

CLIMATE GETS PERSONAL – PREPARING FOR HUMAN HEALTH ISSUES

Presenter: Kristin Raab, Minnesota Dept. of Health

Facilitator: Nancy Read, Metro. Mosquito Control District

Abstract

From bugs and diseases to heat and air quality, many aspects of climate change can affect human health. MDH recognizes the importance of building capacity to address potential public health impacts. In 2009, MDH received a grant to 1.) develop a strategic plan for adapting and responding to climate changes as they relate to public health, 2.) identify gaps in current surveillance and response systems, and 3.) develop training for staff on vector-borne diseases, extreme heat and weather, and vulnerable populations. In this session we describe the current status of the MDH plan, and present training resources available for anyone concerned with protecting citizens' health. This will be a starting point for discussing what other resources government units and NGOs will need, what is available, and tools for staying in touch with new developments in this area.