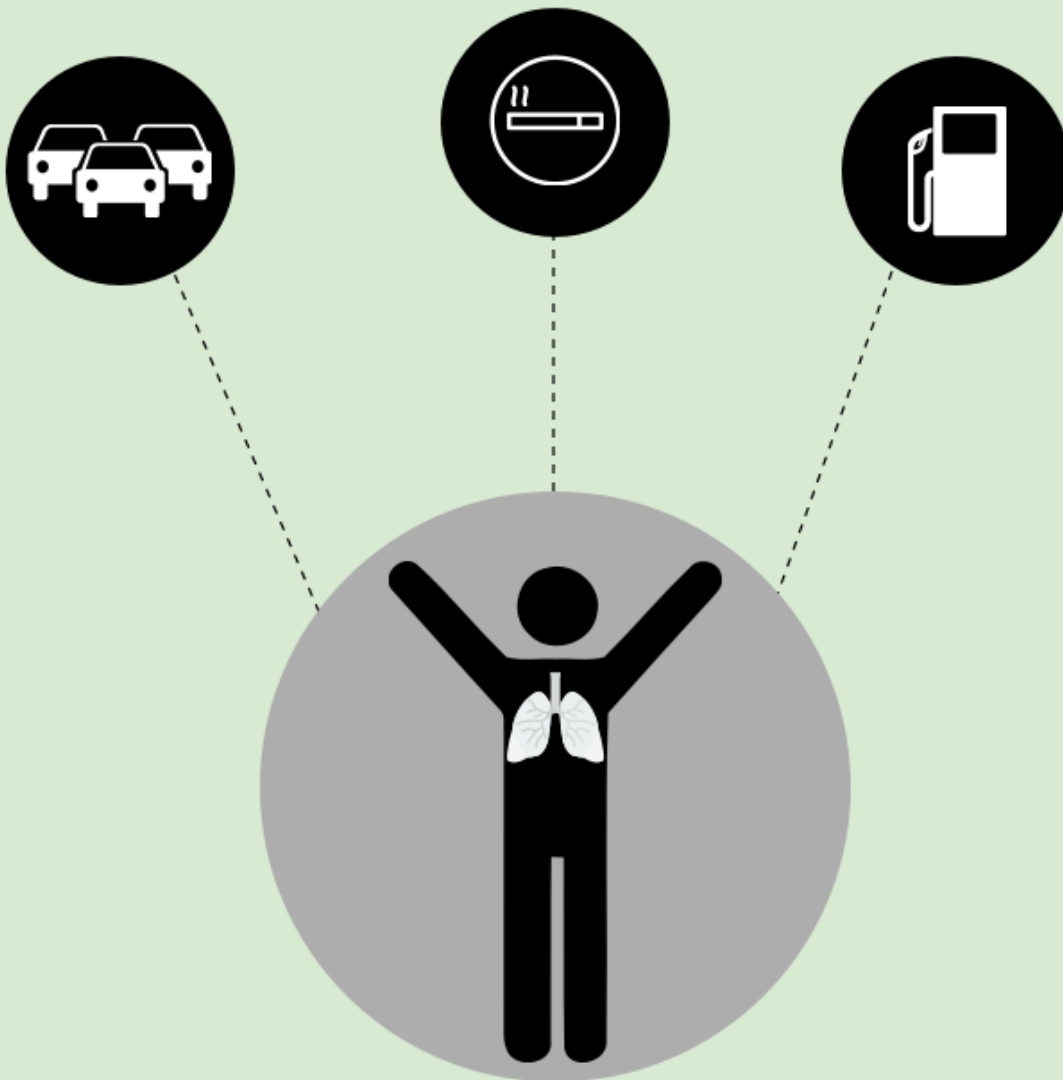
## Recycling & Safe Disposal

Organization Name	Services Offered	Description of Services	Phone	Web Page
<b>Earth 911</b>	Recycling	Searchable database for tire recycling. Note: many tire recycling services will charge a fee.	N/A	<a href="http://search.earth911.com/">http://search.earth911.com/</a>
<b>Eco-Action</b>	Reports	Report from Environmental Community Action detailing its work to stop illegal dumping of tires in Atlanta neighborhoods.	N/A	<a href="http://eco-act.org/wp-content/uploads/2014/04/T.I.R.E.D-small.pdf">http://eco-act.org/wp-content/uploads/2014/04/T.I.R.E.D-small.pdf</a>
<b>Georgia Department of Public Health</b>	Educational Materials	Brochure on uses for recycled scrap tires	(404) 657-6534	<a href="https://dph.georgia.gov/sites/dph.georgia.gov/files/related_files/site_page/EnvHealthChemHazRecycledTireBrochure.pdf">https://dph.georgia.gov/sites/dph.georgia.gov/files/related_files/site_page/EnvHealthChemHazRecycledTireBrochure.pdf</a>
<b>Georgia Environmental Protection Division</b>	Code Enforcement/Reporting	Reporting form for scrap tire dumps.	N/A	<a href="https://epd.georgia.gov/sites/epd.georgia.gov/files/related_files/site_page/Local_Scrap_Tire_Form.pdf">https://epd.georgia.gov/sites/epd.georgia.gov/files/related_files/site_page/Local_Scrap_Tire_Form.pdf</a>
<b>Georgia Environmental Protection Division</b>	Recycling	Directory of EPD approved scrap tire businesses and organizations.	N/A	<a href="https://epd.georgia.gov/sites/epd.georgia.gov/files/related_files/site_page/ApprovedTireResources050614.pdf">https://epd.georgia.gov/sites/epd.georgia.gov/files/related_files/site_page/ApprovedTireResources050614.pdf</a>
<b>Georgia Environmental Protection Division</b>	Reports	Information on current laws regarding scrap tires and requirements for businesses dealing with tires.	N/A	<a href="https://epd.georgia.gov/scrap-tire-technical-guidance">https://epd.georgia.gov/scrap-tire-technical-guidance</a>
<b>US Scrap Tire</b>	Recycling	Directory of scrap tire recycling places in the state of Georgia.	N/A	<a href="http://www.scraptire.net/america/index-georgia.html">http://www.scraptire.net/america/index-georgia.html</a>
<b>Center for Hard to Recycle Materials (CHaRM)</b>	Recycling and Safe Disposal	Accepts hard-to-recycle and hazardous materials for recycling, repurposing, reuse, or incineration in a controlled environment.	404-600-6386	<a href="http://livethrive.org/charm">http://livethrive.org/charm</a>

## Recycling & Safe Disposal

# Air Quality

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Emissions from cars, industry, power plants, and cigarette smoking produce **indoor and outdoor pollution**. These pollutants may be harmful to human health, increasing the risks of cardiorespiratory illnesses and other diseases.

