

# 2015 APHL<sup>TM</sup> ANNUAL MEETING

and ninth government environmental laboratory conference

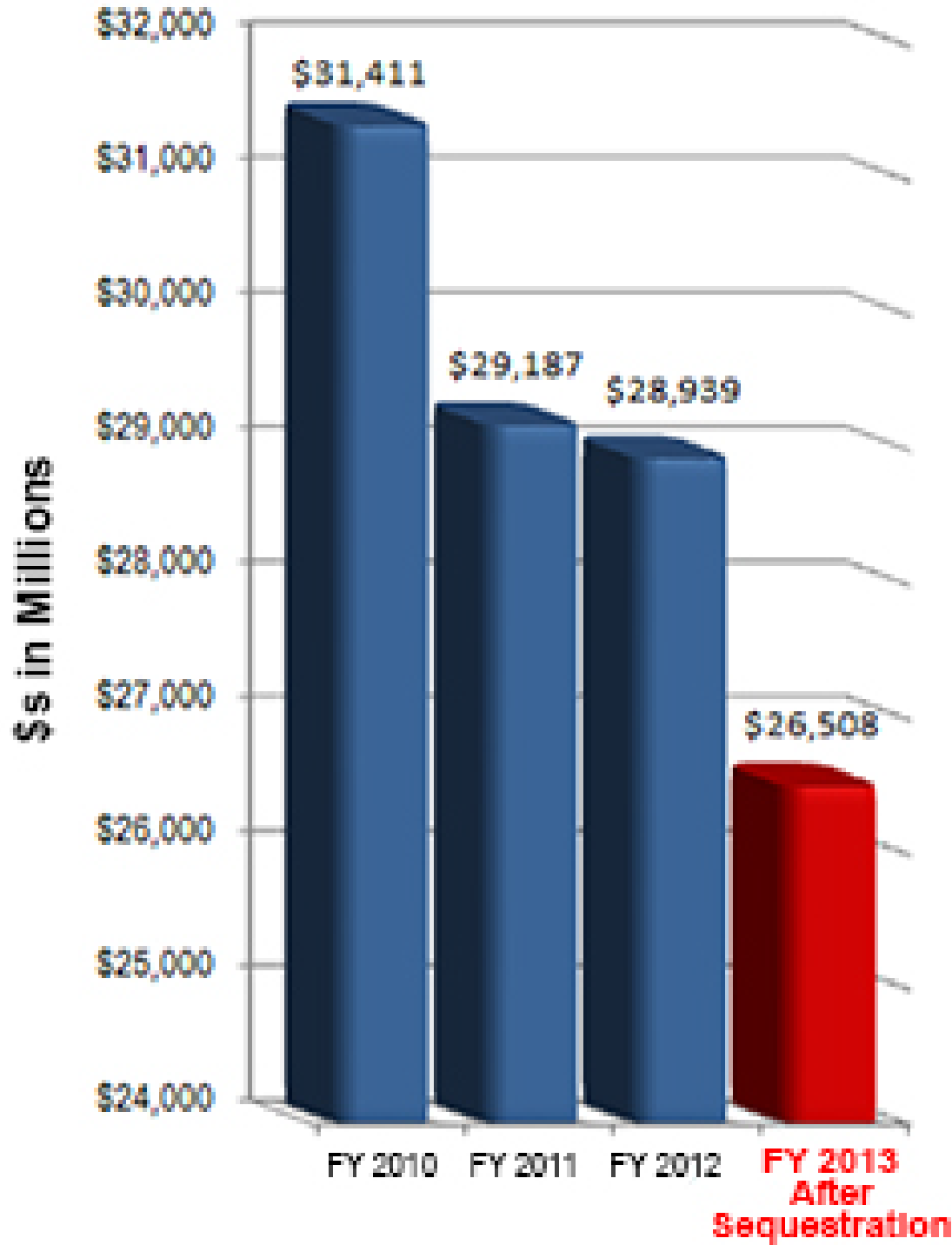
## Community Needs and Laboratories?

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Challenge is the opportunity for greatness. People do their best when there is an opportunity to change how things currently stand. Maintaining the status quo facilitates mediocrity. **Those who embrace this ...motivate others to exceed their limits and look for innovative ways to improve the organization.**

# Opportunities?

- New partnerships
- New advocates
- New revenue streams

## Perfect Nails, Poisoned Workers

[New York Times](#) - May 8, 2015

Health advocates and officials disagree, pointing to the accumulated evidence. "We know that a lot of the **chemicals** are very dangerous," said ...

## Nail Salon Workers Face Horrifying Health Issues

[Refinery29](#) - May 8, 2015

## Scientists worry about **chemicals** in pizza boxes, microwa...

[Today.com](#) - May 1, 2015

... potential **health** and environmental dangers of certain **chemicals** commonly used in everything from pizza boxes to microwave popcorn bags, ...

## **Chemicals** In Cell Phones, Pizza Boxes, Backpacks Said To Be ...

[Yahoo Health](#) - May 1, 2015

## Duke Energy will be in federal court for coal ash crimes

[SCNow](#) - 2 hours ago

... any worrying **chemicals** found in the wells is likely naturally occurring. .... Duke is scheduled to plead guilty Thursday to nine **environmental** crimes ... A year ago, some people in the **community** held meetings questioning whether the ... Even Duke got a warning letter from state **health** officials, because the ...

ABC News

## Colombia's decision to halt coca spraying over **health** con...

[Fox News Latino](#) - 3 hours ago

Tales of harmful **health** effects, everything from skin problems to ... to people's **health** and the **environment** from the **chemicals** used to manufacture cocaine in ... by ending fumigation," said Andrés Herron, a **community** leader.

