

The Environmental Health Program: Who are we & What do we do?

Jonathan Ali, Ph.D. 2020 NH Air & Water Regulatory Conference September 15th, 2020





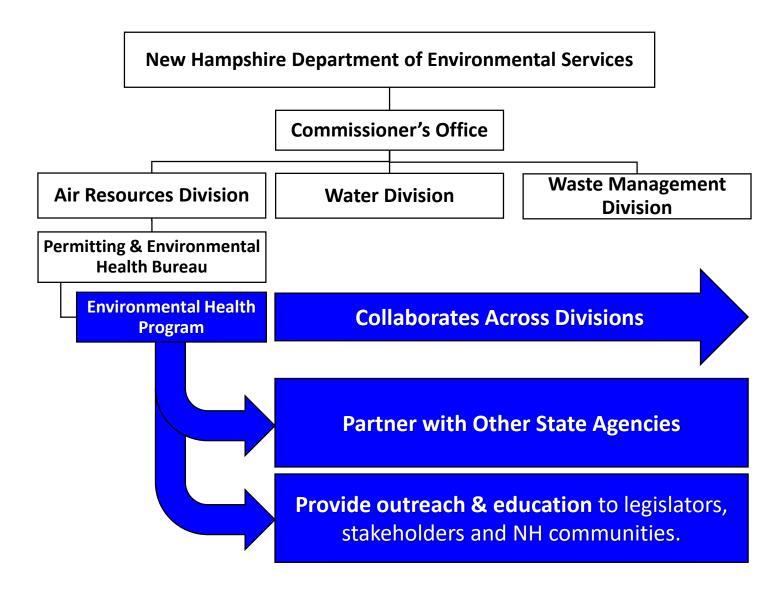
What's Environmental Health?



"The detection, control and prevention of environmental hazards that affect human health." National Environmental Health Association



What is the Environmental Health Program?





The EHP Team & Collaborators

Pat North, M.P.H. Program Administrator **Dave Larson, M.P.H**. *Health Risk Assessor* **T.B.D**.

Principal Investigator

Alyssa Moodie

Program Assistant

Mary Butow, M.S. Health Risk Assessor T.B.D.

Health Risk Assessor

Jon Ali, Ph.D. *Toxicologist*

Actively Work with:

Academic Partners

Stakeholder Partners

And more...

Community Partners

Interstate Workgroups



What we do.

Hazard Identification

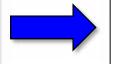
What effects are associated with chemical exposure?

Is there strong evidence in human and/or animal studies?

What are current limitations of our scientific knowledge?

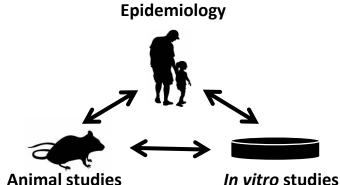


What dose causes the adverse effect(s)?



What's the rate of exposure?

What are the other sources of exposure to this hazard?



POD (ng/mL) Uncertainty Factors × Toxicokinetic Factors × Relative Source Contribution (%) Media Ingestion Rate (g/kg-day) = EHP Guidance

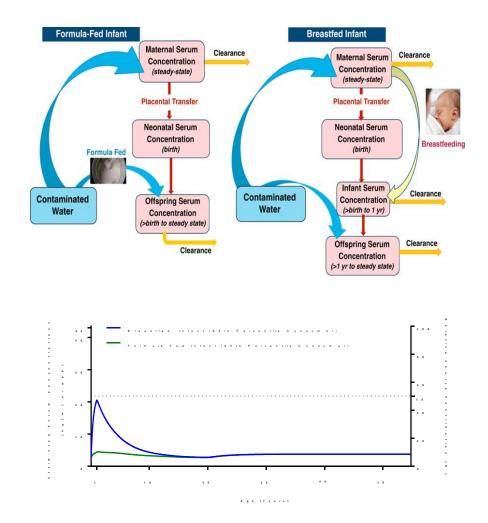




Risk Assessment & Drinking Water Standards

NH's Maximum Contaminant Levels (MCLs/AGQS) are:

PFOA	12 ng/L
PFOS	15 ng/L
PFHxS	18 ng/L
PFNA	11 ng/L



For More Information, Contact:

Jonathan Ali, Toxicologist Phone - (603) 271-1359 Email - jonathan.ali@des.nh.gov

Top Image: Goeden et al. 2019. *Journal of Exposure Science & Environmental Epidemiology*, 29, 183–195. Bottom Image: NHDES Documents & Presentations available at: <u>https://www4.des.state.nh.us/nh-pfas-investigation/?page</u> @=1036



Risk Assessment & Drinking Water Standards

On-going review and update of existing **Ambient Groundwater Quality Standards**.

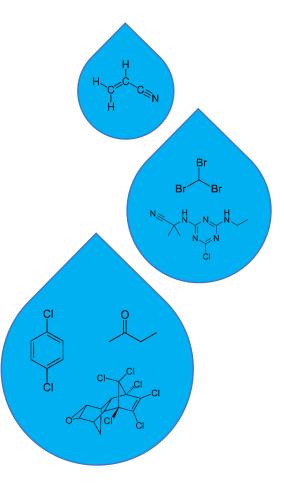
Per New Hampshire Senate Bill 309 (2018).

Includes evaluation of current science for several chemical contaminants including:

- Legacy pesticides
- Trihalomethanes
- Chlorinated compounds
- And others

For More Information, Contact:

Mary Butow, Health Risk Assessor Phone - (603) 271-8693 Email - <u>mary.butow@des.nh.gov</u>





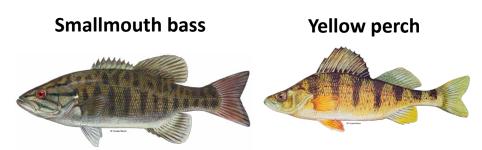
Recommended Fish Consumption Limits at Squam Lake

	Adults & children >7 years of age	Women of childbearing age	Children <7 years of Age
	8 oz. fillet meal		4 oz. fillet meal
PCBs (due to cancer risks)	3 meals per year	2 meals per year	1 meal per year
Methyl Mercury* (due to non-cancer risks)	4 meals per month	1 meal per month	1 meal per month
PFAS** (due to non-cancer risks)	4 meals per month	3 meals per month	2 meals per month

**Applies to freshwater fish caught across NH. More restrictive advisories, such that at Squam Lake, may exist for some waterbodies. For more information, see: <u>http://www.eregulations.com/newhampshire/fishing/19nhfw/fish-consumption-guidelines/</u> *Based on concentrations of perfluorooctane sulfonic acid (PFOS) in smallmouth bass.

For More Information, Contact:

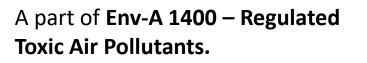
Jonathan Ali, Toxicologist Phone - (603) 271-1359 Email - jonathan.ali@des.nh.gov





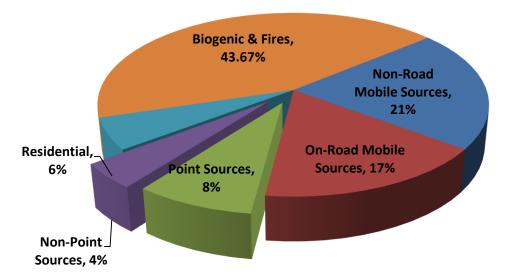
Air Toxics Control Program

Emissions of Air Toxics - 2011



Helps to identify sources & types of harmful air pollution.

Assist in determining compliance & **Ambient Air Limits (AAL)** for regulated pollutants.



Data from US EPA National Air Toxic Assessment for 2011

For More Information, Contact: Pat North, Program Administrator Phone - (603) 271-6865 Email - <u>patricia.north@des.nh.gov</u>



Site-Specific Investigations

Supports Waste Division Investigations & Site Management efforts.