**Look in this section for resources about air pollutants, vehicle emissions testing, and ways to monitor the quality of air in your home and community.**

# Air Quality

## Sample Resource: Earth Gauge Fact Sheet



### Earth Gauge™ Atlanta – Air Quality Environmental Information for Broadcast Meteorologists

*This fact sheet is part of a series on key weather-environment topics for the Atlanta regional area. The Earth Gauge™ Healthy Communities project is designed to provide basic background information on environmental impacts in major U.S. urban areas, as well as simple messages meteorologists can deliver to their viewers.*

More than 51 percent of Americans live in counties with unhealthy levels of air pollution, and residents of the Metro Atlanta Region are no exception. Here, read about ground-level ozone pollution in Atlanta, and find ways to reduce your impact on the Region's air quality.

#### **Ground-Level Ozone in Atlanta**

During Atlanta summers, heat and sunlight react with nitrogen oxides (NO<sub>x</sub>) and volatile organic compounds (VOC) – pollutants found in exhaust from cars and gas-powered lawn equipment, power plant emissions, gasoline fumes, and other sources – to create ground-level ozone pollution. Twenty (20) counties in the Atlanta region are designated as “non-attainment” areas for ozone pollution, meaning that it's likely that levels of pollution will exceed state and federal limits.

#### **Ground-Level Ozone Pollution Impacts People, Plants, and the Built Environment**



Ground-level ozone pollution irritates airways and causes health problems for individuals with chronic lung conditions. More than 95,000 people in Fulton County alone suffer from asthma, chronic bronchitis, or emphysema – 17,000 are pediatric asthma cases.



Ground-level ozone pollution damages plant life. High concentrations can slow photosynthesis (the process by which plants make food), stunt growth, and damage plant cells. It can also reduce agricultural crop yields and forest growth.



Some materials – rubber, textiles, some paints and fibers – can be weakened by ground-level ozone pollution, and elastic materials (such as rubber) can become more brittle or crack. Ground-level ozone can damage buildings and national monuments, and reduce visibility in cities.

#### **Learn More about Air Quality**

**The Clean Air Campaign** offers resources and ideas for improving Atlanta's air quality and reducing traffic congestion. Learn about walking and biking, telecommuting, carpooling, transit, and other transportation options. [www.cleanaircampaign.org](http://www.cleanaircampaign.org)

**AIRNow** provides local air quality forecasts for ground-level ozone and particle pollution, fact sheets and resources on the effects of air pollution, and resources for meteorologists to include the air quality forecast in their on-air presentations. [www.airnow.gov](http://www.airnow.gov)

**It All Adds up to Cleaner Air**, a public education campaign to raise awareness of connections between transportation and air quality, includes links to University and local government resources, tips for drivers, lists of community partners, and relevant publications. [www.italladdsup.gov](http://www.italladdsup.gov)

**Flip this page over to find simple messages and tips about ground-level ozone pollution you can use during your on-air weather report.**



Earth Gauge

A National Environmental Education Foundation Program

4301 Connecticut Avenue, NW, Suite 160  
Washington, DC 20008  
[www.neefusa.org](http://www.neefusa.org) [www.earthgauge.net](http://www.earthgauge.net)



# Air Quality

## Making the Connection: What You Can Say On-Air

Here are some simple facts and tips you can provide to your viewers to help make the connection between hot, sunny weather and air quality. Help your viewers understand how ground-level ozone forms and how they can take simple steps to reduce their own impact on Atlanta's air quality.



### Sitting Idle

The typical Atlanta commuter spends 67 hours per year sitting in traffic – more than an entire work week! On hot days, exhaust from idling cars reacts with heat and sunlight to create ground-level ozone, a harmful pollutant that can cause health problems for asthmatics and others with chronic lung conditions.

**Viewer Tip:** Try sharing a ride with a coworker or friend, and you'll cut your emissions almost in half. Mass transit is equally beneficial for air quality. Using alternative transportation just once per week can save you up to 1200 miles on your car and more than 500 dollars in driving costs. Visit [www.itsmarta.com](http://www.itsmarta.com) to learn more about Atlanta's regional transit system and find a route to your destination.

### Breathe Easy

Eleven percent of Georgia children have asthma, and asthma is one of the top-three reasons for pediatric inpatient hospital admissions across the state. Ozone - an airway irritant created when air pollutants from car exhaust, gasoline fumes, and other sources react with heat and sunlight - can trigger health problems for asthmatics and others with lung diseases. Kids can be particularly susceptible to ozone pollution because their respiratory systems are still developing, and they tend to spend more time outside.

**Viewer Tip:** Keep your eye on the air quality forecast provided by your local meteorologist. On days with poor air quality, consider rescheduling sports games and other outdoor activities for another day. If you do go outside, aim for early morning or evening hours, when air pollution levels are likely to be lower.



### Two-Wheeling

The average passenger car emits 77 pounds of hydrocarbons (key ozone pollution ingredients); 575 pounds of carbon monoxide (reduces oxygen delivery to the body and aggravates some heart and lung conditions); and 11,450 pounds of carbon dioxide (traps heat in the atmosphere) each year. Your bike? Zero emissions, no gas required.

**Viewer Tip:** Dust off your two-wheeler. There is almost one adult-sized bike per household in the U.S., but few adults report taking frequent bike trips. Try using your bike for short trips - leaving your car at home for five separate one-mile trips eliminates the same amount of air pollutants as one 15-mile trip.

### Keep it in the Tank

Not only do Metro Atlanta drivers face major traffic delays, but they also spend more money on gas each year than any other metro-area commuters in the U.S. Gasoline fumes are a common air pollution ingredient – when they react with heat and sunlight, ground-level ozone pollution is created.

**Viewer Tip:** Keep it in the tank – fill up in the early morning or late evening when the air is cooler. At these times of day, gasoline is most dense and less likely to evaporate into the air as you pump. Also, resist the urge to top off the tank, which can release additional pollutants and result in a spill.



