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Foresight

CIRI's E-Learning Courses Provide Insights on Current Issues Affecting Your Health and Safety and How You Can Reduce Risks



This month, we highlight some of Chemical Insights Research Institute (CIRI) of UL Research Institutes' e-learning courses on emerging safety and health risks. In the courses, we describe the issues and risks, share our research knowledge, and provide action steps for reducing risks to personal and community health. The courses are free to take, and users can receive a certificate of completion and self-report for continuing education units.

The Threat of Wildfires in the Wildland Urban Interface (WUI) and How to Reduce Health Risks from Smoke Exposure



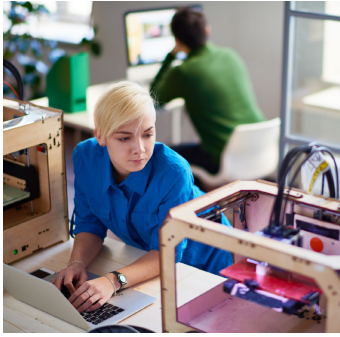
From the wildfires in Maui to smoke generated from wildfires in Canada impacting large swathes of the central and eastern U.S., many people are being adversely affected by smoke and debris from the fires. Today, close to one-third of the U.S. population, nearly 50 million homes, are in the WUI and are at risk of experiencing the toxic smoke from wildfires. As the smoke rapidly spreads across cities and communities, the resulting poor air quality can affect everyone, especially our most vulnerable populations. Learn about our changing environment, the growing number and severity of wildfires, what this means for your health, and key mitigation opportunities to safeguard homes and communities. Start learning now: [“Wildfires in the Wildland Urban Interface: Exploring Resilience in WUI Communities.”](#)

Achieving Fire and Chemical Safe Upholstered Furniture



Did you know that upholstered furniture is typically the first item ignited in an indoor fire, and that during a residential fire, you only have about three minutes to escape? The hazard is great, and research shows that it is possible to specify or buy residential upholstered furniture that protects people from fire while also being free of flame retardants. The course, [“Specifying Residential Upholstered Furniture to Safeguard Human Health,”](#) takes users through a journey of CIRI’s research demonstrating that upholstered furniture with a fire barrier versus the use of added flame retardants avoids chemical exposure to flame retardants while reducing fire risks.

The Impact of 3D Printing on Indoor Air Quality (IAQ) and Protective Strategies for Reducing Health Risks



Three-dimensional (3D) printing offers tremendous educational opportunities; however, it can have unintended consequences of exposing users and observers to hazardous volatile organic compounds (VOCs) and ultrafine particles (UFPs). In this course, "[The Impact of 3D Printers on Indoor Air Quality and Human Health](#)," you will learn the science of why IAQ matters, the impact of operating 3D printers on IAQ, and how you can reduce health risks associated with this innovative technology.

Stay Connected for Additional Outreach Materials



Through our outreach, CIRI tells the story behind the science for a safer, healthier tomorrow. Stay connected with CIRI by reading our news alerts that lead you to recently published e-learning courses. Visit CIRI's [website](#) to see technical briefs, technical reports, handouts, toolkits, videos and other actionable information.

Publications and Events

Recent Publications



- Technical Briefs
 - "[A Strategic Research Initiative on The Effect of Wildfires and the Wildland Urban Interface \(WUI\) on Indoor Air Quality and Health in Residential Homes](#)"
 - "[A Strategic Research Initiative on the Impact of Extreme Weather on Indoor Air Quality](#)"
- Video, "[How to Make and Use a DIY Air Cleaner](#)"
- News Alert, "[Sharing the Latest Data on Protecting Homes from Wildland Fires; Chemicals in Textiles; 3D Printing Emissions; and Vaping Risks](#)"

Upcoming Events



- [Greenbuild 2023](#), September 26 – 29, 2023
 - “Resiliency for Health”
 - “The Latest Science on WUI Fires and the Built Environment”
- [American Association for Aerosol Research Annual Conference](#), October 2 – 6, 2023, “Particle Emission and Metal Composition Characterizations for Fused Filament Fabrication 3D Printers Using Emerging Materials”
- [Land Trust Alliance Webinar](#), October 26, 2023, “Preparing for Natural Disasters Part One: Fire and Smoke”
- [Ron Blank GreenCE](#), November 6, 2023, “The Latest Science on WUI Fires and the Built Environment”
- [American College of Toxicology 44th Annual Meeting](#), November 12 – 15, 2023, “Real-Time Exposure to 3D Printer Emission Elicits Inflammatory Responses and Metabolic Perturbations in Human Airway Epithelial Cells”



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