

Drought and Health National Workshop

September 30 - October 1, 2025
Science Museum of Minnesota
120 W. Kellogg Boulevard
Saint Paul, Minnesota 55102

Meeting Goals

- Explore the latest science on drought and its health impacts
- Share practical tools, strategies, and case studies
- Identify gaps and co-develop solutions for real-world challenges
- Build cross-sector partnerships to drive systems-level change

Agenda is subject to change or edits before the workshop.

Agenda: Day 1, Tuesday, September 30, 2025

(all times are in Central Time)

8:30 AM – 9:00 AM	Registration/Breakfast (Breakfast Provided)
9:00 AM – 9:15 AM	Welcome and Introductions
9:15 AM – 9:45 AM	Drought and Health: Setting the Stage <i>Jesse Bell, University of Nebraska Medical Center, Daugherty Water for Food Global Institute, and University of Nebraska-Lincoln</i>
9:45 AM – 10:30 AM	PurpleAir Monitoring on the Flathead Reservation: Community Education & Data for Air Resilience (CEDAR) <i>Kyle Bocinsky, Montana Climate Office, University of Montana</i> <i>Ian McRyheew, Salish Kootenai College Extension</i>
10:30 AM – 10:45 AM	Break
10:45 AM – 11:30 AM	Drought and Health: A State Climatologist's Perspective Panel Discussion <i>Dave DuBois, New Mexico Climate Center, New Mexico State University</i> <i>Kelsey Jencso, Montana Climate Office, University of Montana</i> <i>Larry O'Neill, Oregon Climate Service, Oregon State University</i>

Funding for this workshop has been provided through grants from the National Aeronautics and Space Administration (NASA) and the National Oceanic and Atmospheric Administration (NOAA) National Integrated Drought Information System (NIDIS).

Luigi Romolo, State Climate Office, Minnesota Department of Natural Resources

11:30 AM – 12:30 PM

Lunch (Provided)

12:30 PM – 1:00 PM

Drought and Health: Partner Engagement and Community Messaging

Rachel Lookadoo, University of Nebraska Medical Center
Summer Woolsey, University of Nebraska Medical Center

1:00 PM – 2:00 PM

Drought and Health Community Engagement Panel

Jack Gordon, Douglas County Health Department
Miranda Meehan, North Dakota State University
James Rattling Leaf, Sr., Wolakota Lab LLC (Virtual)

2:00 PM – 2:30 PM

Connecting the Dots on Drought and Health with the National Integrated Drought Information System

Molly Woloszyn, Cooperative Institute for Research in Environmental Sciences (CIRES)/University of Colorado and NOAA NIDIS

2:30 PM – 2:45 PM

Snack Break (Snacks Provided)

2:45 PM – 3:45 PM

Poster Sessions

3:45 PM – 4:00 PM

Day 1 Closing

Day 2, Wednesday, October 1, 2025

8:30 AM – 9:00 AM

Breakfast (Provided)

9:00 AM – 9:15 AM

Welcome Back and Day 1 Recap

9:15 AM – 10:00 AM

A Health Practitioner's Wishlist on Drought and Health

Shubhayu Saha, Tracking California, Public Health Institute

10:00 AM – 10:30 AM

Drought and Health: Challenges for Epidemiological Research

Jesse Berman, University of Minnesota

10:30 AM – 10:45 AM

Break

10:45 AM – 11:30AM

Advancing NASA Satellite Data Applications to Address Air Quality, Heat, and Public Health Risks: Case Studies from the

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**NASA Health and Air Quality Applied Sciences Team
(HAQAST)***Jenny Bratburd, University of Wisconsin-Madison*

11:30 AM – 12:30 PM

Lunch (Provided)

12:30 PM – 2:30 PM

Drought and Health Research Talks

- **Long-term air quality impacts of wildfire and dust storms**
Daniel Tong, George Mason University
- **Individual and Compounding Health Impacts of Drought Exposure**
Kai Chen, Yale University
- **The Hidden Toll of Drought: Mental Health Consequences of Water Scarcity**
Azar Abadi, University of Alabama at Birmingham
- **Drought and Health: Exploring Respiratory and Cardiovascular Mortality Risks**
Yeongjin Gwon, University of Nebraska Medical Center

2:30 PM – 2:45 PM

Snack Break (Snacks Provided)

2:45 PM – 4:30 PM

Workshop Synthesis and Next Steps Exercise

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