# Air Quality

Organization Name	Services Offered	Description of Services	Phone	Web Page
<b>Airnow</b>	Air Quality Reports / Educational Materials	Gives daily air quality index to document which pollutants may be an issue on any given day. Explains what health problems can be associated with specific air pollutants.	N/A	<a href="http://www.airnow.gov/">http://www.airnow.gov/</a>
<b>American Lung Association</b>	Educational Materials / Air Quality Reports	Information on dangers of air pollutants, including ozone and particulate matter. Air quality reports searchable by state or by zip code.	800-LUNG-USA	<a href="http://www.stateoftheair.org/">http://www.stateoftheair.org/</a>
<b>Atlanta Botanical Gardens</b>	Educational Materials	General educational materials on plants and animals, as well as a plant hotline.	404-876-5859	<a href="http://atlantabg.org/learn/educator-resources">http://atlantabg.org/learn/educator-resources</a>
<b>Centers for Disease Control</b>	Educational Materials	Tips for healthy homes for the following topics: drinking water, indoor air quality, emergencies and disasters, injury prevention, food safety, and poisoning prevention.	800-CDC-INFO	<a href="http://www.cdc.gov/healthyhomes/index.html">http://www.cdc.gov/healthyhomes/index.html</a>
<b>Clean Air Force</b>	Educational Materials	Explanation of Georgia's vehicle emissions testing, as well as tips on how to prepare for your testing and reduce wait times.	800-449-2471	<a href="http://www.cleanairforce.com/">http://www.cleanairforce.com/</a>
<b>Environmental Protection Agency</b>	Educational Materials / Classes and Applied Learning	Educational materials on asthma, mold, radon, smoke free homes, and general indoor air quality. Comprehensive guides on how to develop indoor air quality programs for schools. Offers action kits, connections with success stories in your area, and National Schools Network for other IAQ programs.	N/A	<a href="http://www.epa.gov/iaq/index.html">http://www.epa.gov/iaq/index.html</a>
<b>Environmental Protection Agency</b>	Product Buying Guides	Indoor airPLUS is a certification for homes that are designed to protect your family from indoor air pollution.	N/A	<a href="https://www.epa.gov/indoorairplus">https://www.epa.gov/indoorairplus</a>
<b>Environmental Protection Agency</b>	Reports	Explains general framework of how costs, benefits, and economic impacts will be measured by the EPA when addressing outdoor air quality issues.	N/A	<a href="https://www.epa.gov/economic-and-cost-analysis-air-pollution-regulations">https://www.epa.gov/economic-and-cost-analysis-air-pollution-regulations</a>
<b>Environmental Protection Agency</b>	Educational Materials	Information on six common outdoor air pollutants, air emission sources, trends, and monitoring information.	N/A	<a href="http://www.epa.gov/airquality/">http://www.epa.gov/airquality/</a>
<b>Georgia Department of Public Health</b>	Reports	Summary of current projects dealing with indoor air quality by the Georgia DPH, including smoke free homes and mold.	N/A	<a href="http://dph.georgia.gov/indoor-air-quality">http://dph.georgia.gov/indoor-air-quality</a>
<b>Georgia Department of Public Health</b>	Reports	Summary of current projects dealing with indoor air quality by the Georgia DPH, including smoke free homes and mold.	N/A	<a href="http://dph.georgia.gov/indoor-air-quality">http://dph.georgia.gov/indoor-air-quality</a>
<b>Georgia Environmental Protection Division</b>	Educational Materials	Guidelines on topics such as fish consumption, green growth, and toxics release inventory.	404-363-7000	<a href="http://epd.georgia.gov/">http://epd.georgia.gov/</a>

## Air Quality

<b>Georgia Department Of Community Affairs</b>	Educational Materials	The Georgia Tenant Handbook listing rights as a renter and how to proceed with disputes.	N/A	<a href="http://www.dca.state.ga.us/housing/housingdevelopment/programs/downloads/Georgia_Landlord_Tenant_Handbook.pdf">http://www.dca.state.ga.us/housing/housingdevelopment/programs/downloads/Georgia_Landlord_Tenant_Handbook.pdf</a>
<b>Green Law</b>	Educational Materials	Information about clean air in Georgia, including current activism and policy.	404-659-3122	<a href="http://greenlaw.org/the-issues/clean-air-and-energy/">http://greenlaw.org/the-issues/clean-air-and-energy/</a>
<b>Indoor Air Quality Association</b>	Classes and Trainings	Classes and Trainings for topics including indoor environmentalists, microbial remediation, microbial investigator, mold remediation, and fundamentals of indoor air quality.	844-802-4103	<a href="http://www.iaqa.org/education">http://www.iaqa.org/education</a>
<b>Indoor Air Quality Association</b>	Educational Materials	Educational videos and materials for indoor air quality, specifically dealing with mold.	844-802-4103	<a href="http://www.iaqa.org/resources/mold-resources">http://www.iaqa.org/resources/mold-resources</a>
<b>Mothers and Others for Clean Air</b>	Educational Materials	Tips to protect you and your family, definitions of air pollution and its health effects, and health advisories on air pollution.	770-544-0508	<a href="http://www.mothersandothersforcleanair.org/">http://www.mothersandothersforcleanair.org/</a>
<b>National Resource Defense Council</b>	Educational Materials	Educational materials on air quality as well as NRDC efforts to reduce air pollution.	202-289-6868	<a href="http://www.nrdc.org/air/">http://www.nrdc.org/air/</a>



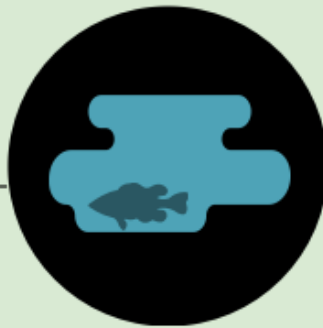
# Air Quality

# Drinking Water, Lakes & Streams

7



Heavy rain, flooding, and dumped waste can cause harmful chemicals and bacteria from the environment to flow into nearby bodies of water.



The quality of tap water depends on the cleanliness of nearby lakes and streams and how the water is treated to remove pollution.