## In rural Colombia, ban on anti-coca herbicide is bittersweet

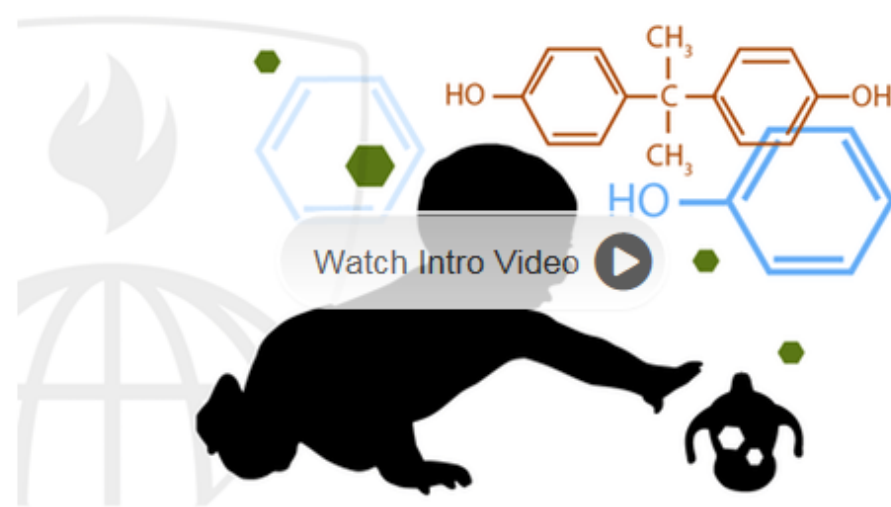
[seattlepi.com](#) - 12 hours ago

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# Chemicals and Health

This course covers chemicals in our environment and in our bodies and how they impact our health. It addresses policies and practices related to chemicals, particularly related to how they get into our bodies (exposures), what they do when they get there (toxicology), how we measure them (biomonitoring) and their impact on our health.



## About the Course

Chemicals make up every part of us! Some chemicals are vital to our health, while others may be harmful. This course focuses on the potentially harmful effects of some of the many chemicals we encounter every day, with particular attention to measuring our exposures to these chemicals.

While personal care products, food packaging and other consumer conveniences have greatly improved our quality of life, they have also introduced the opportunity for exposures to many new and not-well-understood chemicals. Studies, including the Centers for Disease Control and Prevention's (CDC) National Report on Human Exposure to Environmental Chemicals, confirm that widely-used chemicals such as bisphenol A (BPA) and flame retardants are routinely found in human blood or urine.

At the end of this course, students will better understand chemicals in the environment, exposure, toxicology, biomonitoring, and related public health and policy implications.

## Course Syllabus

### Schedule

Week 1 - Chemicals in our environment: What is a chemical and how are we exposed?





## Sessions

Mar 9, 2015 - Apr 25th 2015



Join for Free!


## Course at a Glance

-  6 weeks of study
-  2-4 hours/week
-  English
-  English subtitles

Earn official recognition for  
your work







PHLs are essential, but better marketing and government support could help them to have more of an impact. If the general public know about these labs and understand their function, they can provide a good interface between the labs and researchers, and the day-to-day problems where these labs could provide effective answers.

<i>Testing Type</i>	<i>Matrix</i>			
	<i>Air</i>	<i>Water</i>	<i>Soil/ Sediment</i>	<i>Blood/ Urine</i>
<b>Inorganic Chemicals (i.e., metals)</b>	18	46	32	34
<b>Volatile Organic Compounds</b>	12	39	15	15
<b>Semi-volatile Organic Compounds (i.e., pesticides)</b>	4	38	21	11
<b>Other Chemicals (i.e., phthalates)</b>	3	31	14	4
<b>Radiation/Radiochemistry</b>	19	33	24	8
<b>Toxicity Testing</b>	0	3	0	0

**(Agencies) in the environmental world do not think about health of citizens (they) only think of regulations and approved methods to address these regulations. We should be working to protect public health and safety.**

# Getting past 'Respond & Support'

- Market!
- Engage Advocacy Groups
- Get on the 'Team'

**We (should) stick to  
monitoring and  
governmental oversight so  
we are not in competition  
with  
commercial labs.**

# Next Steps?

- Make Biomonitoring Part of Surveillance
- Proactively Test Consumer Products
- Expand Partnerships
  - Community & consumer advocacy groups
  - Academia
  - ATSDR, EPA
  - State & local agencies



# Meeting Community Health Needs through Environmental Laboratories

Are you concerned about possible disease clusters in your neighborhood? How about hazardous waste potentially contaminating your drinking water? Are you worried about chemicals in the shampoo, deodorant or toothpaste you are using? Well, this site is for you!

SAVED TOPICS: [Biomonitoring](#), [Chemical Testing](#), [Environmental Health](#)

↓ SAVE PRINT SEND



Too often [APHL](#) learns about situations in which environmental health laboratories might have helped answer questions related to community health concerns by providing reliable scientific findings. Such stories frustrate scientists in our member laboratories, which are equipped with advanced technology and highly trained chemists dedicated to protecting and improving public health.

[Public health laboratories](#), like all agencies, have their limitations. For instance, they cannot test a urine sample that is brought to them in a mayonnaise jar (they follow specific guidelines related to study development, including sample collection). They also must work within the confines of their [public health mission](#), the [public health system](#), and the [scientific process](#)

We hope to help you navigate the governmental environmental health system, while ultimately improving that very same system for other concerned communities. **Come check out our tools and resources to see what we've accomplished so far. Then tell us what's going on in your community and how we might help.**

## CONTACT

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## CAN WE HELP?

What We Know

Where We Are Going

Talk to Us!

## TELL ME MORE

What is public health?

What does environmental justice mean?



## What is a public health laboratory?

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## Concerns? Suggestions?

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