



Department
of Health



Climate & Health Adaptation Workshops

Extreme Heat & Weather Vulnerability

October 26th, 2022

IMPORTANT INFORMATION!

- For those who have joined via phone before logging in on your computer...
 - To sync your online and phone presence, click on the audio icon (should look like a headset)
 - Select “switch to phone audio” or “phone call” and follow the directions that come up on your screen
 - When your phone and online presence are synced, the audio icon should look like a phone

Thank You!

To the grants that supported these workshops...



CDC-RFA-EH16-1602
CDC-RFA-EH21-2101

CDC-RFA-EH17-1702
CDC-RFA-EH22-2202

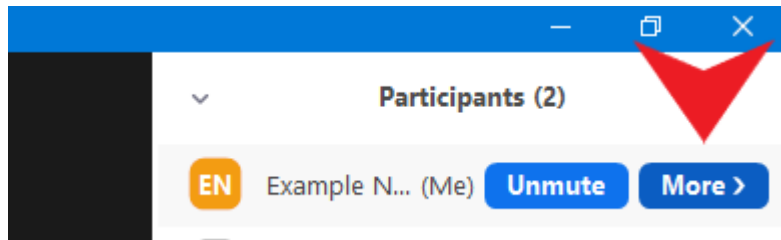


...and to the planning team that brought these workshops to life!

- ❖ Neil Muscatiello
- ❖ Faith Schottenfeld
- ❖ Kristen Vacca
- ❖ Laura Agnew
- ❖ Sarah Ravenhall
- ❖ Cristina Dyer-Drobnack

Before We Begin...

- **This session is being recorded** and will be emailed out to all registrants, and be uploaded onto NYSACHO's webpage
- Please remain **muted** to limit background noise
- At any time during the session, share your thoughts, feedback, and questions using the chat box, or Zoom's "reactions"!
- Please **rename yourself** to include your name and county/affiliation



In the "Participants" list, hover over your name and click "Rename"

Today's Agenda

9:05 – 10:00 AM

Content Overview

10:00 – 10:15 AM

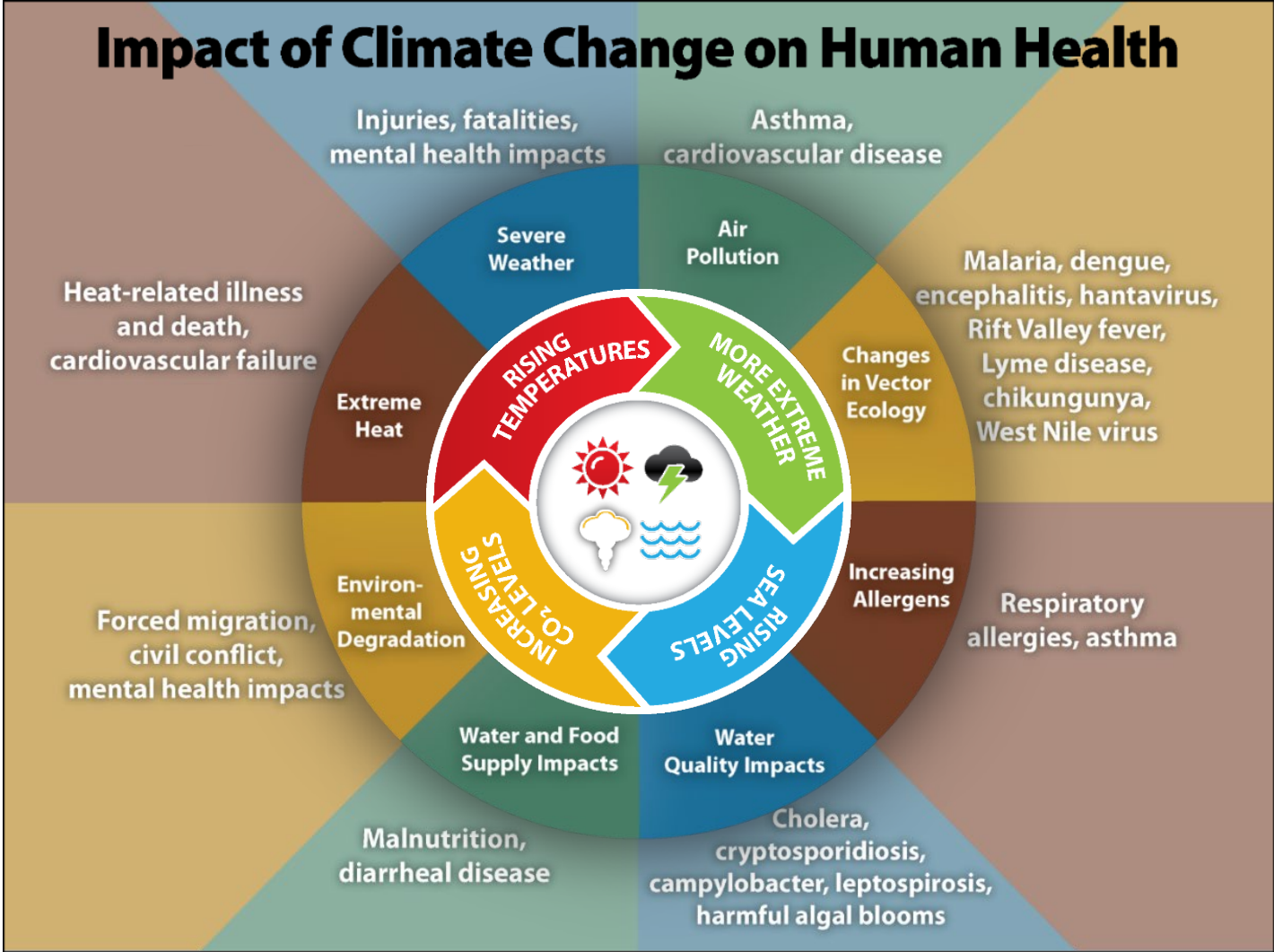
Break

10:15 – 11:25 AM

Breakout Sessions

11:25 AM – 12:00 PM

Report Out



Source: Centers for Disease Control and Prevention, Climate and Health Program

Addressing Extreme Heat in Westchester County:

An Institutional-level Early Warning Plan

Anjali Sauthoff

October 26, 2022

Expected Climate Impacts in NYS

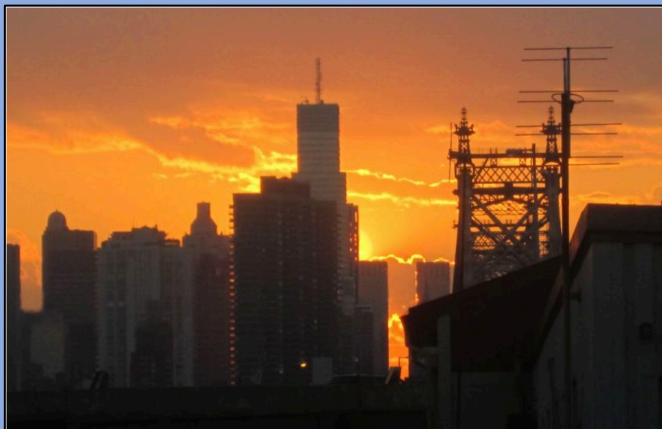


A woman pours water on her face to cool off in a fountain in Domino Park, Brooklyn with the Manhattan skyline in the background as the sun sets during a heat wave in the Brooklyn borough of New York 2022.

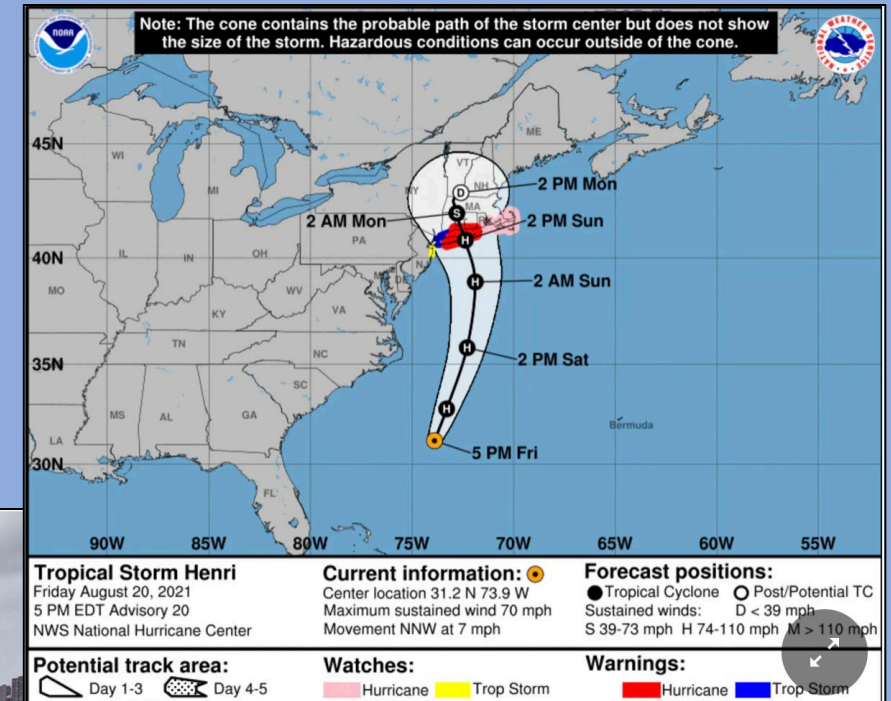
Alexi Rosenfeld/Getty Images



Flooding in Battery Park as Hurricane Sandy reaches New York, 29/10/2012. Credit: John G. Wilbanks/Alamy Stock Photo.