**Reports and resources in this section provide information about drinking water quality, contaminated water bodies, safe fish consumption, and clean water policies.**

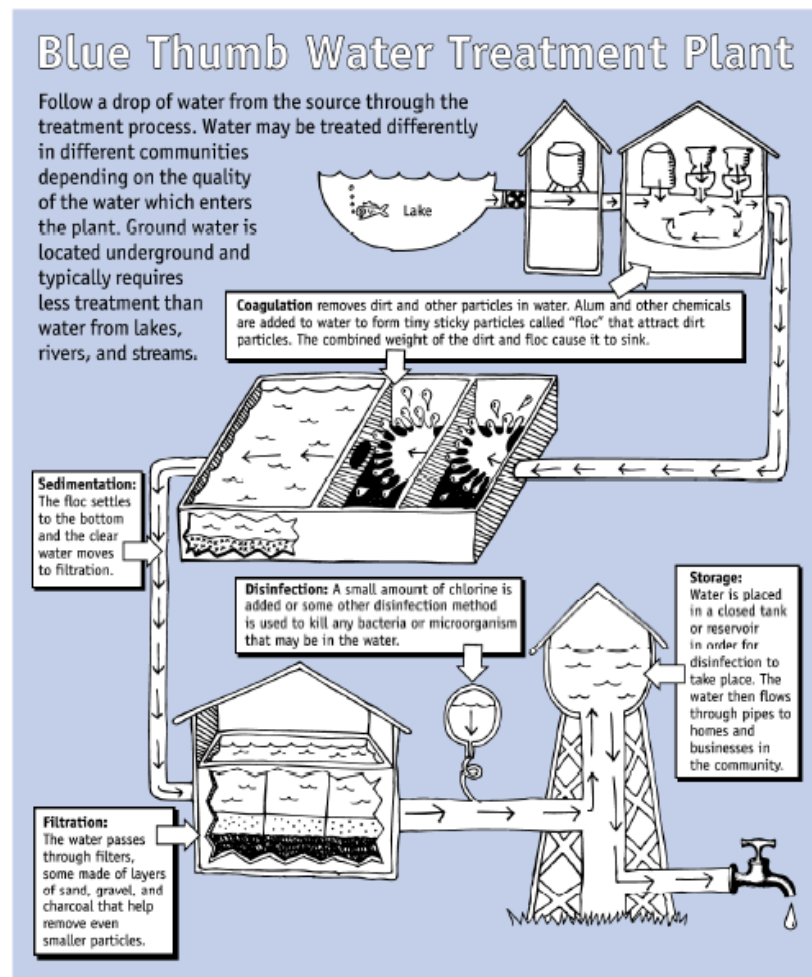
# Drinking Water, Lakes & Streams

Sample Resource: US Environmental Protection Agency Drinking Water Information



## How is drinking water treated?

When a water supplier takes untreated water from a river or reservoir, the water often contains dirt and tiny pieces of leaves and other organic matter, as well as trace amounts of certain contaminants. When it gets to the treatment plant, water suppliers often add chemicals called coagulants to the water. These act on the water as it flows very slowly through tanks so that the dirt and other contaminants form clumps that settle to the bottom. Usually, this water then flows through a filter for removal of the smallest contaminants like viruses and *Giardia*.



## Drinking Water, Lakes & Streams

Organization Name	Services Offered	Description of Services	Phone	Web Page
<b>Atlanta Watershed</b>	Air and Water Quality Reports	Water quality reports by year for Atlanta.	404-546-0311	<a href="http://www.atlantawatershed.org/newsroom/water-quality-reports/">http://www.atlantawatershed.org/newsroom/water-quality-reports/</a>
<b>Atlanta Watershed</b>	Reports	List of ongoing projects by Neighborhood Planning Units to Improve Atlanta's water quality.	404-982-1468	<a href="http://www.cleanwateratlanta.org/overview/factsheet2.htm">http://www.cleanwateratlanta.org/overview/factsheet2.htm</a>
<b>Centers for Disease Control</b>	Educational Materials	Tips for healthy homes for the following topics: drinking water, indoor air quality, emergencies and disasters, injury prevention, food safety, and poisoning prevention	800-CDC-INFO	<a href="http://www.cdc.gov/healthyhomes/index.html">http://www.cdc.gov/healthyhomes/index.html</a>
<b>Clean Water Atlanta</b>	Reports	Highlights and history of the five-point plan to improve Atlanta's water quality.	404-529-9211	<a href="http://www.cleanwateratlanta.org/Overview/FivePoint.pdf">http://www.cleanwateratlanta.org/Overview/FivePoint.pdf</a>
<b>Environmental Protection Agency</b>	Reports	Bi-annual reports by the EPA on water quality in Georgia Lakes and Streams. Not focused on drinking water.	N/A	<a href="http://ofmpub.epa.gov/waters10/attains_state.control?p_state=GA">http://ofmpub.epa.gov/waters10/attains_state.control?p_state=GA</a>
<b>Environmental Protection Agency</b>	Educational Materials	Information about drinking water quality as well as a national safe drinking water hotline.	N/A	<a href="http://water.epa.gov/drink/local/ga.cfm">http://water.epa.gov/drink/local/ga.cfm</a>
<b>Environmental Working Group</b>	Educational Materials	Fish consumption calculator to determine safe levels given your age, gender, and heart disease status.	N/A	<a href="http://www.ewg.org/research/ewg-s-consumer-guide-seafood/seafood-calculator">http://www.ewg.org/research/ewg-s-consumer-guide-seafood/seafood-calculator</a>
<b>Georgia Department of Public Health</b>	Educational Materials	Resources for the healthy consumption of fish (in regards to mercury levels).	1-800-436-7442	<a href="http://dph.georgia.gov/fish-consumption-guidelines">http://dph.georgia.gov/fish-consumption-guidelines</a>
<b>Georgia Environmental Protection Division</b>	Reports	Reports on the fish eating guidelines, with reports of consumption restrictions by region. Also contains guide tailored to pregnant and nursing women on fish consumption.	1-800-436-7442	<a href="http://epd.georgia.gov/fish-consumption-guidelines">http://epd.georgia.gov/fish-consumption-guidelines</a>
<b>Green Law</b>	Educational Materials	Information about clean water in Georgia, including current activism and policy.	N/A	<a href="http://greenlaw.org/the-issues/clean-water-defense/">http://greenlaw.org/the-issues/clean-water-defense/</a>

# Drinking Water, Lakes & Streams

# Environmental Justice & Law

8



Environmental hazards—poor air quality, unsafe water, contaminated neighborhoods and homes—unequally affect low-income communities and people of color.

