



## CLIMATE AND LUNG HEALTH NEWS

February 2019



### Virtual Film Screening and Panel Discussion: *Asthma Alley* – Feb. 28

The American Lung Association continues its "[Year of Air Pollution & Health](#)" in February with a virtual screening of the film "Asthma Alley" on Thursday, Feb. 28 from 4:30-5:30 PM ET. The film follows a young teen with asthma and her classmates in the South Bronx, a neighborhood known for extraordinarily high rates of asthma. The screening will be followed by a panel discussion geared toward patients with asthma that will feature the filmmaker, a representative from the community, and health experts. We are thrilled to co-host this event with Allergy & Asthma Network and the Asthma and Allergy Foundation of America. Please mark your calendars to join, and [register here](#). Please also feel free to share this invitation with patients and others who

## RESOURCES

- [Healthy Air](#)
- [LUNG FORCE Expos](#)
- [Fight For Air Climbs](#)
- [Take a Course](#)
- [Patient Support](#)
- [Lung HelpLine and Tobacco QuitLine](#)

## QUESTIONS?

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might be interested.

## Seminar Series: Climate Change and Human Health in Montana Feb. 27-28

The American Lung Association in Montana, Montana Institute on Ecosystems, and University of Montana School of Public and Community Health Sciences will host a two-day "Climate Change and Human Health in Montana" seminar series at Montana State University and the University of Montana on Wednesday, Feb. 27 and Thursday, Feb. 28. For more information and instructions for watching remotely, [click here](#).

## Webinar: Climate Change is a Public Health Emergency

If you missed our webinar featuring authors of three major recent climate and health reports, you can now view the recording by [filling out a form here](#). More than 500 health and policy professionals registered to hear about the latest science on how climate change impacts health, and what health professionals can do to help.

## Update on the Green New Deal

On February 7, Senator Edward Markey and Representative Alexandria Ocasio-Cortez introduced their much-anticipated [Green New Deal resolution](#). It's a set of broad policy goals to invest in curbing climate change, updating infrastructure, ensuring all Americans have access to good jobs and quality and affordable healthcare, and more. The Lung Association doesn't have an official position on the resolution, but did [tweet our appreciation](#) that it recognizes the health impacts of climate change and the inextricable links between human health and the environment. We'll continue to update you on developments.

## DID YOU KNOW?



The American Lung Association has developed one-page Lung Health Policy Briefs to communicate with media, partners, and elected officials on the health imperative of reducing air pollution and acting on climate change. For a list of briefs, [please visit our Healthy Air Resources](#).



## TAKE ACTION

### Help Us Protect Critical Mercury and Air Toxics Rules!

The public comment period has begun! Please sign and share our [health professionals' letter](#) opposing any attempt to weaken the lifesaving Mercury and Air Toxics Standards. When EPA adopted the rule, they estimated it would prevent 11,000 premature deaths and 130,000 asthma attacks every year. We need as many health and medical professionals as possible to sign in opposition to undermining these protections.

**The deadline is April 8.**

### Lung Association 2019 Priorities

In January, Lung Association National President and CEO Harold Wimmer sent this [welcome letter to all members of Congress](#), laying out our key priorities for the next two years.



## IN THE NEWS

### American Lung Association Endorses Climate and Health Bill

The American Lung Association is proud to endorse the [Climate Change Health Protection and Promotion Act](#), introduced Feb. 14 by Senator Edward Markey and

Representative Matt Cartwright. The bill would help track and predict the health impacts of climate change and help local communities protect their residents. "Climate change is a public health emergency," said Harold P. Wimmer, National President and CEO, American Lung Association, in the members of Congress' [news release](#) and [tweet](#). "From wildfire smoke to increased levels of ozone pollution due to rising temperatures, our changing climate is making it harder to reduce air pollution, resulting in serious risks for Americans' lung health. It is critical to reduce the emissions that cause climate change and to help communities across the country adapt to the dangerous impacts already taking a toll on health today. I applaud Senator Markey and Representative Cartwright for their leadership on this urgent health issue."

## 'Climate Change is a Health Emergency: Let's Act Like It'

In an [Op Ed in the Sacramento Bee](#), the American Lung Association and Public Health Institute highlight the recent [California Call To Action on Health, Equity and Climate Change](#) signed by dozens of health organizations in California listing priority actions to address the public health emergency of climate change: "We call on Governor-elect Newsom to recognize climate change as a health emergency and to work with local, regional and state leaders to prioritize action to protect the health of Californians in the era of climate change."

## Trump's rollback of fossil fuel regulations carries steep costs

As the Trump administration works to roll back environmental and safety rules for the energy sector, government projections show more premature deaths and illnesses from air pollution and a jump in climate-warming emissions. "I don't think it's well understood what the death toll of these policies will be for the American people," said Paul Billings, National Senior Vice President at the American

Lung Association. [See story on CBS News.](#)

## *Marin Voice*: No one should have to breathe neighbors' wood smoke

Wood smoke pollution continues to pose health threats to residents. This [Op Ed in the Marin IJ](#) by air pollution researcher Fred Lurmann explains why we must move away from wood-burning to cleaner heating alternatives.



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