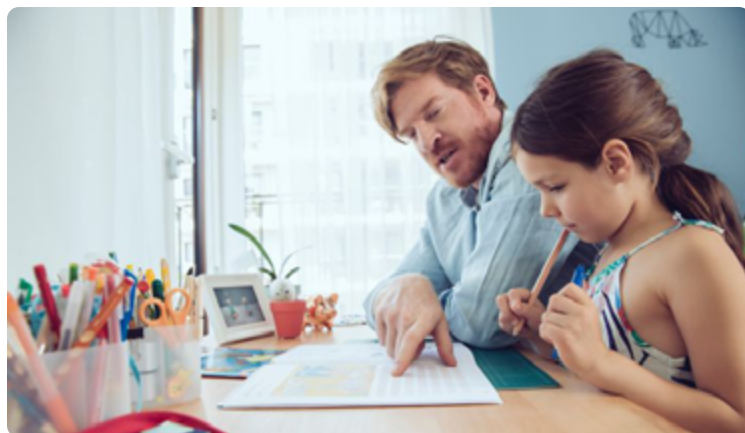




Welcome to 2021. With a new year comes fresh beginnings. One step you can take is to revisit ways to protect the environmental health of the children in your care. This issue features a toolbox of select resources to help you do just that, whether learning is remote or in classroom. Thanks for being there for those young learners. We are here to help you. As we look to brighter days ahead, let the learning continue! Please share with others, and print and post.

## YOUR HEALTHY SCHOOL TOOLBOX

TOPIC	THE BASICS	LEARN MORE
Teaching Resources	EPA offers environmental education resources for kids, parents, and teachers. You will find online activities, curricula, storybooks, and more.	<a href="https://www.epa.gov/students">https://www.epa.gov/students</a> Sally Hanft: 206-553-1207, <a href="mailto:hanft.sally@epa.gov">hanft.sally@epa.gov</a>
Indoor Air Quality	Healthy indoor air reduces absences, improves test scores, and enhances student and staff productivity. Also, good ventilation and filtration help reduce the spread of illness.	<a href="https://www.epa.gov/iaq-schools">https://www.epa.gov/iaq-schools</a> Gretchen Stewart: 206-553-0527, <a href="mailto:stewart.gretchen@epa.gov">stewart.gretchen@epa.gov</a>
Safer Cleaning	The <i>Safer Choice</i> label gives you an easy way to choose cleaning products with safer ingredients. The label shows that a product has met EPA's rigorous safety standards. <i>Safer Choice</i> products are better for the environment and people's health.	About Safer Choice: <a href="https://www.epa.gov/saferchoice">https://www.epa.gov/saferchoice</a> Browse Safer Choice Products: <a href="https://www.epa.gov/saferchoice/products">https://www.epa.gov/saferchoice/products</a> Kendra Tyler: 206-553-0041, <a href="mailto:tyler.kendra@epa.gov">tyler.kendra@epa.gov</a>
COVID-19	Information to help schools and childcare programs to plan, prepare, and respond during the pandemic.	<a href="https://www.cdc.gov/coronavirus/2019-ncov/community/schools-childcare/index.html">https://www.cdc.gov/coronavirus/2019-ncov/community/schools-childcare/index.html</a>
Lead in Drinking Water	At school: EPA's 3Ts Toolkit helps schools and childcares carry out voluntary lead in drinking water testing programs. The 3Ts are Training, Testing, and Taking Action.	<a href="https://www.epa.gov/ground-water-and-drinking-water/3ts-reducing-lead-drinking-water-toolkit">https://www.epa.gov/ground-water-and-drinking-water/3ts-reducing-lead-drinking-water-toolkit</a> Chris Affeldt: 206-553-6068, <a href="mailto:affeldt.chris@epa.gov">affeldt.chris@epa.gov</a>