**Look in this section for information about governmental and non-governmental organizations that can help community members hold polluters responsible for environmental health concerns.**



# Environmental Justice & Law

## Sample Resource: US Environmental Protection Agency Environmental Justice Fact Sheet

Find out more about what our regional offices are doing for environmental justice in your community!

Region 1  
(ME, VT, NH, MA, CN, RI)  
One Congress Street  
Boston, MA 02203  
Phone: 617-918-1346

Region 2 (NY, NJ, PR, VI)  
290 Broadway, 26th Floor  
New York, NY 10007  
Phone: 212-637-5027

Region 3  
(MD, DE, WV, VA, PA, DC)  
841 Chestnut Building  
Philadelphia, PA 19107  
Phone: 215-814-2988

Region 4  
(AL, FL, GA, KY, MS, NC, SC, TN)  
61 Forsyth Street  
Atlanta, GA 30303  
Phone: 404-562-8460

Region 5  
(IL, IN, MI, MN, OH, WI)  
77 West Jackson Blvd.  
Chicago, IL 60604-3507  
Phone: 312-353-5614

Region 6 (AR, LA, NM, OK, TX)  
1445 Ross Ave, Suite 1200  
Dallas, TX 75202-2733  
Phone: 214-665-3138

Region 7 (IA, KS, MO, NB)  
726 Minnesota Ave  
Kansas City, KS 66101  
Phone: 913-551-7649

Region 8  
(CO, MT, ND, SD, UT, WY)  
999 18th Street, Suite 500  
Denver, CO 80202-2405  
Phone: 303-462-9252

Region 9  
(CA, AZ, HI, NV, GM, AS)  
75 Hawthorne Street  
San Francisco, CA 94105  
Phone: 415-972-3795

Region 10 (AK, ID, OR, WA)  
1200 Sixth Ave (MD-142)  
Seattle, WA 98101  
Phone: 206-553-2899

### Quarterly EJ Teleconference

These calls provide information to participants about EPA's EJ activities and maintain an open dialogue with EJ advocates. To find out more, visit: [www.epa.gov/environmentaljustice/events/ej-outreach-calls](http://www.epa.gov/environmentaljustice/events/ej-outreach-calls)

### Tools for EJ Action

OJ programs have established the following tools to promote agency action on critical environmental justice issues. These cross-cutting efforts aim to create consistency and clarity around how EPA identifies and addresses EJ concerns.

#### EJ View

EJ View is a mapping tool that allows users to create maps and generate detailed reports based on geographic areas and data such as demographics, health and environmental information. The tool helps users identify areas in the US overburdened with pollution at the state, county, city and census tract level. To find out more information about EJ View or to use the application, visit: [www.epa.gov/environmentaljustice/mapping](http://www.epa.gov/environmentaljustice/mapping)

#### Science

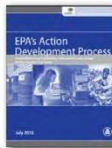
OJ is leading the effort to understand how populations of EJ concern disproportionately experience environmental health impacts and develop guidance on considering environmental justice concerns in rulemaking. The office hosted the Symposium on the Science of Disproportionate Environmental Health Impacts, to examine the reasons low income and minority communities may experience disparities in environmental health. OJ is also working to strengthen consideration of EJ during the National Environmental Policy Act review process. To read about these scientific developments, visit: [www.epa.gov/environmentaljustice/policy](http://www.epa.gov/environmentaljustice/policy)



#### Legal

OJ promotes the use of existing statutory and regulatory authorities to advance environmental justice and community health. For example, the memorandum, "Improving EPA Review of Appalachian Surface Coal Mining Operations Under the Clean Water Act, National Environmental Policy Act, and the Environmental Justice Executive Order", explains how EPA can apply these authorities to address EJ concerns in Appalachia. To learn more about OJ's work on legal issues, visit: [www.epa.gov/environmentaljustice/policy](http://www.epa.gov/environmentaljustice/policy)

#### Policy



To advance the consideration of EJ in policy making, EPA develops guidance documents that ensure that the needs of overburdened communities are factored into regulatory and policy decision-making. EPA released an interim guide on incorporating environmental justice into the agency's process for developing rules and regulations. EPA also released voluntary school siting guidelines to help local school districts and community members evaluate environmental and public health risks, (e.g. onsite contamination like chemicals in soil or offsite risks like industrial facilities) and benefits of potential school locations (e.g. location that's close to where students live so they can walk or bike to school) during the school siting process. To access these guidance documents, visit: [www.epa.gov/environmentaljustice/policy](http://www.epa.gov/environmentaljustice/policy)

#### Training and Workshops

OJ and the regional offices provide training courses and other workshops to educate environmental stakeholders about the public health and environmental issues which impact communities overburdened by pollution. To date more than 4,000 environmental stakeholders have been trained on the fundamentals of environmental justice. OJ has also developed an online EJ course, which explores the origins of the environmental justice movement, and provides an overview of analytical tools to help understand, integrate, and address environmental justice issues. To find out more, visit: [www.epa.gov/environmentaljustice/resources](http://www.epa.gov/environmentaljustice/resources)

### For More Information

To find out more about the Office of Environmental Justice, call 202-564-2515, or visit: [www.epa.gov/environmentaljustice](http://www.epa.gov/environmentaljustice)

For a direct way to provide feedback and find answers to questions related to environmental justice, call the EJ Hotline at 800-962-6215.



In January 2010, Administrator Lisa P. Jackson announced the Environmental Protection Agency's (EPA's) top priorities: reducing greenhouse gas emissions; improving air quality; managing chemical risks; cleaning up hazardous waste disposal sites; protecting America's water; **expanding the conversation on environmentalism and working for environmental justice**, and building strong state and tribal partnerships.



During a speech about environmental justice, Administrator Jackson emphasized, "In the years ahead, I want to see a full-scale revitalization of what we do and how we think about environmental justice. This is not an issue we can afford to relegate to the margins. It has to be part of our thinking in every decision we make."

To revitalize the agency's environmental justice efforts, the Administrator directed the EPA's national programs and regional offices to address the needs of overburdened communities by decreasing environmental burdens, increasing environmental benefits, and working collaboratively to build healthy, sustainable, and green communities.

