

PENNSYLVANIA DEPARTMENT OF HEALTH

PENNSYLVANIA DEPARTMENT OF ENVIRONMENTAL PROTECTION

CLIMATE CHANGE AND PUBLIC HEALTH

HEAT STRESS AND A MODEL FOR MITIGATING RISK TO ENVIRONMENTAL SUCCEPTIBILITIES

AUGUST 2010

I. HEALTH

a. Susceptible Population

- i. Elderly**
- ii. Very Young**
- iii. Disabled/III**
 - 1. Respiratory Conditions**
 - 2. Cardiovascular Conditions**
- iv. Athletes/Hot Weather Runners/Outdoor Games Participants**
- v. Outdoor Construction/Other Outdoor Workers**
- vi. Firefighters/Police**
- vii. Outdoor Campers/Counselors**
- viii. Animals**
 - 1. Pets (e.g., at Risk in Homes and Vehicles)**
 - 2. Farm Animals**

b. Partners

- i. Surrogate Care Givers**
 - 1. Relatives**
 - 2. Neighbors**
 - 3. Friends**
 - 4. Schools (e.g., for Athletes)**
 - 5. Physicians**
 - 6. Veterinarians (e.g., for Pets and Animals at Risk)**
 - 7. Healthcare Providers**
 - 8. Emergency Medical Services/Ambulance Drivers (e.g., Outdoor Workers)**
 - 9. National Institutes of Health (NIH) and Centers for Disease Control and Prevention (CDC) for Threats of Infectious Disease**
- ii. Service Organizations**
 - 1. Police**
 - 2. Fire Department**
 - 3. Visiting Nurses**
 - 4. 911**
 - 5. Meals on Wheels**

6. Town/City Planning Input
7. Other (e.g., Utilities)
8. Department of Aging (e.g., for Prescriptions and Meals)
9. Department of Public Welfare
10. Pennsylvania Department of Transportation
11. Office of Health Equity
12. United Way
13. American Lung Association (Asthma)
14. Governor's Office – may assist with funding/(e.g., "Stay Warm" program in winter)
15. Senior Centers
16. Day Care Centers
17. Community Centers
18. Church Groups

c. Data Bases/ Sources

- i. Real-time Outbreak and Disease Surveillance (RODS) system (i.e., for Emergency Department Data)
- ii. Pennsylvania Health Care Cost Containment Council (PHC4) (i.e., for Inpatient Hospital Admissions Data)
- iii. National Weather Service
- iv. National Oceanic and Atmospheric Administration (NOAA)
- v. United States Geological Survey (USGS)
- vi. U.S. Census
- vii. Pennsylvania Vital Statistics (i.e., for Heat Related Deaths)
- viii. Pennsylvania Department of Environmental Protection (e.g., Forecasting, Monitoring, Ozone, and Heat Monitoring Throughout the State)
- ix. EPA
 1. National Emissions Inventory
 2. Air Quality System for Monitoring
 3. National Air Toxic Assessments (NATA)

II. ENVIRONMENT

- a. Cooling Stations
 - i. Options (e.g., Fans, Air-conditioning)
- b. Transportation (e.g., Free Public Transportation on Ozone Action Days)
- c. Homeless Shelters
- d. Hospitals/Medical Centers/Outpatient Care Centers
- e. Developing the Prototype for Risk Mitigation
 - i. Use of the Internet
 - ii. Fact Sheets

- iii. Support from PADEP
- iv. Information Technology Input
- v. Use of Data Bases
 - 1. Identification of those at Risk
 - 2. Telephone/Addresses/Internet Connections
 - 3. Privacy
- vi. Funding Sources
 - 1. Federal
 - 2. State
 - 3. Local (e.g., Discounts for the Elderly at Retail Stores for Air-conditioners)
- vii. Promoting the Solution
 - 1. Communications
 - 2. Marketing
 - 3. Public Relations