TOPIC	THE BASICS	LEARN MORE
Wildfire Smoke	Wildfire smoke lowers air quality and presents health risks for students, parents, and staff. EPA offers you resources to plan, track conditions, and act to reduce health risk.	<p>Toolbox: <a href="https://www.epa.gov/smoke-ready-toolbox-wildfires">https://www.epa.gov/smoke-ready-toolbox-wildfires</a></p> <p>Track local air conditions: <a href="https://fire.airnow.gov/">https://fire.airnow.gov/</a></p> <p>Protect children: <a href="https://www.airnow.gov/sites/default/files/2020-06/pehsu-protecting-children-from-wildfire-smoke-and-ash-factsheet.pdf">https://www.airnow.gov/sites/default/files/2020-06/pehsu-protecting-children-from-wildfire-smoke-and-ash-factsheet.pdf</a></p> <p>Gretchen Stewart: 206-553-0527, <a href="mailto:stewart.gretchen@epa.gov">stewart.gretchen@epa.gov</a></p>
Radon	Radon is a radioactive gas that can cause lung cancer. High levels have been found in a number of homes and schools across the country. Find out if a potential problem could exist in your building.	<p><a href="https://www.epa.gov/radon/radon-schools">https://www.epa.gov/radon/radon-schools</a></p> <p>Gretchen Stewart: 206-553-0527, <a href="mailto:stewart.gretchen@epa.gov">stewart.gretchen@epa.gov</a></p>
Food Waste	Learn how our food choices may impact the environment and how we can reduce food waste and save money.	<p><a href="https://www.epa.gov/sustainable-management-food">https://www.epa.gov/sustainable-management-food</a></p> <p>Domenic Calabro 206-553-6640</p> <p><a href="mailto:Calabro.domenic@epa.gov">Calabro.domenic@epa.gov</a></p>
Lead Based Paint	The <i>Renovation, Repair, and Painting (RRP) Rule</i> helps protect children from exposure to lead-based paint dust caused by renovation and repairs in buildings built before 1978.	<p><a href="https://www.epa.gov/lead/lead-renovation-repair-and-painting-program">https://www.epa.gov/lead/lead-renovation-repair-and-painting-program</a></p> <p>Maria Tartaglia: 206-553-1128, <a href="mailto:tartaglia.maria@epa.gov">tartaglia.maria@epa.gov</a></p>
Mold and Moisture Control	The key to mold control is moisture control. If mold is a problem in your school or home, clean up the mold, and eliminate sources of moisture. Mold can affect indoor air quality and health. Learn more.	<p><a href="https://www.epa.gov/mold">https://www.epa.gov/mold</a></p> <p>Gretchen Stewart: 206-553-0527, <a href="mailto:stewart.gretchen@epa.gov">stewart.gretchen@epa.gov</a></p>

TOPIC	THE BASICS	LEARN MORE
Pests	<i>Integrated pest management (IPM)</i> uses safer and usually less costly options to address pest issues. Strategies focus on reducing sources of food, water, and shelter for pests.	<a href="https://www.epa.gov/ipm">https://www.epa.gov/ipm</a> Bethany Plewe: 208-378-5753, <a href="mailto:plewe.bethany@epa.gov">plewe.bethany@epa.gov</a>
Spanish Language Resources	Aprenda acerca de como establecer y mejorar los ambientes escolares sanos. View information about healthy schools in Spanish.	<a href="https://espanol.epa.gov/espanol/ambientes-escolares-sanos">https://espanol.epa.gov/espanol/ambientes-escolares-sanos</a>
Energy Conservation	EPA's <i>Energy Star</i> program helps you improve energy efficiency, reduce utility bills, and protect the environment – at home or at school.	<a href="https://www.energystar.gov/">https://www.energystar.gov/</a> Student Toolkit: <a href="https://www.energystar.gov/sites/default/files/tools/K12EnergyEfficiencyStudentToolkit.pdf">https://www.energystar.gov/sites/default/files/tools/K12EnergyEfficiencyStudentToolkit.pdf</a> Kathleen Compton: 206-553-0290, <a href="mailto:compton.kathleen@epa.gov">compton.kathleen@epa.gov</a>
Children's Environmental Health	Children are often more vulnerable to pollutants than adults. Reducing exposures helps keep children healthy.	<a href="https://www.epa.gov/children">https://www.epa.gov/children</a> Bryan Fiedorczyk, 206-553-0506 <a href="mailto:fiedorczyk.bryan@epa.gov">fiedorczyk.bryan@epa.gov</a>
Other Topics	Contact us. We can help point you in the right direction.	Andrea Lindsay, <a href="mailto:lindsay.andrea@epa.gov">lindsay.andrea@epa.gov</a>

## Environmental Education Corner



**Congratulations to EPA Region 10's 2020 President's Environmental Youth Awardee** - Anna Devolld of Alaska! Anna's *Promote Our Pollinators* effort has inspired thousands of people to be good stewards of our natural resources.

EPA is now accepting applications for the 2021 President's Environmental Youth [Awards](#). PEYA recognizes outstanding environmental stewardship projects by K-12 youth. Due date: February 19, 2021.

It's time for Presidential Innovation [Awards](#) for Environmental Educators, too! This award honors outstanding K-12 educators who integrate environmental learning into curricula and school facility management. Apply by February 19, 2021.

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EPA Schools: [www.epa.gov/schools](http://www.epa.gov/schools)

EPA Environmental Education: [www.epa.gov/enviroed/](http://www.epa.gov/enviroed/)

EPA Children's Environmental Health: [www.epa.gov/children](http://www.epa.gov/children)

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