

Maine Update

October 14, 2009

Detox Your Toy Box
with David Bellinger, PhD

Tuesday, October 20, 2009
7:00 pm
Hannaford Hall, USM
Free and Open to the Public

Click to View:
Detox Your Toy Box
Climate Change News
Toxics Action Alert
Body Burden Study
DV Conference
CME Opportunity

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**Earn CMEs and attend
PSR/Maine's domestic
violence prevention
workshop without
leaving your practice.**



Harvard Professor of Environmental Health and Neurology [David Bellinger](#) headlines a panel that will discuss the impact that environmental toxins are having on our children's health.

Dr. Bellinger has served as an advisor on environmental health issues to the World Health Organization and several U.S. agencies, including the Environmental Protection Agency, the Centers for Disease Control and the Agency for Toxic Substances and Disease Registry. He has served on several committees of the National Academies and serves on the Federal Advisory Committee of the National Children's Study.

Joining Dr. Bellinger on the panel will be Friends School of Portland teacher Nicole Borrasso, who will discuss way to engage children in personal and environmental stewardship, and Kristine Jenkins from the Environmental Health Strategy Center, who will share her experience organizing communities in clean-ups and public policy initiatives.

A Q&A session will follow.

This event is part of the Friends School of Portland's Parenting for Peace series and is co-sponsored by PSR Maine.

Our Domestic Violence Response Initiative (DVRI) provides medical personnel in Maine with quick interactive trainings that prepare them to integrate routine domestic violence screenings into their practices. Trainings can be accomplished in any office setting and can be tailored to fit specific patient populations. CME credits are available.

To hold a DVRI training at your medical facility, please call PSR Maine at (207) 772-6714 or [email Janey Morse](#), our Domestic Violence Prevention Director

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WHO: Health Care Sector Can and Must Reduce Carbon Emissions to Protect Human Health

Excerpted from a new World Health Organization [report](#) entitled *Healthy Hospitals, Healthy Planet, Healthy People*.

The health sector can play an essential part in mitigating the effects of global climate change



by taking steps to limit its own significant climate footprint. In the United States of America, healthcare buildings are the second most energy-intensive commercial sector buildings; the health sector spends US\$ 8.5 billion on energy every year to meet patient needs, and hospitals use about twice as much total energy per square foot as traditional office space. The National Health Service (NHS) in England has calculated its carbon footprint at more than 18 million tonnes of CO₂ each year - 25% of total public sector emissions. There is also evidence that the health sector's energy use and resulting toxic emissions undermine the health of the very communities the sector is meant to serve. On the basis of estimates by the United States Environmental Protection Agency (EPA), the United States health sector's 73 billion kWh "conventional" electricity use adds over US\$ 600 million per year in increased health costs - including increases in asthma, respiratory illness and hospital emergency department visits. In addition, the United States health sector's 341 trillion BTUs (or British thermal units) for heat and cooling contributes to even more polluting emissions, adding billions of dollars more in health-care bills and hundreds of billions more in indirect costs to society.



The same practices that contribute to climate change and undermine public health can also have a serious impact on the budget of a hospital. This is true both in well resourced contexts, where in some cases bloated health systems have become an overwhelming financial burden on a nation's economy, as well as in countries where health systems have very limited resources.

These collective problems of global warming emissions, local pollution and financial strain are something that most health systems around the world experience in one form or another. Yet the health sector can take steps to address all of these problems simultaneously; it can work to mitigate climate change, contribute to public health and save money all at the same time.

[Read more . . .](#)

**Toxics Action Alert:
Urge Our Senators to Support TSCA Reform
Monday, October 19 at 10:00 am
Canal Plaza, Portland
1 Cumberland Place, Bangor**



Join the Alliance for a Clean and Healthy Maine in delivering hundreds of post cards from Maine citizens to our senators urging reform of the Toxic Substances Control Act.

Maine blazed the trail to safer chemicals and healthy families. Now we need to get Congress and the rest of the country on the same good path!

Wear your flannel and hiking boots!

Kids are welcome!

We will follow a trail of postcards and deliver the rest in backpacks.

Let's have some fun and show our Senators that we care about bringing Maine's good work to Washington and the rest of the country!

To RSVP, call the PSR Maine office at 772-6714 or [email](#) us.

Bangor Daily News: "Toxic Chemicals Found in Maine Health Workers"

Maine health care leaders Stephanie Lash MD and Anne Perry, a Nurse Practitioner and state legislator, participated in a recent PSR bio-monitoring study of 20 nurses and doctors in 10 states . At least 24 chemicals were detected in the bodies of each participant, many of which are linked to reproductive and neurodevelopmental effects, cancer, obesity, endocrine disruption and other preventable illness.



The Bangor Daily News covered the release of the study's report and spoke with Dr. Lash and Rep. Perry. Click [here](#) to see the story.

To download the study report, click [here](#).

Maine General Hospital Domestic Violence Conference

November 9, 2009



***A Coordinated Community
Response to Domestic
Violence***

Sponsored By MaineGeneral
Medical Center, Sexual
Assault Forensic Examiner
Program; Sexual Assault
Forensic Examiner Program,
Office Of The Attorney
General; Family Violence

Project, Augusta; Maine Emergency Nurses Association

November 9 & 10, Augusta, Maine

Intended Audience:

Sexual Assault Forensic Examiners and those in training; RNs;
Physicians; Nurse Practitioners; Physician Assistants; Prosecutors;
Law Enforcement Officers; Advocates,
First Responders, EMTs, Paramedics

Purpose:

The training will provide participants with information to better respond
to cases of domestic abuse and violence whether as a first responder
in an emergency, in the medical setting, or in the criminal justice
system.

Topics at a Glance:

- Strangulation
- Battered women arrested for crimes
- Identifying primary aggressor
- Assessing dangerousness
- Victim intimidation/batterer manipulation
- Using SAFEs and advocates as fact or experts at trial

Registration fee is \$30

Contact: [Polly Campbell](#), RN, SAFE Program Director, 626-8806.

PSR/Maine uses the values and expertise of medicine and public health
to protect human life from the greatest threats to health and survival.

Contact:

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