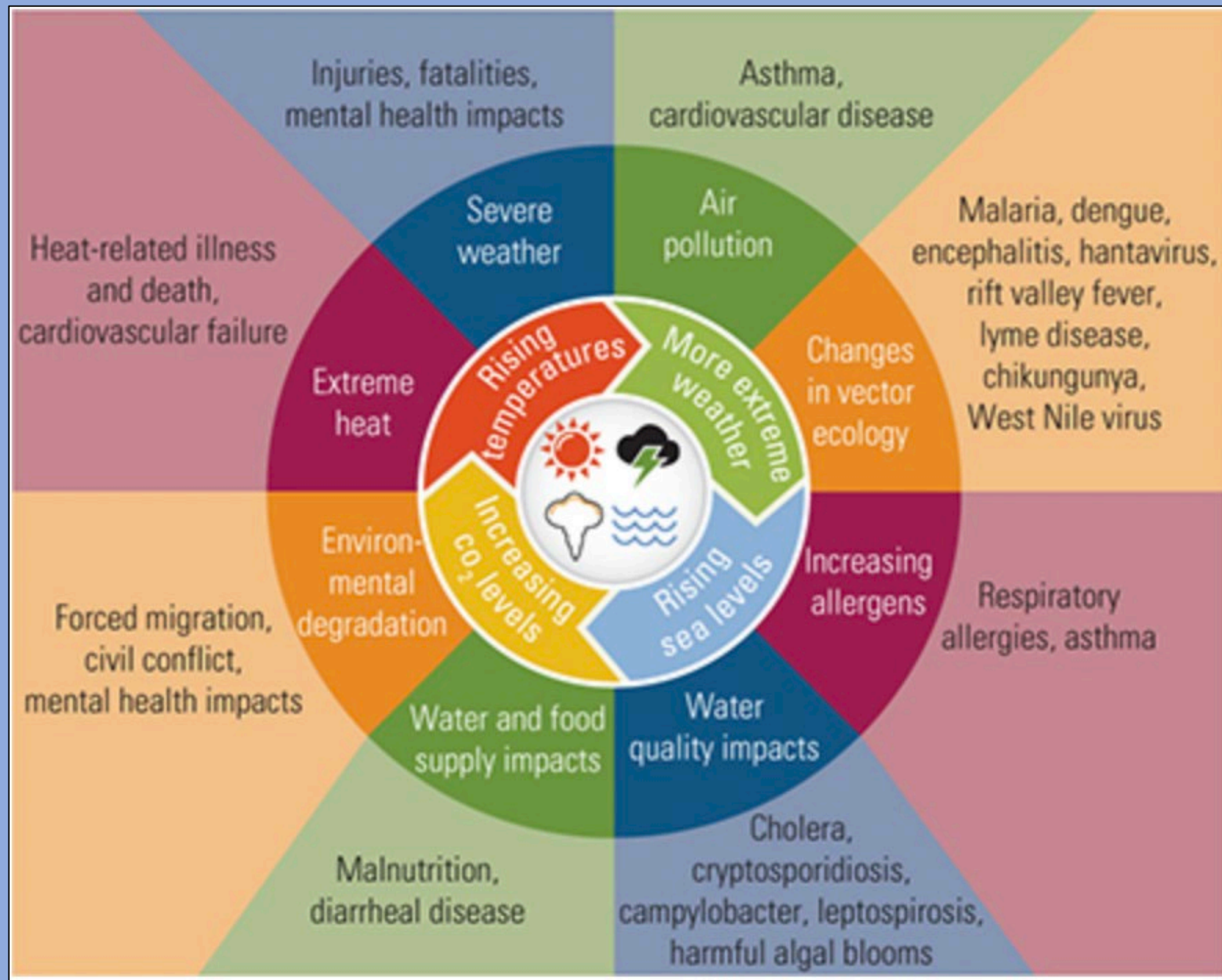


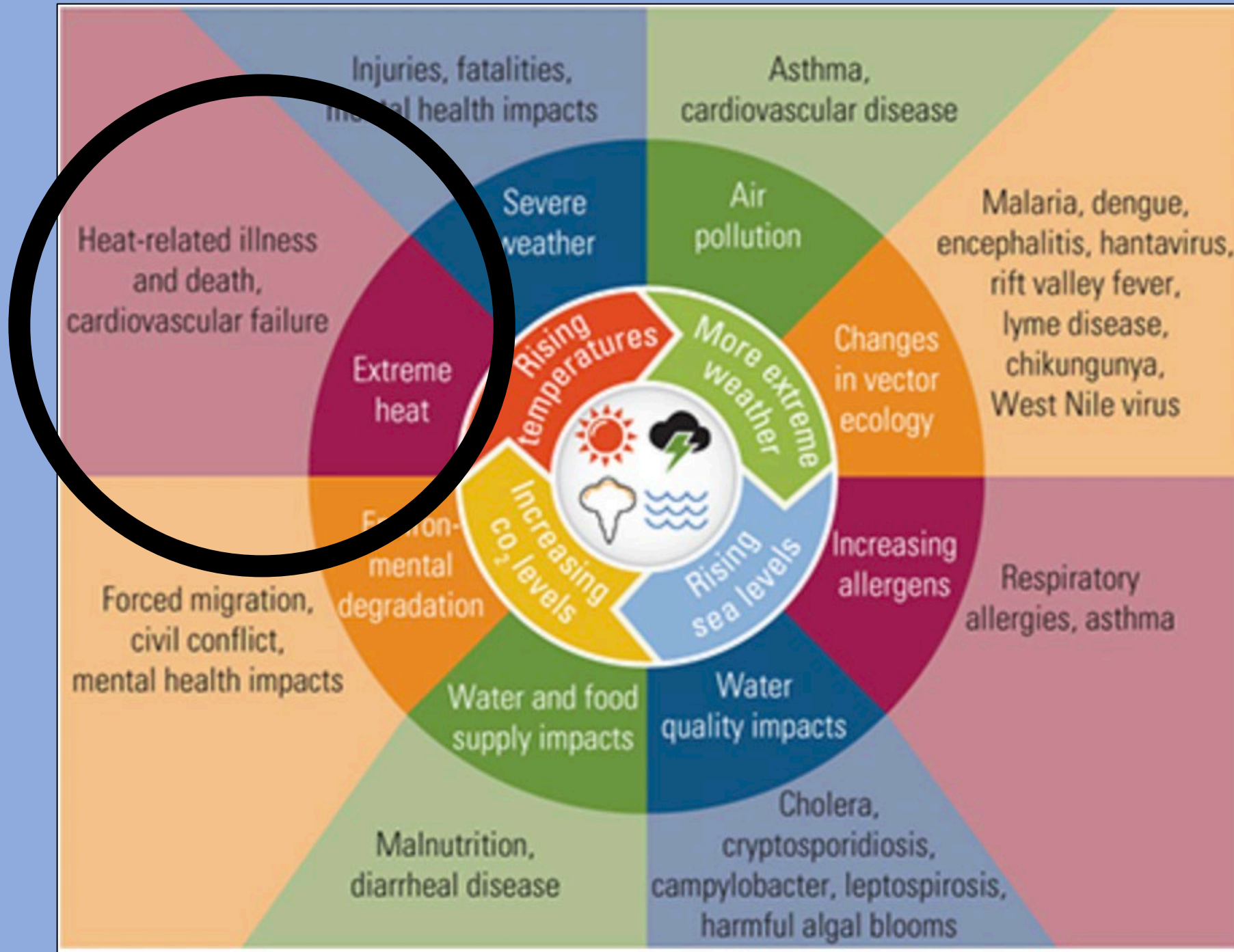
Queens heat wave. Photo: Chris Goldberg



Temperatures rose to 94 degrees Saturday afternoon.

J.C. Rice for NY Post





NYS DEC: Extreme Temperatures

Extreme heat days: those with maximum temperatures at or above 90°F in northern portions of the state and those with maximum temperatures at or above 95°F in southern portions.

Heat waves: periods of three or more consecutive days with maximum temperatures at or above 90°F.

Extreme cold days: those with maximum temperatures at or below 32°F in southern areas and those with minimum temperatures at or below 0°F in northern areas.

Observed: The frequency of cold waves has decreased across the contiguous U.S since the early 1900s, while the frequency of heat waves has increased since the mid-1960s.

Projected: The total annual number of individual hot days, and the annual frequency and duration of heatwaves in New York State are expected to increase as the century progresses. The number of extreme cold days, of either of the above two definitions, will likely decrease.

Vulnerable Populations

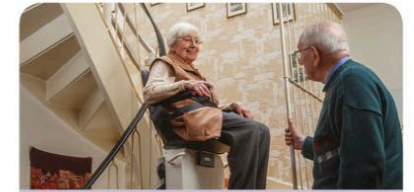
- Low-income
- Pregnant women
- Older adults
- Occupational groups
- People with pre-existing medical conditions
- People with disabilities
- Geographic location
- Children
- Indigenous
- Unhoused



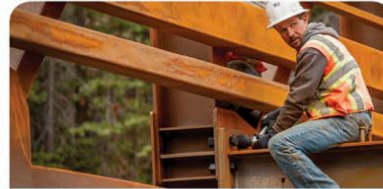
Low-income populations may be exposed to climate change threats because of socioeconomic factors. For example, people who cannot afford air conditioning are more likely to suffer from unsafe indoor air temperatures.



Pregnant women are sensitive to health risks from extreme weather such as hurricanes and floods. These events can affect their mental health and the health of their unborn babies by contributing to low birthweight or preterm birth.



Older adults may have limited ability to cope with extreme weather if, for example, they have difficulty accessing cooling centers or other support services during a heat wave. Heat-related deaths are most commonly reported among adults aged 65 and over.



Occupational groups such as first responders and construction workers face more frequent or longer exposure to climate change threats. For example, extreme heat and disease-carrying insects and ticks particularly affect outdoor workers.



People with pre-existing medical conditions, such as asthma, are particularly sensitive to climate change impacts on air quality. People who have diabetes or who take medications that make it difficult to regulate body temperature are sensitive to extreme heat.



People with disabilities face challenges preparing for and responding to extreme weather events. For example, emergency or evacuation instructions are often not accessible to people with learning, hearing, or visual disabilities.



People in certain locations may be exposed to climate change threats, such as droughts, floods, or severe storms, that are specific to where they live. For example, people living by the coast are at increased risk from hurricanes, sea level rise, and storm surge.

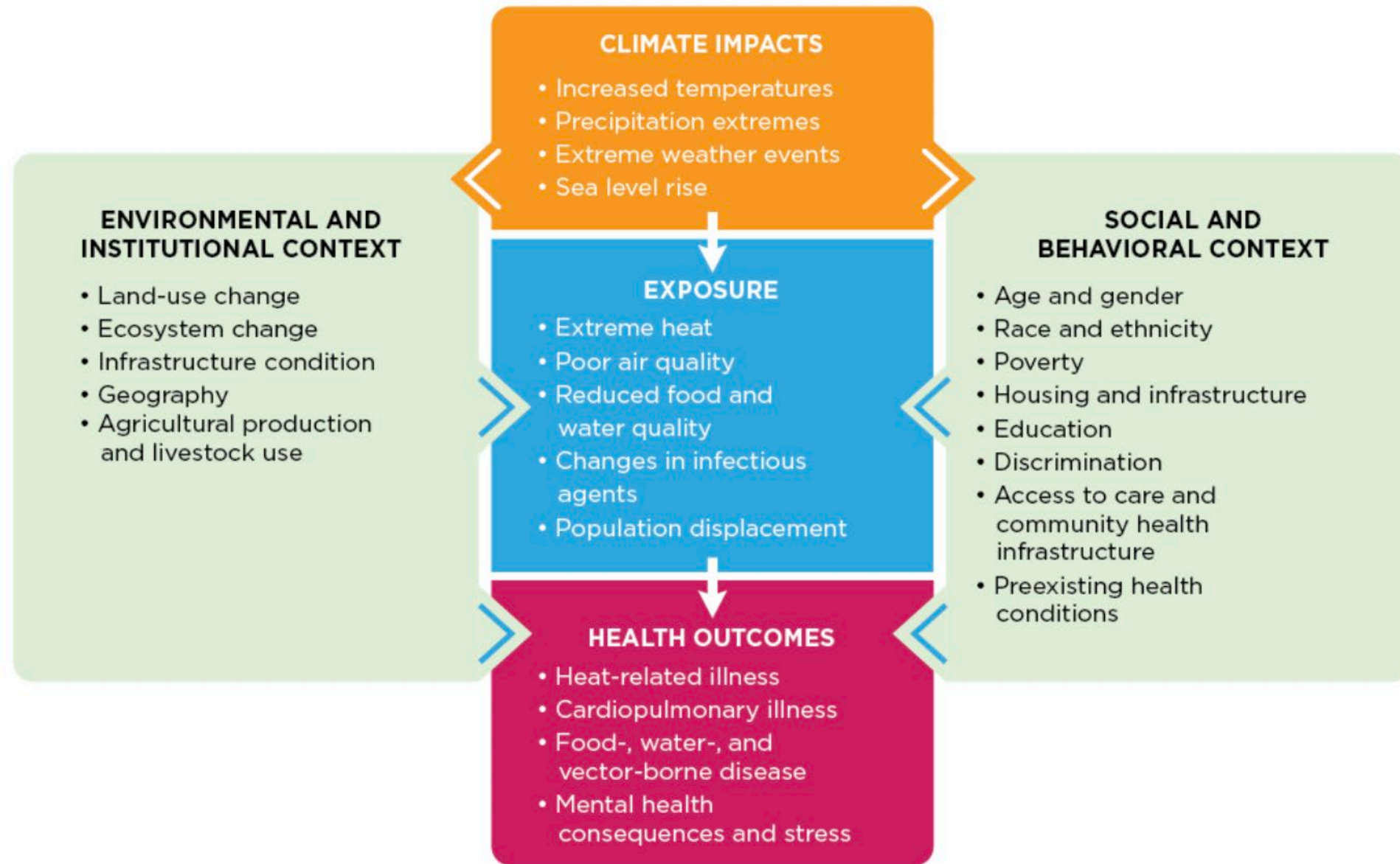


Children are more sensitive to respiratory hazards than adults because of their lower body weight, higher levels of physical activity, and still-developing lungs. Longer pollen seasons may lead to more asthma episodes.



