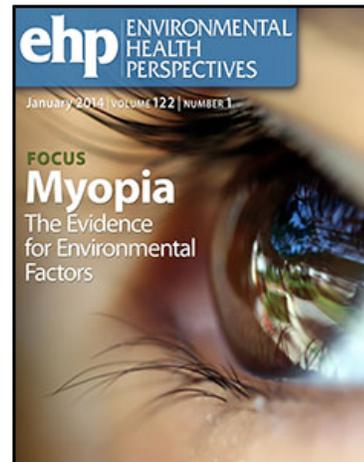


This month in EHP

The January issue of [Environmental Health Perspectives \(EHP\)](http://ehp.niehs.nih.gov/) (<http://ehp.niehs.nih.gov/>)

highlights the role of environmental factors in myopia and the unique qualities of wind turbine noise.



Myopia: The Evidence for Environmental Factors

Myopia, or nearsightedness, was long blamed on genetics and behavior, but dramatic increases in prevalence, in recent decades, point to environmental factors as well. Moreover, time spent outdoors appears to have a protective effect against myopia, although investigators still aren't sure why.

Wind Turbines: A Different Breed of Noise?

Since at least 1930, researchers have amassed a body of evidence on the adverse nonauditory health effects of environmental noise. More recently, a new source of noise has entered the scene - wind turbines. As wind farms become more common near populated areas, researchers are investigating the unique qualities of the noise they produce.

Featured research and related news articles this month include:

- **Maternal Blood, Plasma, and Breast Milk Lead: Lactational Transfer and Contribution to Infant Exposure** - Lead Transfer During Breastfeeding: A Start Toward Filling in the Data Gaps
- **Pollutant Exposures From Natural Gas Cooking Burners: A Simulation-based Assessment for Southern California** - Cooking Up Indoor Air Pollution: Emissions From Natural Gas Stoves
- **Maternal Concentrations of Persistent Organochlorine Pollutants and the Risk of Asthma in Offspring: Results From a Prospective Cohort With 20 Years of Follow-up** - A Long-Term Risk? Prenatal POPs Exposure and Asthma in Young Adults
- **Air Pollution-mediated Susceptibility to Inflammation and Insulin Resistance: Influence of CCR2 Pathways in Mice** - Toxicity Beyond the Lung: Connecting PM_{2.5}, Inflammation, and Diabetes

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