### Plan EJ 2014

Plan EJ 2014 has been developed to support Administrator Jackson's priority to advance environmental justice. Plan EJ 2014 is not a rule or regulation. It is a strategy to integrate environmental justice into EPA's day-to-day activities.



Implementation of Plan EJ 2014 is the responsibility of the entire agency. Each national program and region has taken a leadership role in Plan EJ 2014 and has developed an implementation plan to manage their commitments. The Office of Environmental Justice (OJ) supports the management and communication of the plan, and in some areas directly participates in the execution of implementation plans.

### About the Office of Environmental Justice

The Office of Environmental Justice, formerly known as the Office of Environmental Equity, was created in 1992 and has the primary responsibility for coordinating agency efforts to integrate environmental justice consideration into all of EPA's policies, programs, and activities. OJ works to empower stakeholders to constructively and collaboratively address environmental justice issues. The office also establishes partnerships with local, state, tribal, and federal governments and organizations to achieve healthy and sustainable communities.



For the past 20 years OJ has worked to foster public health and sustainability in overburdened communities and to enable all EPA Headquarters and regional offices to address environmental justice as a part of their day-to-day activities. Under Administrator Jackson's leadership, the EPA has expanded this concept to not only address disproportionately adverse human health problems in overburdened communities, but also to focus on providing access to the environmental, public health, and economic benefits of all federal agency programs.

To accomplish this mission, OJ has created programs, policies, and activities outlined in this document, to **engage federal agencies to help them understand environmental justice issues; build capacity for community-based action programs; incorporate the voice of communities into agency decisions; and provide tools for EJ actions.**



Did You Know?

November 2, 2012 marks the 20th anniversary of the creation of EPA's Office of Environmental Equity, which would eventually become the Office of Environmental Justice.



# Environmental Justice & Law

## Agency Milestones



## Engaging Other Agencies to Understand and Address EJ Issues

In order to support the achievement of public health and sustainability in overburdened communities, the federal government can use a variety of authorities and resources. To leverage these resources, EPA engages federal agencies to help them participate in a coordinated approach.

### The Federal Interagency Working Group on Environmental Justice (EJ IWG)

The EJ IWG was established in 1994 under Executive Order 12898. The EJ IWG guides, supports, and enhances federal environmental justice and community-based activities. It is comprised of 15 federal agencies and several White House offices. The Memorandum of Understanding on Environmental Justice is an agreement between EJ IWG agencies to recommit to environmental justice through a collaborative effort. Each agency released an EJ strategy in February, 2012.

The Partnership for Sustainable Communities is an excellent illustration of how this type of inter-agency collaboration can work. By working together, the departments of Housing and Urban Development and Transportation, and EPA are helping to improve access to affordable housing, provide more transportation options at lower costs, and protect the environment in communities nationwide. For more information about current EJ IWG activities, visit: [www.epa.gov/environmentaljustice/interagency](http://www.epa.gov/environmentaljustice/interagency)



## Building Capacity for Community-Based Action Programs

The EPA has learned that communities must be the driver for local solutions. To build capacity in these communities, OEJ provides grants to organizations, works with regional offices to provide technical assistance to communities, and engages overburdened populations to build partnerships that promote healthy communities.

### Small Grants Programs

The Environmental Justice Small Grants Program provides financial assistance to community-based organizations and local and tribal governments working on community projects aimed at addressing environmental and public health issues. Since 1994, the program has awarded \$24 million to 1,466 grant recipients. The goal of the EJ Small Grants Program is to help affected communities create self-sustaining, community-based partnerships that will continue to improve local

environments in the future. To find out more about the EJ Small Grants Program, visit: [www.epa.gov/environmentaljustice/grants/ej-smgrants](http://www.epa.gov/environmentaljustice/grants/ej-smgrants)

### Environmental Justice Showcase Communities

The EPA provided \$1 million to help alleviate environmental and human health challenges in ten communities across the nation. The effort brings together the collective resources and expertise of governmental and non-governmental organizations to achieve real results in communities. The lessons learned from the projects increase EPA's ability to address local environmental challenges and support community development in more effective, efficient, and sustainable ways. To learn more about EJ Showcase Community projects, visit: [www.epa.gov/environmentaljustice/grants/ej-showcase](http://www.epa.gov/environmentaljustice/grants/ej-showcase)

## Youth Workshops

Young people experience the world through a different lens, allowing them to bring innovative ideas to the table. To harness this energy, OEJ hosts workshops to promote youth participation in the environmental decision-making process. Local youths range between the ages of 14 and 25 years of age.



Environmental justice workshop for DC youth.

## Environmental Justice Eco-Ambassadors

The EJ Eco-Ambassador program provides student career development opportunities for graduate students. The program aims to expand opportunities for graduate students to work collaboratively with EPA offices to support community based programs and increase local

## Incorporating the Voice of Communities in Agency Decisions

OEJ is working to integrate consideration of environmental justice concerns and incorporate EJ communities' voices into the planning and implementation of the agencies' program strategies.

### National Environmental Justice Advisory Council (NEJAC)

The mission of NEJAC is to provide independent advice and recommendations to the Administrator about broad, crosscutting issues related to environmental justice. NEJAC also holds public meetings to receive comments, questions, and recommendations regarding environmental justice issues. Since 1993, the NEJAC has developed 27 recommendation reports to better address the needs of disadvantaged and underserved communities. To read the NEJAC's reports, visit: [www.epa.gov/environmentaljustice/nejac](http://www.epa.gov/environmentaljustice/nejac)

### EJ Listserv

The listserv notifies individuals about EPA's programs, projects, grants, public input opportunities and EJ activities at other agencies. To join the EJ Listserv, visit: [www.epa.gov/environmentaljustice/resources](http://www.epa.gov/environmentaljustice/resources)

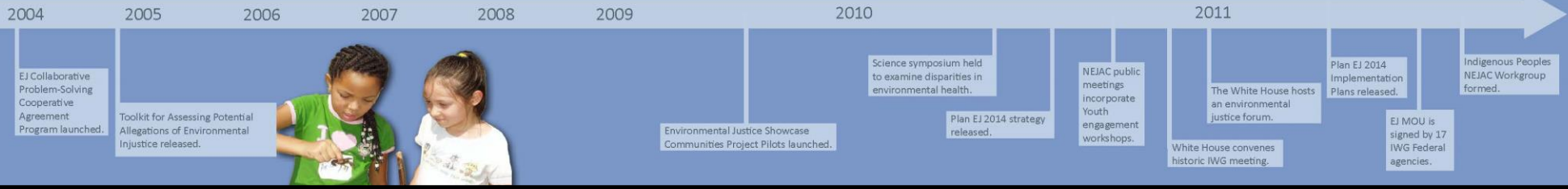
### Tribal and Indigenous Stakeholder Consultation