Indigenous people who rely on subsistence food have limited options to adapt to climate change threats to traditional food sources. Rising temperatures and changes in the growing season affect the safety, availability, and nutritional value of some traditional foods and medicinal plants.

Figure 1. Climate Change and Health Pathway

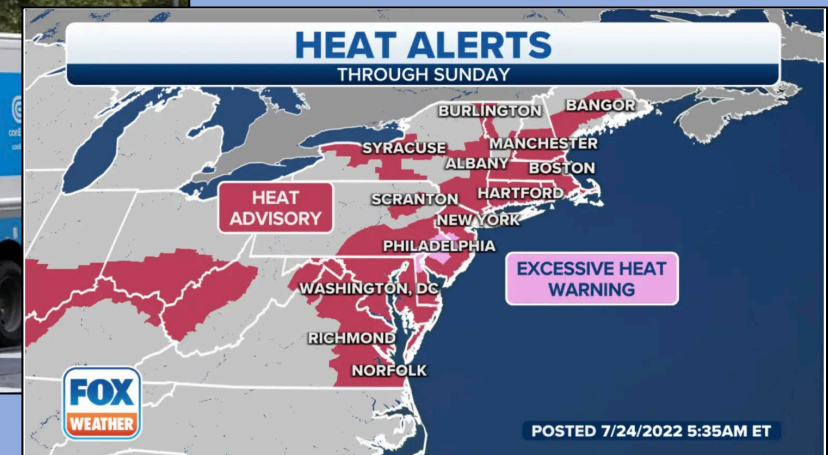


Typical Extreme Heat Warnings



STORM TEAM 4 RECORD HIGH TEMPERATURES SUNDAY

	ACTUAL	RECORD
Central Park	95°	97° 1999
Newark, NJ	102°	99° 2010
Poughkeepsie, NY	96°	100° 1933
Bridgeport, CT	94°	95° 2010
Islip, NY	92°	96° 2010
LGA Airport	98°	98° 1999





NEW YORK MEDICAL COLLEGE

A MEMBER OF THE Touro College and University System



Westchester
gov.com

George Latimer
Westchester County Executive



OPEN DOOR

FAMILY MEDICAL CENTER
AND FOUNDATION

Institutional level—more targeted messaging for vulnerable populations



Figure 1. Climate Change and Health Pathway

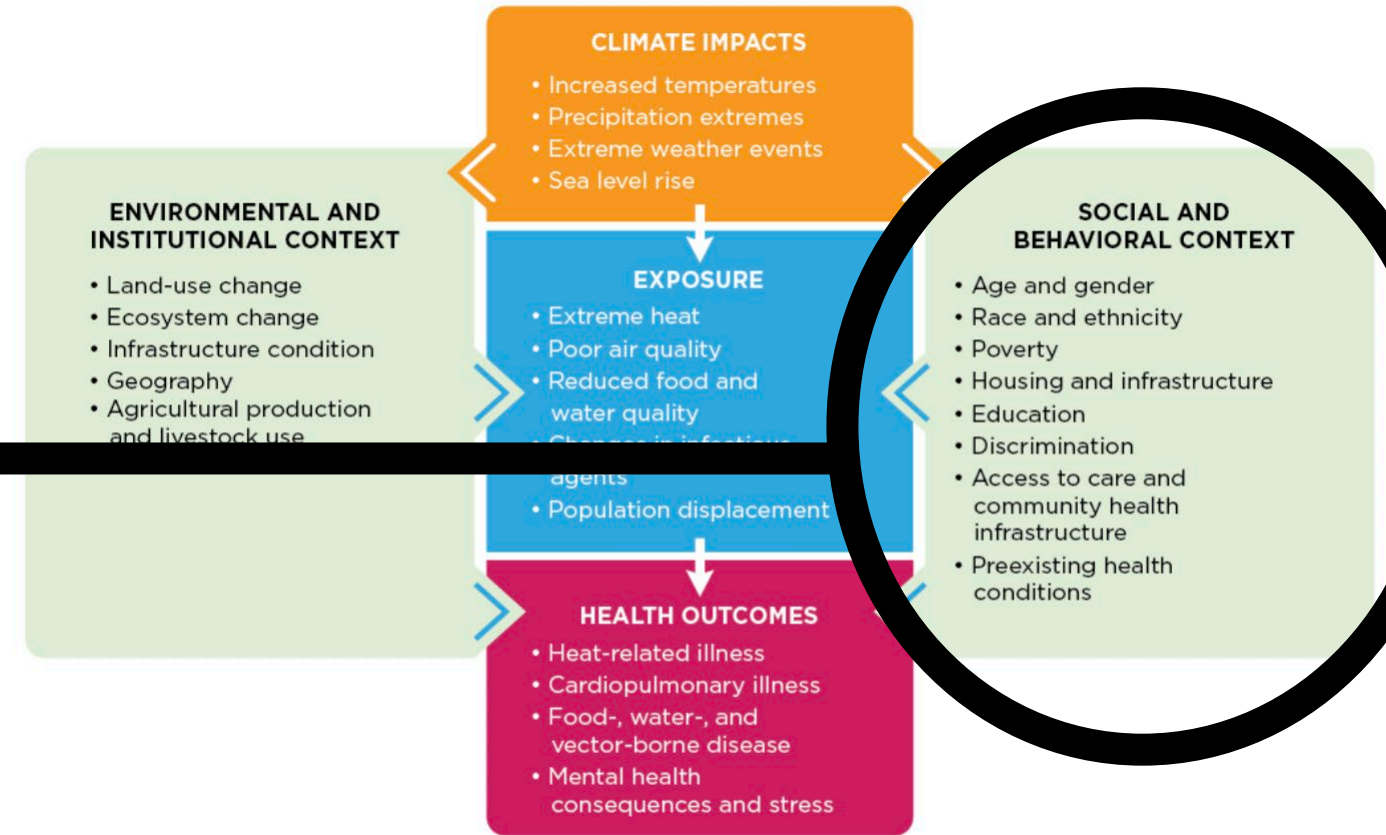


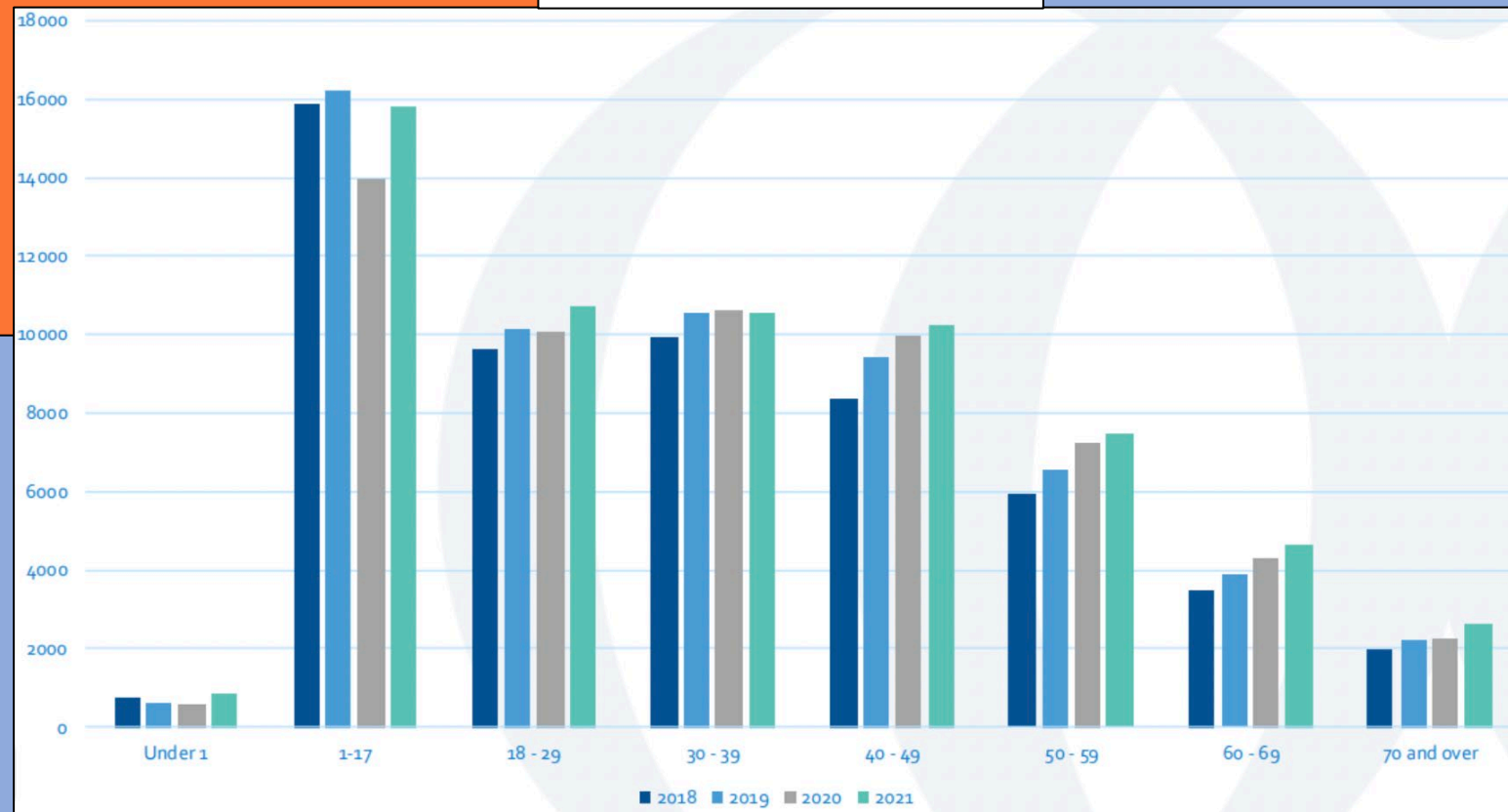
Figure 1 shows how climate change can affect people by changing their exposure to health threats (moving from top to bottom) and by influencing the environmental, institutional, social, and behavioral factors that affect a person's or community's health (moving through the boxes on the sides).

Patients of Open Door Family Medical Center

62,903 patients in 2021:

- Patients best served in a language other than English: 71%
- Hispanic or Latino/a: 79%
- Black/African American: 6%
- Uninsured: 36%
- Medicaid/CHIP/Public: 47%
- Medicare: 4.5%
- Private: 12%

Patients by Age



Goal

Develop a method to more precisely target specific vulnerable populations at an institutional level with relevant extreme heat warnings

What can we leverage?

