



Pesticides, Harmful Gasses, Climate Change & Your Health

No individual is immune to the effects of climate change. The World Health Organization (WHO) estimates that climate change is already causing at least 150,000 excess deaths a year and that number will climb to at least 300,000 annually by 2030.

Climate change can imperil health directly-for example, as the result of floods or heat waves- and indirectly- by changing the patterns of infectious diseases, supplies of fresh water, and food availability. For example, as the planet continues to warm, infectious diseases-particularly mosquito-borne illnesses such as malaria, zika virus, dengue fever, yellow fever, and encephalitis-may spread to more regions. Already in the United States, mosquitos and other insects that carry diseases such as West Nile Virus, Rocky Mountain spotted fever, and Lyme disease are spreading to areas once considered too cold for these insects to survive.

Pesticide poisoning can cause nausea and dizziness, even death.

Toxic substances in polluted air can enter the human body in three ways: through the skin, through the digestive system, and through lungs. The combined interaction of two or more hazards can produce an effect greater than that of either one alone. Pollutants can affect an organ system directly or indirectly.

Health Effects: High levels of certain pesticides can produce various symptoms, including headaches, dizziness, muscle twitching, weakness, tingling sensations, and nausea. They also might cause long-term damage to the liver and the central nervous system, as well as an increased risk of cancer.

Indoor Pollutants: You may think of pollution as primarily a threat when you're outdoors, but people in industrialized societies spend more than 90 percent of their time inside buildings. Think of how much time you spend in your home, apartment, and dorm and in classrooms, dining halls, movie theaters, offices, stores, and shops. The quality of the air you breathe inside these places can have a greater impact on your well-being than outdoor pollution.

Some sources, such as building materials and household products such as air fresheners-release pollutants more or less continuously. Other sources-such as solvents in cleaning products, and pesticides-can produce high levels of pollutants that remain in the air for long periods after their use.

Radon: Created by the breakdown of uranium in rocks, soil, and water, Radon is the second-leading cause of lung cancer. Colorless and odorless, this radioactive gas enters buildings through dirt floors, cracks in concrete and floors, floor drains, and sumps. When Radon becomes trapped in buildings and concentrations build up indoors, exposure to the gas becomes a serious concern.

Household Products: The liquids, foams, gels, and other materials you use to clean, disinfect, degrease, polish, wax and preserve contain powerful chemicals that pollute indoor air during and for long periods after their use. EPA researchers have found levels of about a dozen common organic pollutants to be two to five times higher inside buildings than outside, regardless of whether the buildings were located in rural or highly industrial areas.

Pesticides: Recent studies reveal that 75 percent of U.S. households used at least one pesticide product indoors during the past year. Products used most often are insecticides and disinfectants. Pesticides used in and around homes, office buildings, schools/universities, hotels, food production plants/meat packing houses etc. include products to control insects (insecticides), termites (termiticides), rodents (rodenticides), fungi (fungicides), and microbes (disinfectants). They are sold as sprays, liquids, sticks, powders, crystals, balls, and foggers.

Remember that the "-cide" in pesticides means "TO KILL."



Green Drain™ will eliminate the threat of pests, harmful gasses, and chemical pesticides escaping through open and unlined drain sites where health hazards and disease transmissions frequently occur.