To work more effectively with federally-recognized tribes and other indigenous peoples on EJ issues, EPA is developing new processes to coordinate & collaborate with tribes and indigenous stakeholders. The NEJAC/Indigenous Peoples Work Group is providing advice and recommendations to EPA on how to work more effectively with tribes, indigenous stakeholders, and other federal agencies to address EJ issues. EPA will use the input from the tribes, the NEJAC, and other indigenous stakeholders, to develop its tribal and indigenous peoples EJ guiding principles/policy. To learn more about OEJ's efforts on tribal policy, visit: [www.epa.gov/environmentaljustice/indigenous](http://www.epa.gov/environmentaljustice/indigenous)



EPA senior officials at EPA's National Tribal Operations Committee.

(continues on back)





## Environmental Justice & Law

Organization Name	Services Offered	Description of Services	Phone	Web Page
<b>Agency for Toxic Substances and Disease Registry</b>	Environmental Justice	The Agency for Toxic Substances and Disease Registry (ATSDR), based in Atlanta, Georgia, is a federal public health agency of the U.S. Department of Health and Human Services. ATSDR protects communities from harmful health effects related to exposure to natural and man-made hazardous substances. We do this by responding to environmental health emergencies; investigating emerging environmental health threats; conducting research on the health impacts of hazardous waste sites; and building capabilities of and providing actionable guidance to state and local health partners.	800-CDC-INFO	<a href="https://www.atsdr.cdc.gov/">https://www.atsdr.cdc.gov/</a>
<b>Atlanta Beltline</b>	Reports	Reports and explanations of what the Atlanta Beltline project is, and how it is progressing.	404-477-3003	<a href="http://beltline.org/">http://beltline.org/</a>
<b>Atlanta Regional Commission</b>	Technical Assistance	Information on the state implementation plan as well as information on ozone, particulate matter, air quality planning, and climate change.	404-463-3205	<a href="http://www.atlantaregional.com/environment/air">http://www.atlantaregional.com/environment/air</a>
<b>Clarkston Code Enforcement</b>	Code Enforcement/Reporting	Contact information/forms to report code violations.	404-296-6489	<a href="http://www.clarkstonga.gov/images/docs/QOL_Complaint_Form.pdf">http://www.clarkstonga.gov/images/docs/QOL_Complaint_Form.pdf</a>
<b>Cobb County Code Enforcement</b>	Code Enforcement/Reporting	Contact information/forms to report code violations.	N/A	<a href="http://www.cobbcounty.org/index.php?option=com_content&amp;view=article&amp;id=804&amp;Itemid=790">http://www.cobbcounty.org/index.php?option=com_content&amp;view=article&amp;id=804&amp;Itemid=790</a>
<b>Douglas County Code Enforcement</b>	Code Enforcement/Reporting	Contact information/forms to report code violations.	770-920-7372	<a href="http://www.celebratedouglascounty.com/view/departments/view_dept/&amp;cdept=126&amp;department=Code%20Enforcement">http://www.celebratedouglascounty.com/view/departments/view_dept/&amp;cdept=126&amp;department=Code%20Enforcement</a>
<b>Fayette County Code Enforcement</b>	Code Enforcement/Reporting	Contact information/forms to report code violations.	770.305.5417	<a href="http://www.fayettecountyga.gov/code_enforcement/index.htm">http://www.fayettecountyga.gov/code_enforcement/index.htm</a>
<b>Fulton Co: College Park Code Enforcement</b>	Code Enforcement/Reporting	Contact information/forms to report code violations.	404-767-1537	<a href="http://www.collegeparkga.com/Directory.aspx?did=4">http://www.collegeparkga.com/Directory.aspx?did=4</a>
<b>Fulton Co: Hapeville Code Enforcement</b>	Code Enforcement/Reporting	Contact information/forms to report code violations.	404-669-2123	<a href="http://hapeville.org/index.aspx?nid=78">http://hapeville.org/index.aspx?nid=78</a>