1. 96% of all Open Door patients have cell phones
2. COVID communication platform—text messaging

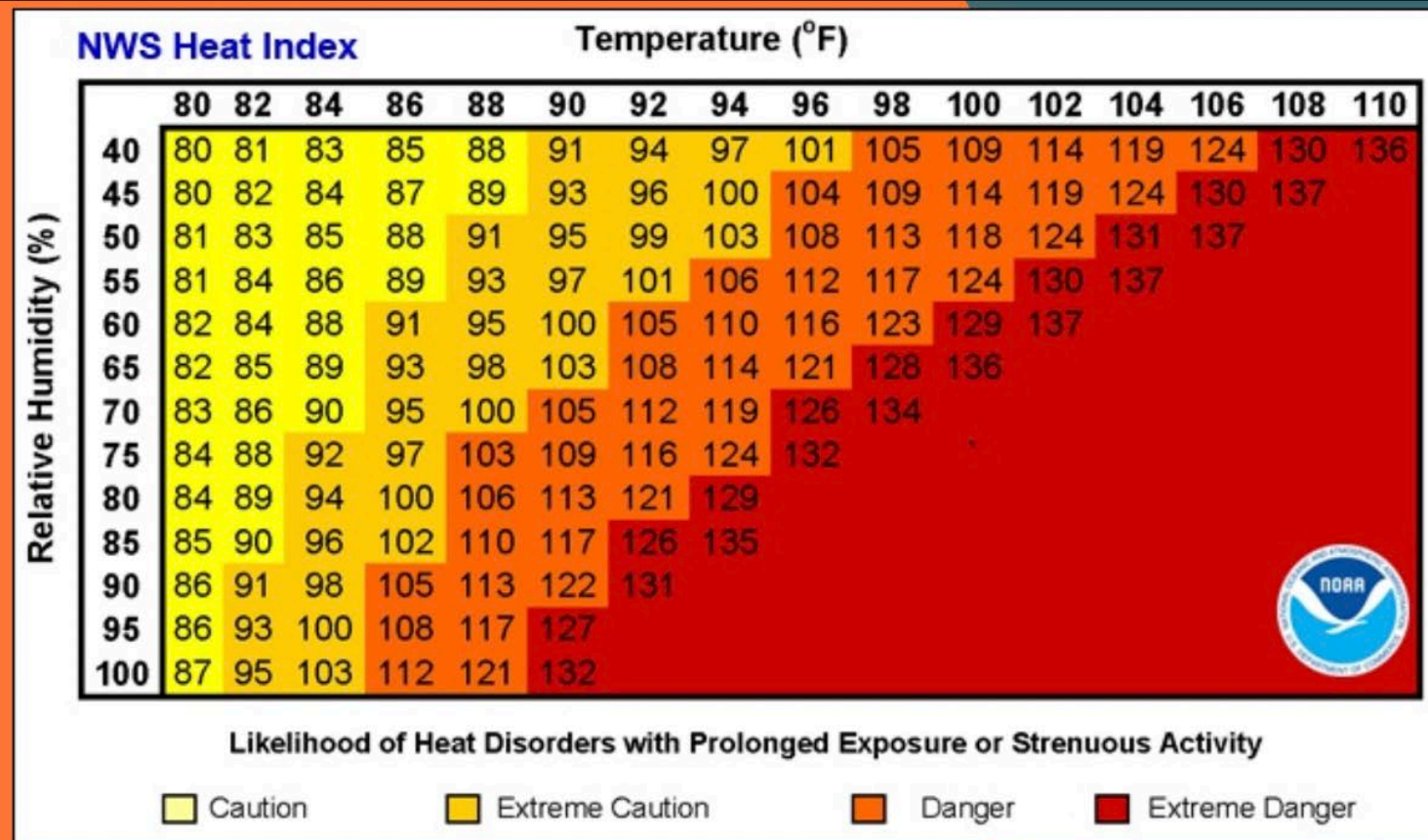
Methods

- Background research
- Considerations: text fatigue, what defines success? Awareness? Health outcome data?
- Developed messaging—text messaging, flyers, video monitors
- Healthcare provider discussion with vulnerable patients
- Gaps—occupation, building level data (i.e. floor)

Timing of Text Messaging

Beginning the Alert

- Heat information from the National Weather Service
- Extreme Caution – Notification to vulnerable groups
- Danger – Notification to all groups



(NOAA's National Weather Service, 2019)

Pamphlet

Video Screens

Flyers & Posters

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Signs of Heat Exposure

- Heavy sweating
- Cold, pale, and clammy skin
- Fast, weak pulse
- Muscle cramps
- Headache or dizziness
- Nausea or vomiting
- Fainting or passing out

WHAT TO DO

- Move to a cool place
- Loosen your clothes
- Put cool, wet cloths on your body or take a cool bath
- Sip water
- Get medical help right away if:
 - You are throwing up
 - Your symptoms get worse
 - Your symptoms last longer than 1 hour

TIPS TO BEAT THE HEAT

IN THE MORNING

- Monitor air temperatures inside and outside. When outdoor temperature matches indoor temperature, close windows and draw curtains.
- Turn off heat producing electronics
- Close doors to unused rooms
- Stay in rooms with the lowest amount of sun exposure

IN THE EVENING

- When the outdoor temperature matches the indoor temperature, open curtains and windows
- Place two fans in windows, all either end of living space
 - Point one fan going out to remove hot air
 - Point the other fan in to bring in cool air
- Take a cold shower before bed

BEAT THE HEAT: Extreme Heat

Do not cook on the stove or use oven

Do not run clothes dryer or laundry

Use fans to cool off

Keep using fans if ambient air is hotter than your body temperature

Place ice bottles or bowls with ice in front of the fan

Take cool showers or use cold washcloths

Eat pre-cooled or cold meals like salads and sandwiches

Stay hydrated!

Drink water and liquids rich in electrolytes

Visit a Cooling Center - open to the public! The State of New York has a Cooling Center Finder

COOLING CENTER OPEN

How Extreme Heat Can Worsen Mental Health

Over the years, research has linked extreme heat to a variety of mental health effects, including increased irritation and depressive symptoms and an increase in suicide.

How to avoid it?

- Stay in air-conditioned areas if possible
- Open windows in the evening or night hours when the air outside is cooler
- Avoid overexertion and outdoor activity, particularly during warmer periods of the day
- Drink plenty of fluids (avoid coffee, tea, and alcohol)
- Take a cool shower or bath

Stroke Anxiety Cerebral Confusion Irritability Dizziness

Global temperatures and the frequency and intensity of extreme weather events are on the rise. The risk of heat-related illness and death is increasing. Heat-related illness and death are preventable. Heat-related illness and death are preventable. Heat-related illness and death are preventable.

Who is affected?

- People who are physiologically vulnerable to heat-related illness and death
- The elderly, infants and children, pregnant women, and people with chronic medical conditions, such as heart disease, diabetes, and asthma

How can we reduce heat-related illness?

- Avoid strenuous activity and exposure to heat during the hottest part of the day
- Drink plenty of fluids
- Wear light-colored, loose-fitting clothing
- Take cool showers or baths
- Use fans to cool off
- Stay hydrated
- Visit a Cooling Center

Extreme Heat and Asthma

Do you know that nearly 25 million American adults and children?

ASTHMA

Asthma is a long-term condition affecting children and adults. Asthma is a condition in which your airways narrow and swell and may produce extra mucus.

Why extreme heat affect asthma?

Extreme heat and heavy rainfall increased the risk of hospitalization due to asthma. The risk increased 23 percent during these weather events and was highest among people between the age of 5 and 17 years old.

How can you manage asthma during extreme heat?

1. Have an asthma action plan that you create with your healthcare provider.
2. Monitor your peak flow or your ability to push air out of your lungs based on your action plan.
3. Use your rescue medications as needed for flare-ups and always carry it with you.
4. Follow weather reports that address air quality and pollen counts.
5. Stay hydrated. Dehydration may lead to faster breathing and worsening response to the allergens.

Westchester County, N.Y. Climate Change Projections

In New York State, average warming has occurred by 2.0°F per decade since the year 1950 while the mean sea level has risen 1.0 foot per decade.

New York State Department of Environmental Conservation (DEC) estimates that temperatures will rise by 5.0°F to 10.0°F over the next century resulting in significant impacts on local ecosystems and infrastructure.

By 2050, average rainfall is expected to increase by 10% to 20%.

Increasing demand for cooling may exceed power distribution system capacities.

Impacts of roadway and rail infrastructure from extreme heat is expected to be more severe than impacts from other climate change effects.

Water management programs and public water utilities will face unique challenges from extreme heat that may impact delivery of services.

By 2050, each year over 50°F is expected to rise to 21-43 days per year.

The number of heat waves per year is expected to increase to 5-6 events while the duration of these events is also expected to lengthen to between 5-7 days.

To safeguard the public, notification systems should communicate information on the actual duration and severity of extreme heat events.

KEEP CHILDREN SAFE DURING A HEAT WAVE

Children are more affected by heat and humidity than adults. Keep children safe by following:

TIPS FOR PARENTS AND CAREGIVERS

- Avoid excessive activity following a recent illness
- Maintain adequate hydration with water or electrolyte rehydration drinks if dehydration or long duration of exercise
- Become properly acclimated to the heat/humidity
- Dress in light-colored clothing
- Longer rest and recovery times between activities
- A child with chronic health conditions and on certain medications may be more susceptible to heat-related illnesses
- Never leave a child unattended in a vehicle

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Heat Wave GUIDANCE

WHEN TEMPERATURES IN WESTCHESTER COUNTY APPROACH 90°F-95°F

OUTDOOR WORKERS

WITH PROLONGED EXPOSURE TO HEAT ARE AT HIGH RISK OF HEAT CRAMPS, HEAT STROKE, AND HEAT EXHAUSTION

OPENDOOR FAMILY MEDICAL CENTER ADVISES CITIZENS TO:

- WEAR LIGHTWEIGHT, LIGHT COLORED, LOOSE FITTING CLOTHING
- GO OUT IN AN AIR-CONDITIONED AREA WHEN POSSIBLE

FOR MORE INFORMATION ON HOW TO PREPARE AND PROTECT YOURSELF, VISIT: www.opendoor.org/heatwave

Social Vulnerabilities

During extreme heat, the temperature in your car could be deadly!

Heat-related deaths are preventable.

What: Extreme heat or heat waves occur when the temperature reaches extremely high levels or when the combination of heat and humidity causes the air to become oppressive.

Who: Children, Older adults, Outdoor workers, People with disabilities.

Where: In cars, In homes, In workplaces, In public places.

How to avoid: Stay hydrated with water or electrolyte beverages, Wear light-colored, loose-fitting clothes, Stay cool in an air-conditioned area, Use fans to cool off.

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EXTREME HEAT EVENTS AND PREGNANCY

PREGNANT?

Stay away from excessive heat and avoid dehydration

WHY?

Body temperature above 102 degrees Fahrenheit can lead to dehydration, heat-related illness, and health complications to your unborn child.

How Can Extreme Heat Affect My Pregnancy?

- Pregnant women experiencing lightheadedness or fainting due to heat illness are at increased risk for falls which could result in placental abruption or early labor
- Dehydration is a major cause of early practice contractions called Braxton Hicks contractions
- Maternal exposure to extreme heat during pregnancy has been linked to low birth weights and preterm birth, while exposure during the first trimester can increase odds of congenital birth defects including congenital heart defects (CHD)

What Can I Do to Stay Safe During Extreme Heat Events?

- Drink more water than usual
- Take a cool bath
- Stay inside using an air-conditioner to keep cool
- Wear light and loose-fitting clothing
- Avoid caffeine and foods with lots of salt

Where Can I Get More Information?

Call 646.432.8333. How to prevent overheating in pregnancy: www.opendoor.org/heatwave

BEAT THE HEAT: Extreme Heat

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Open Door
HEALTH CENTER

HEAT EXHAUSTION AMONG THE ELDERLY AWARENESS

Heat waves come with increased morbidity and death in susceptible sectors of the population because of numerous critical pathophysiological situations like heat stroke and kidney injury.

The elderly is one of the age groups at risk, particularly those with age-related chronic conditions associated with heat susceptibilities like cardiovascular disease and obesity.

Effects of heat on Elderly

1. Reduced forearm blood flow with elevated body heat in those individuals aged more than 50 years.
2. Individuals aged 60 years and above are among the vulnerable groups affected by excessive heat, with those aging above having increased rates of disease and death.
3. The capability to physiologically conserve body heat when experiencing heat exhaustion becomes compromised with age.
4. Recovery from dehydration takes much time among the elderly, increasing their risk of heat-associated harm during prolonged periods of heat exhaustion.

