



<https://www.montanahphc.org>

Volume 2

We are excited to see our numbers almost doubled in the last 2 months. Here we share news, updates, and opportunities for growth and action as our state network grows. Please forward this to others who might be interested and [contact us](#) anytime with comments, ideas, and other opportunities you would like to share. We appreciate you: We are all in this together! If you are so inclined, [DONATE](#) to our cause.

St. Patrick Hospital and Climate Preparedness: Missoula, MT

"At Providence, our vision is "Health for a Better World." We understand that the natural environment is an important

determinant of human health. We support efforts to address climate change, waste reduction, local and sustainable foods and more, as we work to reduce the pollution from our own operations, " states Stacy Rogge, Communication Director, Providence Montana



Providence St. Patrick Hospital is Montana's only member of **Practice Greenhealth**, an organization committed to reducing the environmental impacts of health care.

- St. Pat's has donated funds to **Climate Smart Missoula** to provide HEPA filters to vulnerable residents during Montana's very challenging fire season in 2017.
- The hospital has assisted with funding of **Zero Fare Missoula** for multiple years as we to help our community access services. When seeking services – whether health care or other basic services, it was important to eliminate the transportation barrier, especially for those needing para-transit.
- They partnered with Climate Smart Missoula and other community groups to obtain a RWJ grant "**Missoula Invest Health.**" This helped the community plan for improvements to low income neighborhoods. This effort links to health

because weatherizing and improving low income housing reduces carbon emissions and health care costs for residents. Sidewalks and trees improve health and mental health as well as removing pollution and CO2 for the air and aiding in water absorption during severe weather events.

· St. Pat's is a leader in reducing its own pollution and greenhouse gases. Their award winning **Green 4 Good** environmental stewardship program focuses on energy efficiency, waste reduction, local and sustainable foods, chemical reduction, sustainable commuting, and education for both employees and the public.

Do No Harm - a 3 minute video on why climate matters to health care providers:





Good News: British National Health Service commits to divestment

This week, England's National Health Service announced several new initiatives to address climate change by eliminating its fossil fuel emissions by 2050.

[Read more](#)

Health Climate and Community

January 30 Bozeman Library event with Julia Ryder attended by 50, including Bozeman's mayor !

MEMBERS IN THE NEWS

1/30/20 Beth Schenk spoke at the University of Montana at this year's Sustainability Series on Thursday January 30th. The focus of the session was "*Sustainable Shelter.*" She discussed energy and greenhouse gases related to hospital buildings and operations, and challenges associated with reducing them.

1/30/20 "**Health, Climate & Community**" Julia Ryder led a community discussion and networking event as part of the Earth Day Committee. Bozeman Library

1/29/20 Bozeman Chronicle LTE by Julia Ryder 1/17/20. https://www.bozemandailychronicle.com/opinions/guest_columnists/climate-change-is-affecting-our-health-today/article_a9f5c986-f296-5a9a-8f8f-979415831e11.html

1/27/20 **Anticipating and Addressing Health Impacts for Community Resilience.** Dr. Jennifer Robohm presented for the Governor's Climate Solutions Council meeting held on the University of Montana campus in Missoula, MT.

1/23/20 "**Health Professionals Advocating for Energy Policy: Success Stories**" Dr. Lori Byron discusses how health care providers have begun to advocate for clean energy policies and highlights efforts by these pioneering professionals. New Orleans

1/22/20 "**Understanding the Health Impacts of Climate ChangeMontana**" Dr. Robert Byron participated on a panel at the ACEEE Conference featuring medical professionals describing successful interventions that have addressed ambient temperatures and air quality to produce a health benefit. New Orleans

1/17/20 "**Real-world adaptation and mitigation solutions to climate change**" Dr Nick Silverman is guest lecturer for this senior-level course, part of the Climate Change Minor at the University of Montana.

Learning Corner: EXTREME HEAT

Due to climate change, more extreme heat days are anticipated. Heat leads to increases in respiratory illness, heart attacks and stroke, premature delivery, and worsening mental status.



Personal Action

Food Waste

About 40% of the food produced in the U.S is thrown away. World wide food waste creates a green house effect larger than any other country except U.S. and China.

Consider:

- find creative ways to use left overs
- buy only what you need
- buy local to decrease the transportation emissions of your food.
- red meat takes the most amount of energy to produce so it the most amount of energy when wasted. Decrease intake of red meat

FEATURED RESOURCES ON CLIMATE AND

HEALTH

- [NACCHO](#) has good resources for health departments, as does [APHA](#), including great [APHA infographics](#) (for patients or health professionals) and [NEHA](#).
- The [Medical Society Consortium for Climate and Health](#) has great resources including the [numerous EPA fact sheets on climate and health](#). They also have great [powerpoint presentations for colleagues, patients, and community](#)
- CDC also has [great resources](#), including a [video on how climate affects community health](#), and a whole section of [resources for PH officials](#)



MontanaHPHC Meeting with Missoula County Commissioners

Montana HPHC board members were recently invited to meet with the Missoula County Commissioners. Three Montana HPHC board members attended, either in person or virtually, to discuss issues surrounding climate change and community health and resiliency, such as those stemming from air pollution, extreme heat and wildfires. Montana HPHC board members expressed appreciation



Advocacy Opportunities for Everyone

Missoula:

Climate Ready Missoula public hearings (in February) will be posted [here](#): Online comments can be made by clicking 'feedback' on upper right of that page.

The date for a February hearing on the Cooperation Agreement with NorthWestern will be posted [here](#)

Every other town in Montana:

Tell your commissioners that you want to see 100% renewable energy goals

*for the leadership
Missoula County
Commissioners and their
many partners have
shown relative to climate
change, including the
recently released Climate
Ready Missoula Plan.
Potential areas of
collaboration and support
for public health
initiatives and advocacy
were explored resulting in
several specific actions
for Montana HPHC to be
of assistance and
generating ideas for
helping other
communities.*



Save the Date

**Montana Faith,
Science, and Climate
Action Conference,**
Emerson
Theatre. September 25-
26, 2020. Bozeman.



set for your county/city!

Online:

Webinar: Creative
Climate Advocacy, for
healthcare providers.
Sponsored by Practice
Greenhealth and
Greenhealth Academy.

Events

Missoula: The Big
Climate Change Event,
Wed., February 19, 7 PM.
Dr Rob Davies of U. of
Utah. At the Wilma.

<https://www.missoulaclimate.org/big-event.html>

Bozeman: The Big
Climate Change Event,
Tues, February 18, Dr.
Rob Davies

<https://www.montana.edu/news/19551/utah-professor-to-lead-climate-change-lecture-and-panel-feb-18-at-msu>

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