## Environmental Justice & Law

Organization Name	Services Offered	Description of Services	Phone	Web Page
<b>Fulton Co: Milton Code Enforcement</b>	Code Enforcement/Reporting	Contact information/forms to report code violations.	678-242-2500	<a href="http://www.cityofmiltonga.us/index.asp?Type=PERFORMS&amp;SEC=%7bBC590FD6-C80F-40DD-BDA9-00899ED5CDDA%7d">http://www.cityofmiltonga.us/index.asp?Type=PERFORMS&amp;SEC=%7bBC590FD6-C80F-40DD-BDA9-00899ED5CDDA%7d</a>
<b>Fulton Co: Mountain Park Code Enforcement</b>	Code Enforcement/Reporting	Contact information/forms to report code violations.	770-993-3231	<a href="http://www.mountainparkgov.com/public-safety/enforcement">http://www.mountainparkgov.com/public-safety/enforcement</a>
<b>Fulton Co: Palmetto Code Enforcement</b>	Code Enforcement/Reporting	Contact information/forms to report code violations.	770-463-2990	<a href="http://www.citypalmetto.com/index.aspx?NID=155">http://www.citypalmetto.com/index.aspx?NID=155</a>
<b>Fulton Co: Union City Code Enforcement</b>	Code Enforcement/Reporting	Contact information/forms to report code violations.	770-515-7890	<a href="http://www.unioncityga.org/index.aspx?page=112">http://www.unioncityga.org/index.aspx?page=112</a>
<b>Georgia Department Of Community Affairs</b>	Educational Materials	The Georgia Tenant Handbook listing rights as a renter and how to proceed with disputes.	N/A	<a href="http://www.dca.state.ga.us/housing/housingdevelopment/programs/downloads/Georgia_Landlord_Tenant_Handbook.pdf">http://www.dca.state.ga.us/housing/housingdevelopment/programs/downloads/Georgia_Landlord_Tenant_Handbook.pdf</a>
<b>Georgia Department of Public Health</b>	Educational Materials	Brochures on brownfields and their remediation	404-657-6534	<a href="https://dph.georgia.gov/sites/dph.georgia.gov/files/related_files/site_page/EnvHealthChemHazBrownfieldBrochure.pdf">https://dph.georgia.gov/sites/dph.georgia.gov/files/related_files/site_page/EnvHealthChemHazBrownfieldBrochure.pdf</a>
<b>Georgia Department of Public Health</b>	Educational Materials	Brochure on uses for recycled scrap tires	(404) 657-6534	<a href="https://dph.georgia.gov/sites/dph.georgia.gov/files/related_files/site_page/EnvHealthChemHazRecycledTireBrochure.pdf">https://dph.georgia.gov/sites/dph.georgia.gov/files/related_files/site_page/EnvHealthChemHazRecycledTireBrochure.pdf</a>
<b>Georgia Legal Aid</b>	Technical Assistance	Tip sheet for tenants with disputes.	N/A	<a href="http://www.georgialegalaid.org/resource/information-for-tenants?ref=Sd5Tc">http://www.georgialegalaid.org/resource/information-for-tenants?ref=Sd5Tc</a>
<b>Green Law</b>	Technical Assistance	Numerous legal tools for Georgia citizens, including a form letter for Open Records Act Requests.	404-659-3122	<a href="http://greenlaw.org/legal-tools/">http://greenlaw.org/legal-tools/</a>
<b>Green Law</b>	Educational Materials	Information about ongoing environmental justice projects in Georgia.	404-659-3122	<a href="http://greenlaw.org/the-issues/environmental-justice/">http://greenlaw.org/the-issues/environmental-justice/</a>
<b>Gwinnett County Code Enforcement</b>	Code Enforcement/Reporting	Contact information/forms to report code violations.	770-513-5004	<a href="https://www.gwinnettcounty.com/portal/gwinnett/Departments/Police/QualityofLife">https://www.gwinnettcounty.com/portal/gwinnett/Departments/Police/QualityofLife</a>
<b>Peachtree-Dekalb Airport Watch</b>	Reports	Watchdog group monitoring improper and unlawful activity at the local airport.	404-290-5120	<a href="http://pdkwatch.org/">http://pdkwatch.org/</a>

## Environmental Justice & Law

Organization Name	Services Offered	Description of Services	Phone	Web Page
<b>Scorecard by GoodGuide</b>	Reports	Ranks and compares your county to the nation in terms of toxics, air quality, water quality, environmental justice, and more.	N/A	<a href="http://scorecard.goodguide.com/">http://scorecard.goodguide.com/</a>
<b>Woodstock Code Enforcement</b>	Code Enforcement/Reporting	Contact information/forms to report code violations.	770-592-6000 ext. 1506 and 1507	<a href="http://www.woodstockga.gov/index.aspx?NID=152">http://www.woodstockga.gov/index.aspx?NID=152</a>

# **Special Topic: Technical Assistance/Volunteer Connections**



**Use the resources in this section to find academic institutions, consultants, and volunteer organizations that can support your environmental health projects.**

## Special Topic: Technical Assistance/Volunteer Connections

Organization Name	Services Offered	Description of Services	Phone	Web Page
<b>Atlanta-area Evaluation Association</b>	The AaEA Pro-Bono Committee supports the important work of community organizations by offering in-kind program planning & evaluation services to nonprofit organizations in Atlanta with the aim of building the evaluation capacity of organizations and strengthening the capacity of evaluators.	Evaluation	N/A	<a href="http://atl-eval.org/get-involved-with-aaea/pro-bono-evaluation/">http://atl-eval.org/get-involved-with-aaea/pro-bono-evaluation/</a>
<b>Atlanta Regional Commission</b>	Information on the state implementation plan as well as information on ozone, particulate matter, air quality planning, and climate change.	Outdoor Air Quality	404-463-3100	<a href="http://www.atlantaregional.com/environment/air">http://www.atlantaregional.com/environment/air</a>
<b>Atlanta Volunteer Lawyers Foundation</b>	To create safe and stable homes and families by inspiring attorneys to fight for equal justice.	Law	404-521-0790	<a href="https://avlf.org/">https://avlf.org/</a>
<b>Green Law</b>	Numerous legal tools for Georgia citizens, including a form letter for Open Records Act Requests.	Environmental Law	404-659-3122	<a href="http://greenlaw.org/legal-tools/">http://greenlaw.org/legal-tools/</a>
<b>Centers for Disease Control</b>	Lead assessment tools, tool-kits, and trainings.	Lead	800-CDC-INFO	<a href="http://www.cdc.gov/nceh/lead/toolstraining.htm">http://www.cdc.gov/nceh/lead/toolstraining.htm</a>
<b>Georgia Legal Aid</b>	Tip sheet for tenants with disputes.	Environmental Justice and Law	N/A	<a href="http://www.georgialegalaid.org/resource/information-for-tenants?ref=Sd5Tc">http://www.georgialegalaid.org/resource/information-for-tenants?ref=Sd5Tc</a>

## Special Topic: Technical Assistance/Volunteer Connections

<b>Emory University</b>	Description of numerous volunteer connections at Emory and other affiliated programs. Seeks to connect students with organizations needing volunteers.	Volunteer Connections	N/A	<a href="http://catalog.college.emory.edu/community/volunteer.html">http://catalog.college.emory.edu/community/volunteer.html</a>
<b>Georgia Tech</b>	Georgia Tech landing page for student engagement and how to get in touch with volunteers.	Volunteer Connections	404-894-3458	<a href="http://leadandengage.gatech.edu/">http://leadandengage.gatech.edu/</a>
<b>Georgia State University</b>	Georgia State landing page for student engagement and how to get in touch with volunteers.	Volunteer Connections	404-413-1550	<a href="http://service.gsu.edu/">http://service.gsu.edu/</a>





The Emory HERCULES Exposome Research Center aims to study relationships between environmental exposures, health, and disease. It is a P30 Core Center Grant from the National Institute of Environmental Health Sciences (P30 ES019776). The Emory HERCULES Stakeholder Advisory Board helps incorporate community concerns into these research efforts.

Visit <http://emoryhercules.com> for more information.



Resources were compiled by Jon Downs. Infographics were generated by Tara Krishna with images from Piktochart.