Preventive Measures

- Stay in cool places
- Stay hydrated
- Reduce direct sun exposure
- Call 911 if you experience any of these symptoms: headache, excessive sweating, nausea, thirst, weakness, and reduced urination

Where can I get more information?

Call 646.432.8333. How to prevent overheating in pregnancy: www.opendoor.org/heatwave

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AND FOUNDATION

EXTREME HEAT EVENTS AND OBESITY

Obesity can adversely affect natural cooling mechanisms in obese individuals exposed to extreme heat causing fat to re-absorb heat and so insulation, preventing heat exchange.

Obesity INCREASES RISK OF heat-related illness and death.

What is Obesity?

Obesity is defined as excessive or abnormal fat accumulation which presents a risk to health.

Obese individuals are those whose weight is higher than what is termed healthy for a given height.

Obesity increases a body mass index of over 30 as overweight and more than 35 as obese.

Layers of fat make it extremely difficult for the body to dissipate heat.

Why is Obesity a Risk Factor for Heat Intolerance?

- Obese individuals tolerate heat less than lean people. The more obese and heavier the body, the less surface area the individual has to release heat.
- Less surface area hinders the ability to properly perspire and cool the body as needed.
- Layers of fat make it extremely difficult for the body to dissipate heat.

What Can I Do to Stay Safe During Extreme Heat Events?

- Drink more water than usual
- Eat light and healthy meals
- Stay in air-conditioned buildings and spaces
- Do not engage in strenuous activities
- Check on a friend or a neighbor
- Do not use the stove or oven to cook—it will make your home hotter

Where can I get more information?

Call 646.432.8333. How to prevent overheating in pregnancy: www.opendoor.org/heatwave



Preliminary Evaluation

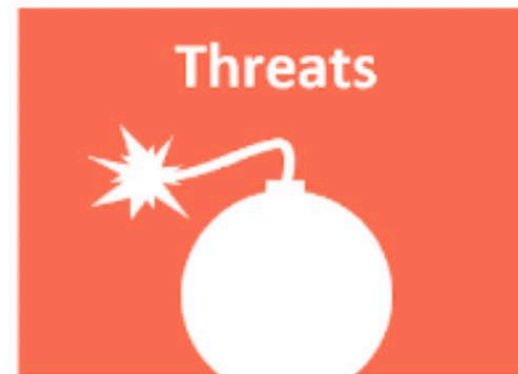
SWOT Analysis

- Quick notification time
- Cost effective
- Direct communication with patients
- Encourages risk mitigating behaviors
- Bilingual



- Limited to those who can receive messages
- Character limits (320)
- Authenticity of message origin
- Character-based messaging

- Scalability
- Diverse target population
- Educates patients
- Prevents heat-related illnesses
- Model to emulate



- Reliant on cell service grid
- Misinformation
- Miscommunication
- Human error

Evaluation, Cont'd

Open Door

- Staff capacity
- Patient feedback
- Healthcare provider feedback
- Resources, support, training
- Health outcomes

Other CBOs

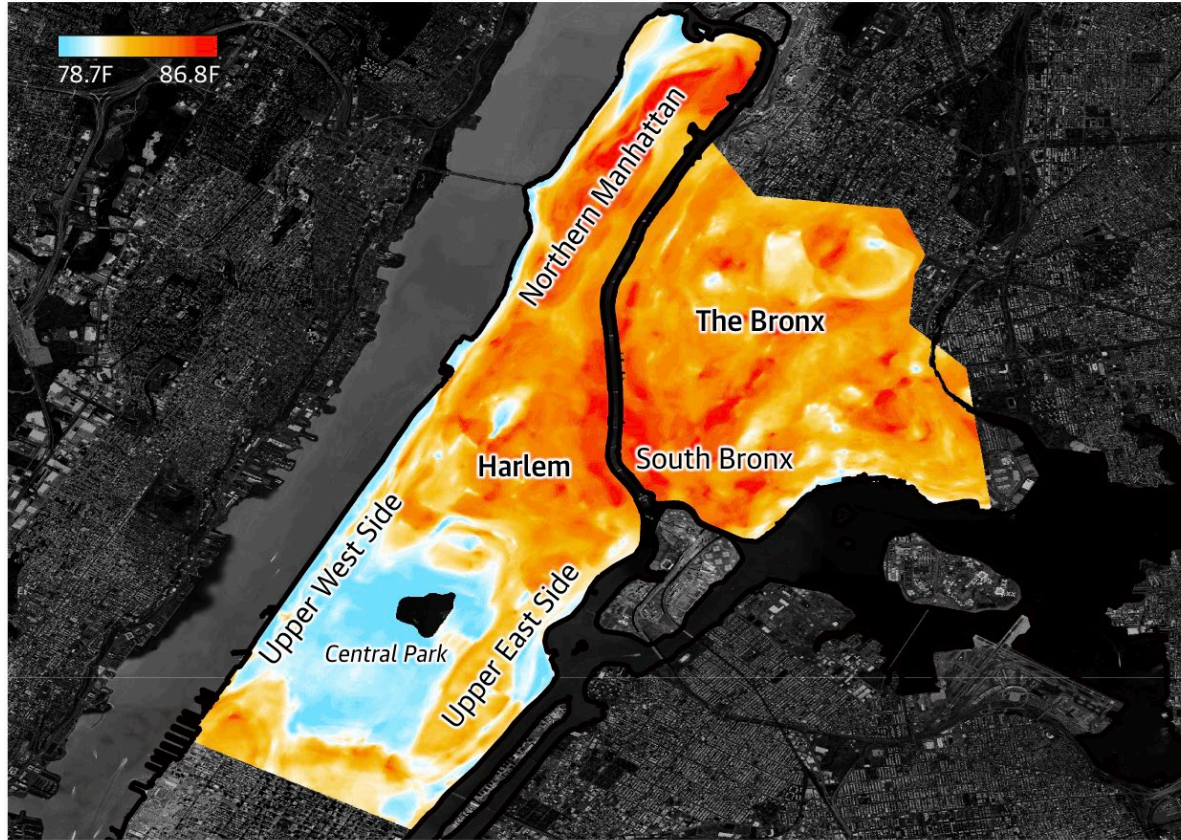
- What is already being done
- Opportunities for partnership
- Extension to other climate impacts (i.e. vector, food, water-borne diseases, mold, flooding, etc.) ?

Thank You, Thank You Thank You

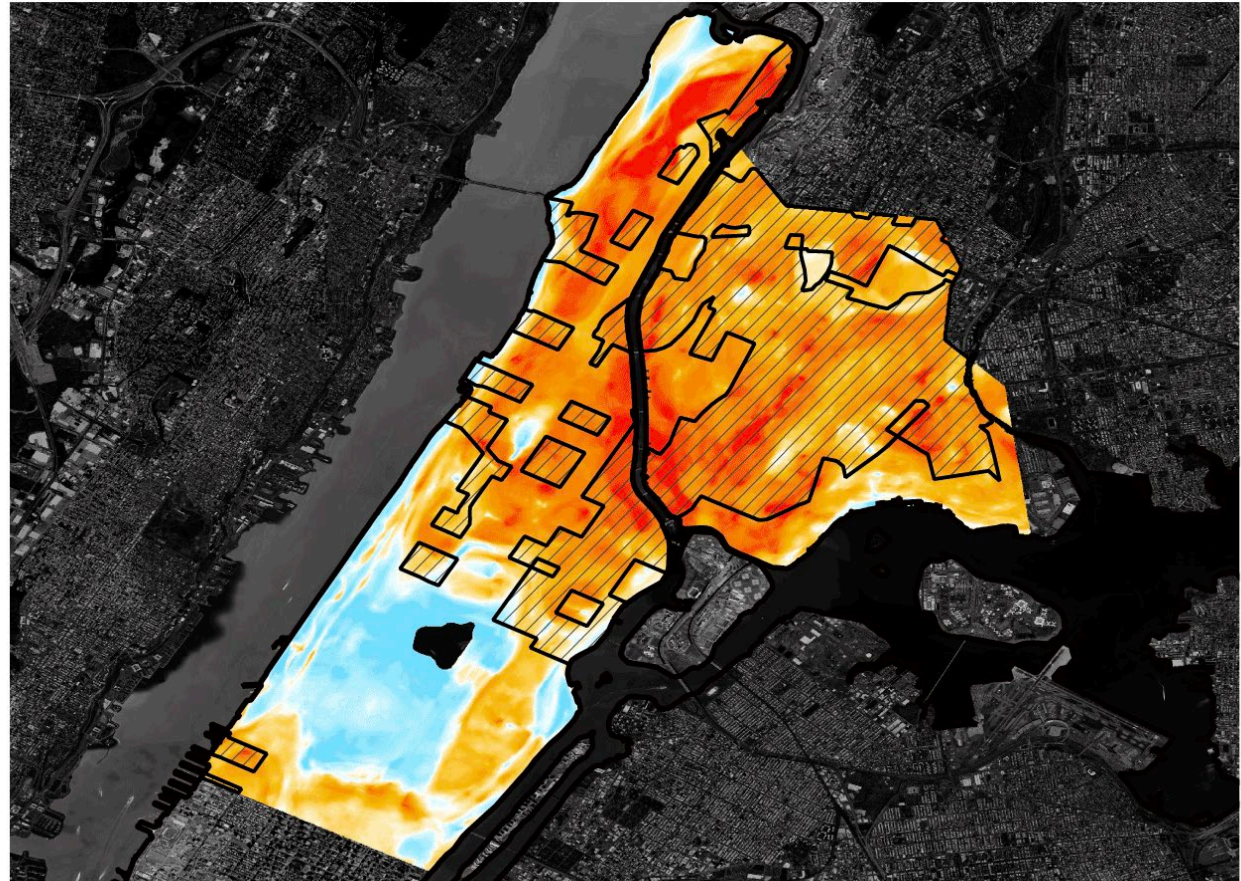
- **Lindsay Farrell**, Executive Director Open Door Family Medical Center
- **Grace Battaglia, Denise Egan**, Open Door Family Medical Center
- **Dr. Michael Shakarjian**, Assistant Professor for the Public Health Programs at New York Medical College's School of Health Sciences and Practice
- **Peter McCart**, Westchester County Director of Energy and Sustainability, Climate Crisis Task Force



Afternoon temperatures in parts of Manhattan and the Bronx on 24 July 2022



Areas where more than 25% of households live in poverty



Guardian graphic. Sources: CAPA Strategies, US Census Bureau.