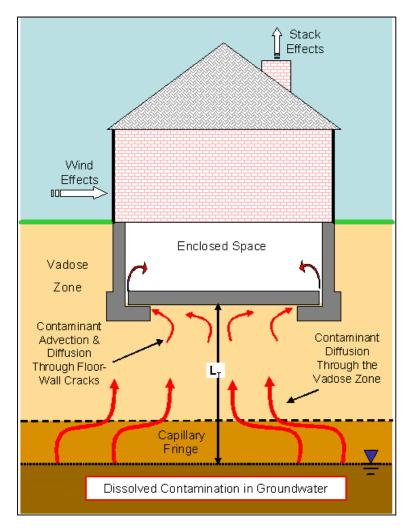
Assesses exposures with site-specific information.

Interacts with local, regional and federal partners at several sites with chemical releases.

For More Information, Contact: Dave Larson, Health Risk Assessor Phone - (603) 271-4773

Email - <u>david.larson@des.nh.gov</u>

Top Image: U.S. EPA. 2016. Evaluating Vapor Intrusion into Buildings from Contaminated Groundwater and Soils. <u>https://www3.epa.gov/ceampubl/learn2model/part-two/onsite/jne_background_reverse.html</u>





Example of Grant Programs

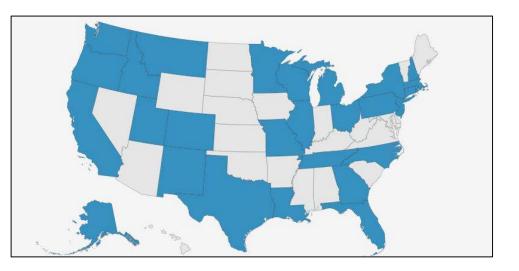
Agency for Toxic Substances and Disease Registry's (ATSDR's) Cooperative Agreement Program (2020-2023)

The Program helps ATSDR's partners:

- 1. identify exposure pathways at specific sites;
- 2. educate affected communities and local health professionals about site contamination and potential health effects;
- **3. review health outcome data** to evaluate potential links between site contaminants and community health outcomes.

For More Information, Contact: Pat North, Program Administrator Phone - (603) 271-6865 Email - patricia.north@des.nh.gov

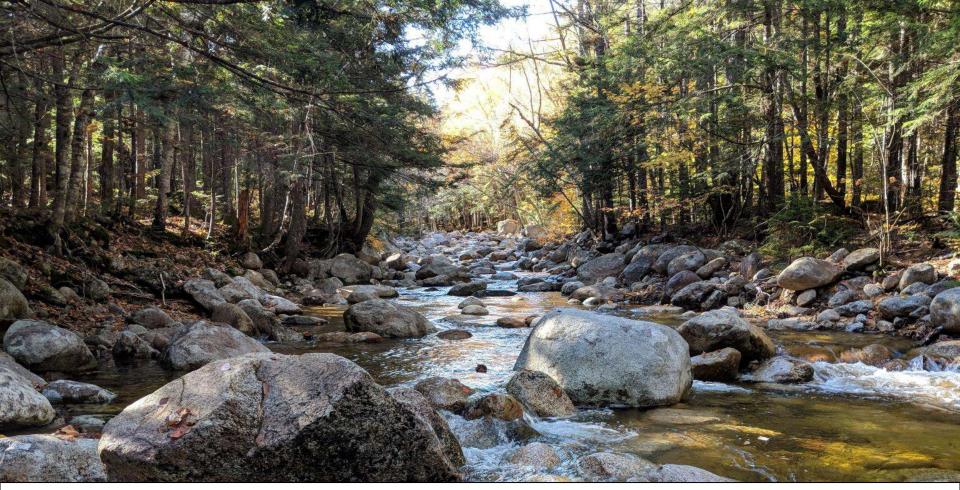
*A partnership with programs at the New Hampshire Department of Health & Human Services





- 1. Help to identify, understand and reduce risks from environmental hazards.
- 2. Information sharing and improved risk assessment in New Hampshire.
- 3. Assist with risk communication, education and outreach to affected communities.









Jonathan Ali, Ph.D. Environmental Health Program Phone | (603) 271-1359 Email | jonathan.ali@des.nh.gov https://www.des.nh.gov