

National Healthy Homes Conference

Suggested Story Angles



Caution: Indoor Air May be Hazardous to Your Health

Breathing the air indoors can be more dangerous than breathing the air outside – even in heavily industrialized cities, according to the Environmental Protection Agency. Equally surprising is that the most common household activities and products—electronics, personal care products, even cooking—can be significant sources of indoor pollution. Sessions at the National Healthy Homes Conference (NHHC) will explore how the air we breathe inside can threaten our health and how to remedy unhealthy conditions.

Bedbugs: Detect & Destroy

Bedbugs have staged a comeback in homes and in the news. Conference sessions will include an interactive workshop where attendees will be able to practice inspecting for bed bugs; get to see bed bugs and the evidence they leave behind; and observe and try some environmentally friendly monitoring, control, and prevention methods to alleviate a bed bug problem.

Are Healthy and Green Synonymous?

“Green” has become a popular watchword over the past few years, as we continue a national discussion around how to lessen our impact on the environment. But green and healthy are not necessarily the same thing. Several NHHC sessions will focus on debunking “green” myths and equipping professionals with research-based standards to evaluate the truth of claims made about how “green” certain products and/or processes are. In addition, sessions will explore how to integrate resource/energy efficiency AND health as equally important priorities in building or retrofitting homes.

Healthier Communities Lead to Healthier Homes

Several Conference sessions will focus on a more comprehensive approach to healthier living including how to integrate various elements like food access, transportation and healthy design to create healthier communities and thereby healthier homes.

Some People are More Vulnerable than Others

Health and safety hazards like mold, lead, pest infestation and the physical deterioration of homes can pose significantly higher health risks to children, seniors, the disabled and communities of color. Several Conference sessions are devoted to how certain conditions can compromise the health of society’s most vulnerable citizens. The interventions that can appreciably improve their living environments are also discussed.

Can a Healthy Home be Affordable?

Often, when people hear about “healthy homes” the assumption is expensive retrofits and pricey architectural plans. Not necessarily so. The NHHC will feature several sessions that focus on how to allocate limited resources to achieve healthier housing.