Rockland County Cooling Centers



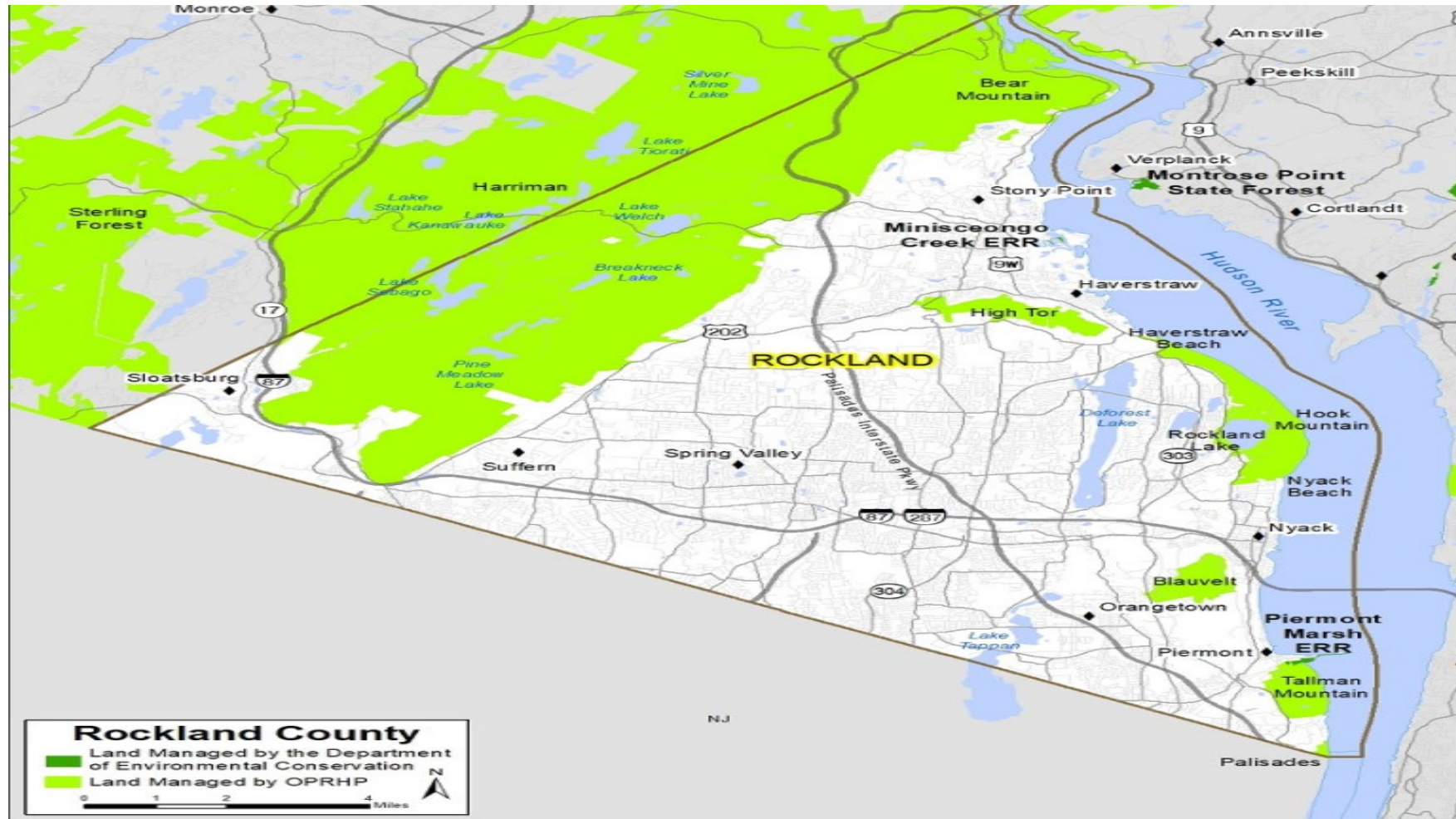
Eric Medina, MPA – Dir. Emergency Preparedness, Rockland County Dept. of Health
Chris Jensen – Program Coordinator, Rockland County Office of Fire and Emergency Services

October 26, 2022

Rockland County Demographics

- Total population of Rockland County:
 - 325,789 (as of 2019 Census estimate)
- Rockland County third-most densely populated county outside NYC (after Nassau and neighboring Westchester Counties, respectively)
- The County has the largest Jewish population per capita of any U.S. county, with 31.4%, or 90,000 residents, being Jewish

Rockland County Geography



Northeast Weather

COLUMBIA CLIMATE SCHOOL
Climate, Earth, and Society

State of the Planet

AGRICULTURE CLIMATE EARTH SCIENCES ECOLOGY ENERGY HEALTH SUSTAINABILITY

CLIMATE, PRESS RELEASE

Why the U.S. Northeast Coast Is a Global Warming Hot Spot

Heat Linked to Rising Ocean Temperatures, Altered Wind Patterns

BY KEVIN KRAJICK | SEPTEMBER 23, 2021

f t e + 19 Comments

From Maine to Delaware, the coastal U.S. Northeast is heating faster than most regions of North America, and a new study shows why. It links the outsize heating to unusually fast-rising temperatures in the North Atlantic Ocean, and alterations in wind patterns that are now tending to send the warmth to the U.S. coast instead of the other way. [The research appears](#) this week in the journal *Nature Climate Change*.

As a result of the changes, not only are Northeastern winters getting warmer, as long projected by climate models, but significant and rapid summer warming is happening as well. "Some of the biggest populations centers in the U.S. are suffering the greatest degree of warming," said lead author [Ambarish Karmalkar](#), a professor of geosciences at the University of Massachusetts, Amherst. "This warming is being driven both by equally rapid trends in the Atlantic Ocean and by changes in atmospheric circulation patterns."



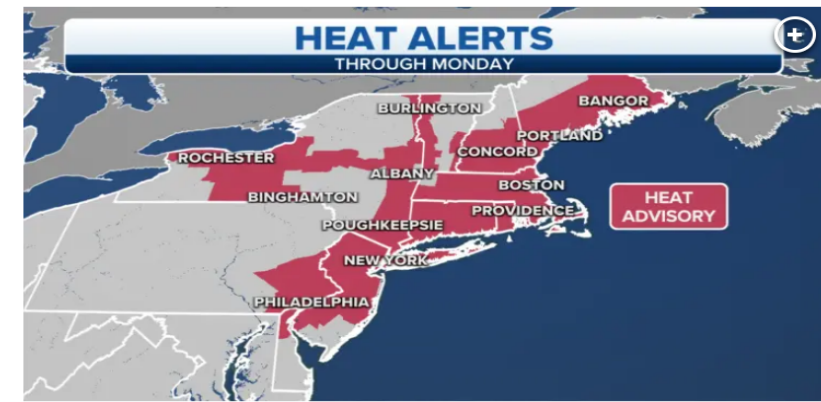
SECTIONS Q X NEW YORK POST

f t e + 20 Comments

Summer heat wave isn't letting up in the Northeast, New England

By Steven Yablonski, FOX Weather

August 7, 2022 | 5:06pm | Updated



As people enter the workweek, temperatures in southern New England and the Northeast will remain in the 90s.
FOX Weather

ORIGINALLY
PUBLISHED BY:



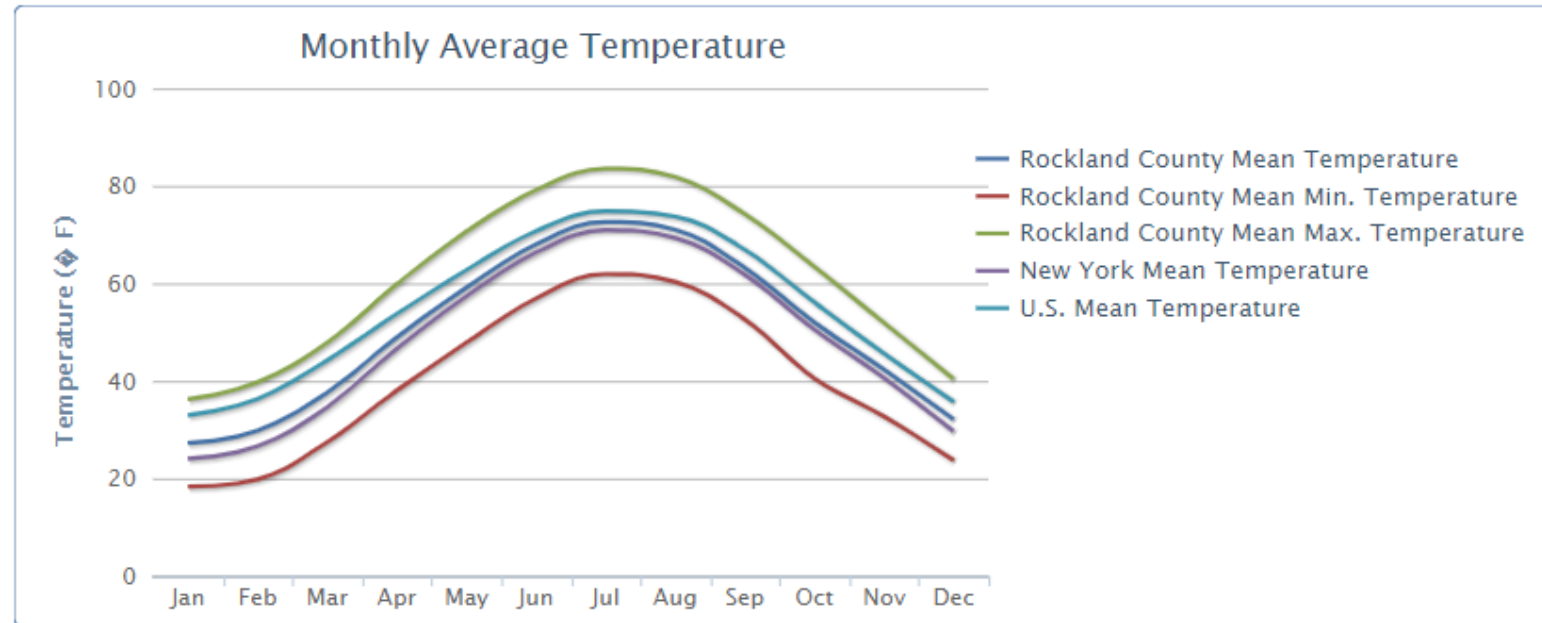
Heat Advisories remain in effect across the Northeast and New England as oppressive heat and humidity refuse to release their grip on the region.

Millions of Americans from the Jersey Shore to Bangor, Maine, are at risk of heat-related illnesses as temperatures climb into the

Rockland County Average Temperature*

Average Temperature

Annual Average Temperature, #9



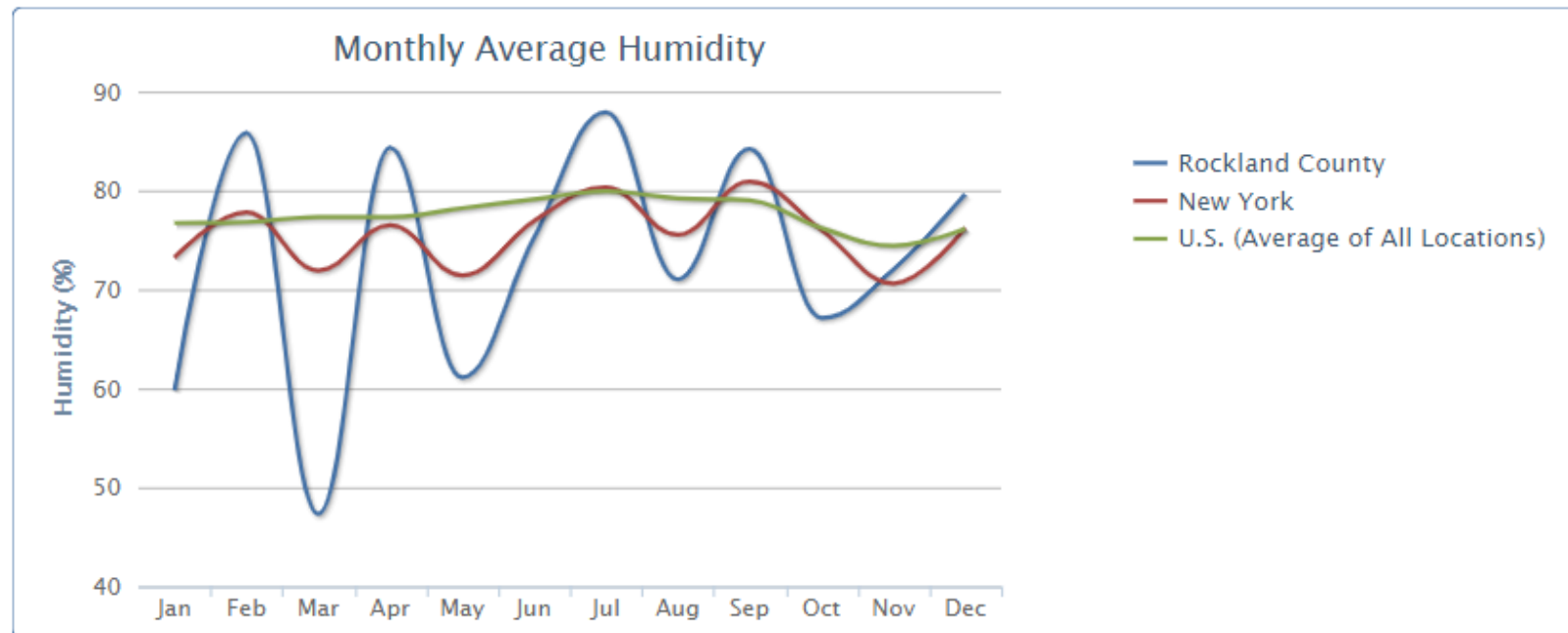
Ranks: Average Max. Temperature: #9, Average Min. Temperature: #9

* USA.COM

Rockland County Average Humidity*

Humidity

Annual Average Humidity, #55

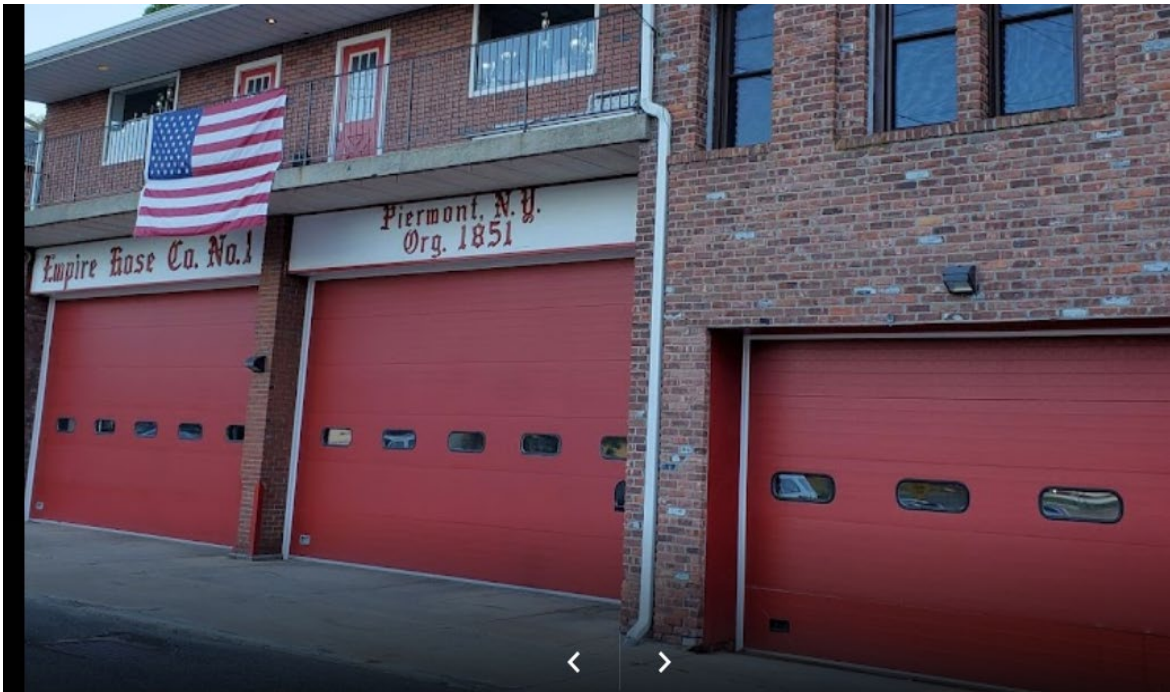
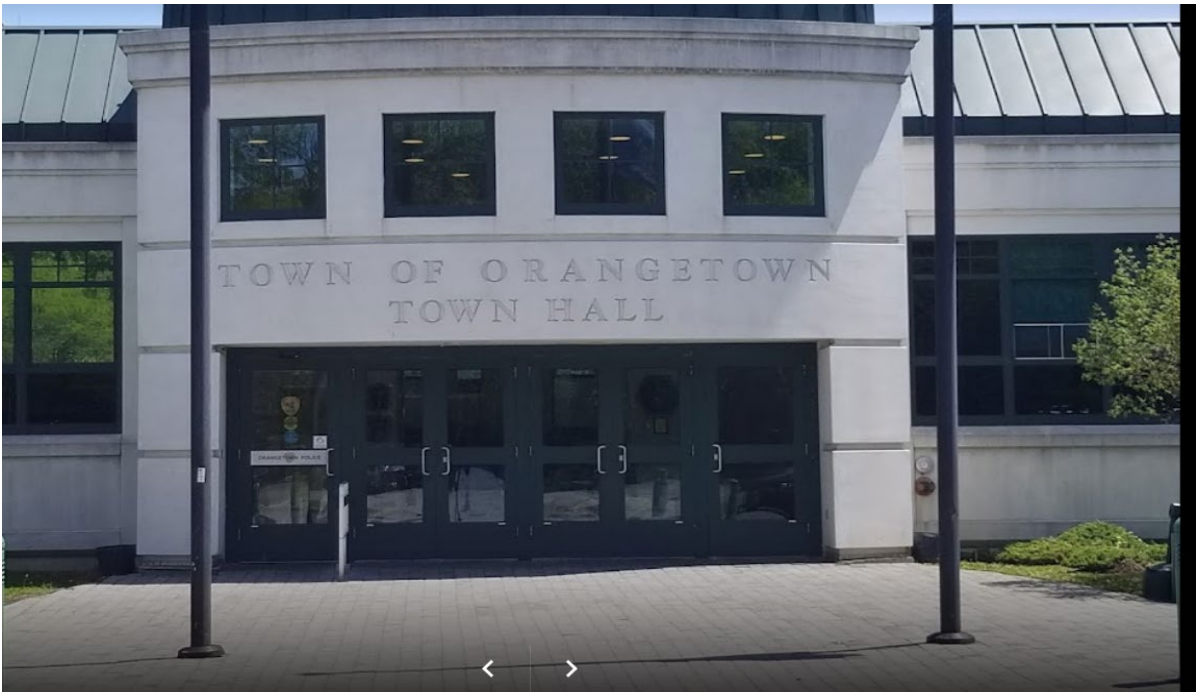
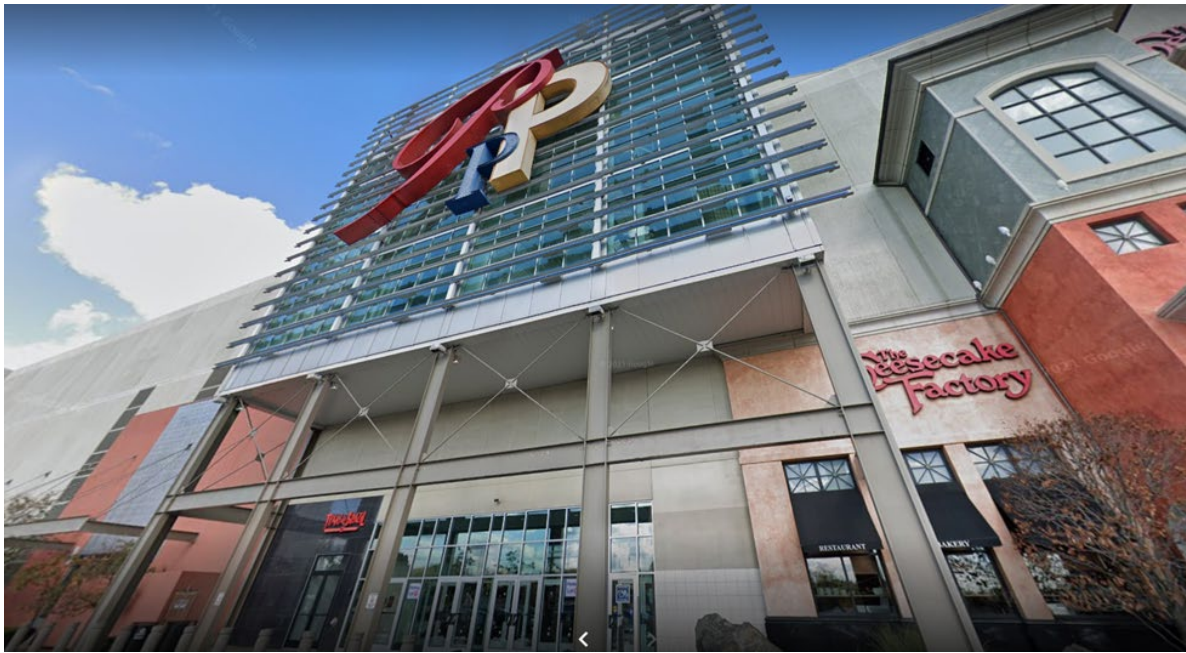


Rockland County Government Make-Up

- Divided into 5 Towns:
 - Clarkstown, Haverstraw, Orangetown, Ramapo and Stony Point
 - Villages (18)

Airmont	Chestnut Ridge	Grand View-on-Hudson
Haverstraw	Hillburn	Kaser
Montebello	New Hempstead	New Square
Nyack	Piermont	Pomona
Sloatsburg	Spring Valley	Suffern
Upper Nyack	Wesley Hills	West Haverstraw





Types of Cooling Centers

- Use of various commercial, community and government sites:
 - Community Centers: Central Nyack, Haverstraw, Hillburn, Nanuet, Stony Point, Congers, New City
 - Government Buildings:
 - Town Halls (*Haverstraw, Orangetown, Ramapo*)
 - Village Halls (*Airmont, Haverstraw, Nyack, Piermont, Pomona, Sloatsburg, Suffern, Wesley Hills, West Haverstraw and Hillburn*)
 - Senior Center (*Nyack*)
 - Police Department (*Orangetown*)
 - Fire Department (*Piermont*)
 - Senior Center (*Ramapo*)
 - Commercial Space:
 - Palisades Mall (*Nyack*)
 - Arts Center:
 - Ramapo Arts Center

Cooling Centers

Pros

Cons

<ul style="list-style-type: none"> At least one Center located in each Town/Village 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Centers do not provide “full” care services; not considered overnight shelters or homeless shelters
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Mostly Government Buildings 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Shortened hours (mostly day “Summer” hours)
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Locations do not change every year 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Not opened during holiday (July 4th)
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Locations are used daily 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Need to call each Center each year to confirm hours of operation
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Government locations can promote other public services (Senior programs, health issues, etc.) 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> No interactive opportunities for people at sites

Rockland County Cooling Centers

- Future Plans:
 - Increase number of Centers based on GIS County demographic factors (age, home ownership, poverty levels, etc.)
 - Investigating the use of additional Libraries, Senior Centers and non-for-profit organizations to increase number of locations throughout the County.

Thank You!



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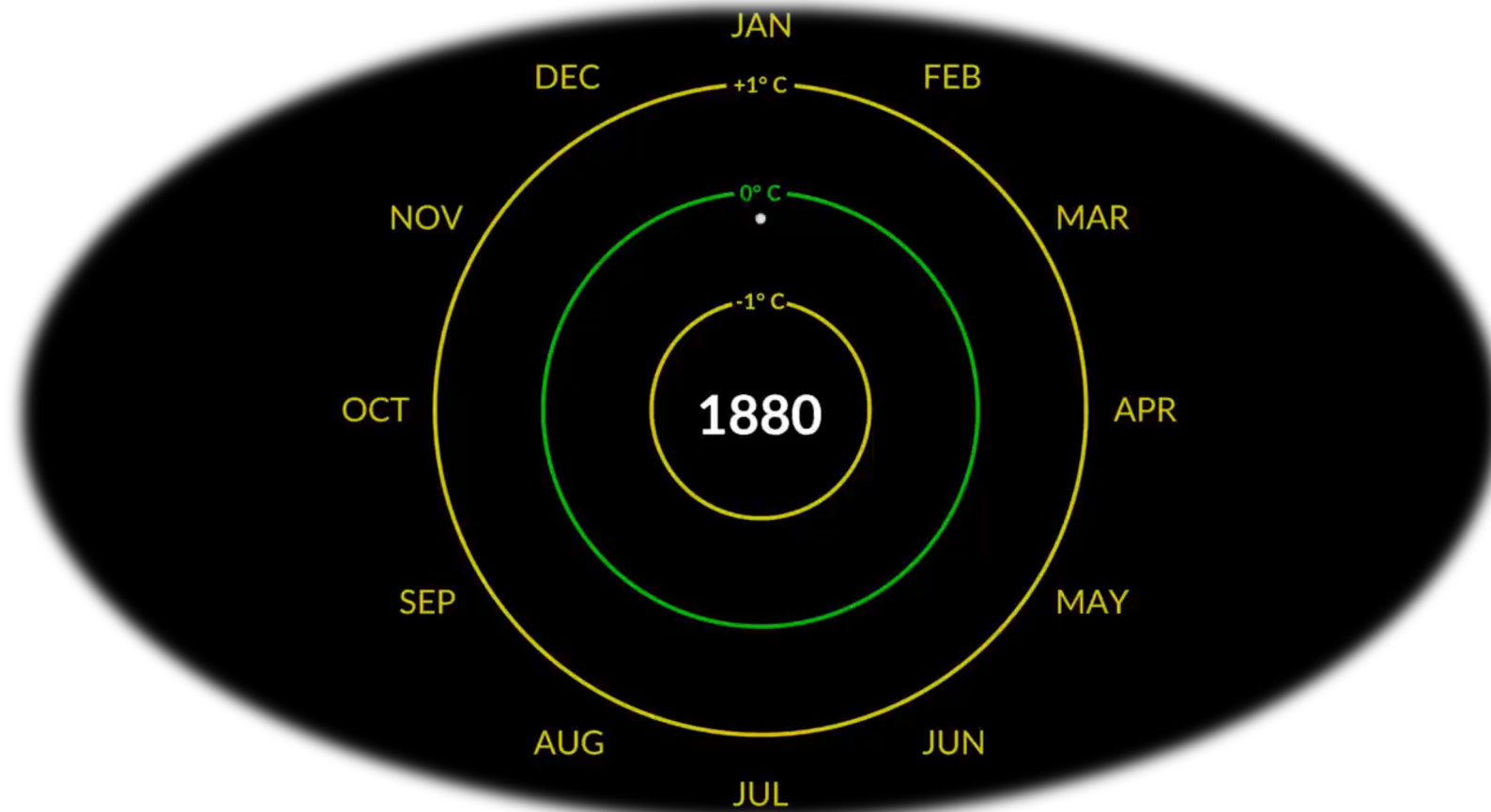
**Department
of Health**



Questions?

Use the chat box or use the “raise your hand” feature to ask your question(s)!

Break ☺ Return at 10:10 AM!



This visualization from NASA shows monthly global temperature anomalies (changes from an average) between the years 1880 and 2021. Whites and blues indicate cooler temperatures, while oranges and reds show warmer temperatures.

Breakout Rooms

Rooms for Counties with LHDs & Partners

- Broome
- Chautauqua
- Cortland
- Dutchess
- Erie
- Oswego
- Saratoga
- Schenectady
- Schoharie
- Schuyler
- Seneca
- St. Lawrence
- Wayne
- Westchester
- Wyoming, Monroe and Genesee
- Delaware, Otsego and Greene
- Essex and Franklin
- Rockland and Putnam

Breakout Rooms (cont.)

Group Discussion Room

- Chenango
- Fulton
- Jefferson
- Montgomery
- Oneida
- Rensselaer
- Saratoga
- Schoharie
- Steuben
- Ulster
- Washington
- NYCDOHMH
- Others (DEC, NYSDOH, PA, HHS, etc.)

Instructions for Breakout Rooms

- Identify a recorder who will be responsible for completing the report out slide for your group
- Within the Google Slide Deck, navigate to the slide designated for your breakout room
- Use the questions within the discussion guide to help guide your conversations
- Use the last 10-minutes of your breakout session to complete your group's report out slide

If you need assistance at any point during the breakout session, click the “ASK FOR HELP” button in Zoom!

Climate & Health Adaptation Workshop: Extreme Heat & Weather Vulnerability

— Breakout Session Report Out —

BROOME COUNTY

What climate adaptation activity(s) did your group focus on?

Identifying mitigation strategies for heat for at risk populations.

Who are your partners for this activity?

COAD (Community Organizations Active in Disasters)(Churches)

Libraries, Senior Centers, Community Centers, Local Transit, Local Media

What are your next steps?

Work with our partners to ensure heat emergencies is an identified risk and potential emergency.

Ensure the resources are known to the at risk populations.

Work with our partners to make their locations appealing during heat events.

Identifying and contacting the at risk population.

What kind of assistance/support do you need?

Identify key holders within the partner organizations in order to obtain buy in for the programs.

CORTLAND COUNTY

What climate adaptation activity(s) did your group focus on?

Increasing Cooling center access, particularly outside city and transit from rural areas

Who are your partners for this activity?

ATI, Mayors/Supervisors, SUNY, Public Schools, First Transit, JM McDonald, McAvoy Campus, Homer Center for the Arts, Cortland Repertory Theater, TC3 Extension, Health Department, Libraries, Emergency Management, Hospital, Ambulance Svcs, faith based organizations, CAG, PIO

What are your next steps?

Talk to identified partners, discuss red cross staffing expectations/concerns, contracts/ site visits

What kind of assistance/support do you need?

FUNDING :), maybe prioritization from leadership (city, county, municipality)

Data about unmet need always asked- without data difficult to persuade action

Formalized agreements/ plans

SARATOGA COUNTY

What climate adaptation activity(s) did your group focus on?

Cooling and heating sites for unhoused people

Who are your partners for this activity?

Saratoga County has recently developed a year round, 24-hour housed shelter. City Council and Stewarts joined in this effort. We believe that if there were community health centers involved, it would provide counseling for the residents of this housing regarding mental health, addiction awareness, etc.

What are your next steps?

The steps that have been taken so far for this housing site are essential for the homeless community in Saratoga County, especially considering the extreme summer and winter conditions. A year-round site has not existed in the area before this point. As environmental health specialists, we could monitor the water and food conditions to ensure the safety of the public. As a LHD, public safety is our highest importance.

What kind of assistance/support do you need?

Additional community partnerships

SENECA COUNTY

What climate adaptation activity(s) did your group focus on?

Cooling Centers within our county.

Who are your partners for this activity?

No other partners were in our group. We chose to identify current locations of cooling centers and identify any potential areas that may need a cooling plan in the future. There are partners that have set up locations for cooling centers, they have not historically worked in conjunction with the LHD to establish these locations nor have the locations historically been advertised by the LHD during extreme heat events.

These partners would included our overnight children's camps, children's day camps, public swimming pools, and potentially nursing homes. At this time only one community center, a VFW, American Legion, and a library. None of these identified locations are on generator back up. It would be beneficial to have these locations added to a priority list for power restoration in the event of a power outage. Or to have the locations add generators. There is the potential for fire departments, the office for the aging, schools, community centers, and other government buildings to be added to this list of locations or to have times expanded depending on need. This would be ideal, as more of these locations have generators or the ability to provide larger space for families in need or separate locations for different populations in need.

What are your next steps?

Work with emergency management to have a permanent list of cooling centers posted on their website as well as any website that is associated with the county. Making the locations widely known and let people know that they are free and accessible. Find out what would be needed to add more locations to the listing for the 2023 summer and start to advertise these locations in advance of the summer months when need is high.

These locations could also be used as heating locations during winter months as well. With the rising cost to heat homes, it should be a concern that many households may not be able to afford the heating costs that will come with the cold temperatures.

What kind of assistance/support do you need?

The buy in of community centers, fire departments, the county supervisors, school districts, and other community associations that would help to get the locations set up during extreme heat events. Emergency management to help facilitate the use of federal funding if available through their department.

WAYNE COUNTY

What climate adaptation activity(s) did your group focus on?

- Respiratory illness populations planning
- Creating Cooling Place location lists with hours and acceptance rules
- A response team created as an AAR/IP Item from an event in 2017

Who are your partners for this activity?

- PH, EM, PW, MH, DSS, Ofc of Aging, LE, Fire, Library, Schools, Faith Based orgs, Town Supervisors,

What are your next steps?

- Formalize a County Response Plan from the AAR/IP findings and improvement work
 - Work with local HC Facilities to understand and incorporate County Plan into Facility Emergency Plans
 - Incorporate planning into current Asthma Outreach program
 - Plan for effects on homebound elderly and plan a response
- Get more Partners and Stakeholders involved in planning and response

What kind of assistance/support do you need?

- Involvement from legislative bodies
- Data on level of effects each degree or increase in heat has on populations - planning purposes
 - Similar to the Winter Warning/Advisory Products from NWCH
- (funding and assistance needed) Staff Time, Communications Products, Focused response capabilities, Response Coordination for regional response to regional events, Formalized group required by state and managed at local level for planning and coordinating efforts similar to LEPCs

WAYNE COUNTY

1 Shared Focus

- a. Hospital was interested in volume increases in ED, In-Patient and Clinics that would be expected in a Heat Emergency
- b. Response plans and resources
- c. Expanding
- d. Seasonal / Intermittent depending on heat emergency frequency

2 Partnerships

- a. **Asthma, Elderly and Other At Risk Populations groups**
- b. EM, PW, MH, DSS, Ofc of Aging, LE, Fire, Library, Schools, Faith Based orgs, Town Supervisors
- c. **SAA and local community groups**

3. Opportunities & Challenges

- a. Established networks and partnerships
- b. Time, Resources especially people during a Public Health Emergency. Money (grant or otherwise) as monies are spent and allocated to PHE and current regulatory needs
- c. Incorporate Climate & WX Extremes in current planning as a new element to discuss for each similar to adding inclusion and diversity
- d. (funding and assistance needed) Staff Time, Communications Products, Focused response capabilities, Response Coordination for regional response to regional events, Formalized group required by state and managed at local level for planning and coordinating efforts similar to LEPCs

WESTCHESTER COUNTY

What climate adaptation activity(s) did your group focus on?

Expansion of public education and collaboration

“Be a Buddy” program

Who are your partners for this activity?

Government, academia, regional nonprofits

What are your next steps?

Explore Public Health Fellowship Program, capstone courses as avenues for focused collaboration

What kind of assistance/support do you need?

Dedicated public health funding for organizational capacity to address climate and health

ROCKLAND & PUTNAM

What climate adaptation activity(s) did your group focus on?

Rockland: Cooling Centers/Warming center

Putnam: not working on anything particularly, looking for the right action.

Who are your partners for this activity?

Putnam: DOH, Soil & Water Conservation, Planning Dept., OSR, Liv Healthy Putnam Coalition

Rockland: Department of Aging, Community Organizations, community Partners, Communication through county execs office

What are your next steps?

Putnam: choose single, focus-area to coordinate mitigation or adaptation Program. Collab with community action groups.

Rockland: Libraries, as a community center.

What kind of assistance/support do you need? Both: Financial, staff & community connections

GROUP DISCUSSION

What climate adaptation activity(s) did your group focus on?

Heat response planning

Communications and Partners

Who are your partners for this activity?

CCE, local universities, local parishes, CBOs (e.g. Kiwanis), local experts, local emergency managers, local/regional NWS office, internal LHD program partners, social service agencies/Medicaid, first responders (volunteer and paid), senior centers, Meals-on-Wheels, libraries

What are your next steps?

Seeking out data sources that were discussed for decision-making; Meeting with medical community to identify shared objectives; Sharing information from today

What kind of assistance/support do you need?

List of Contacts; Data