

# Welcome! Thanks for joining us.

Public Health Presents will begin at 4 p.m.





#### **Disclaimers**

- This conversation is being recorded.
- We are recording to share back for those who could not attend today
- We cannot discuss private and confidential information during this session.



# **Land Acknowledgement**

Every community owes its existence and vitality to generations from around the world who contributed their hopes, dreams, and energy to making the history that led to this moment. Some were brought here against their will, some were drawn to leave their distant homes in hope of a better life, and some have lived on this land since time immemorial. Truth and acknowledgment are critical to building mutual respect and connection across all barriers of heritage and difference.

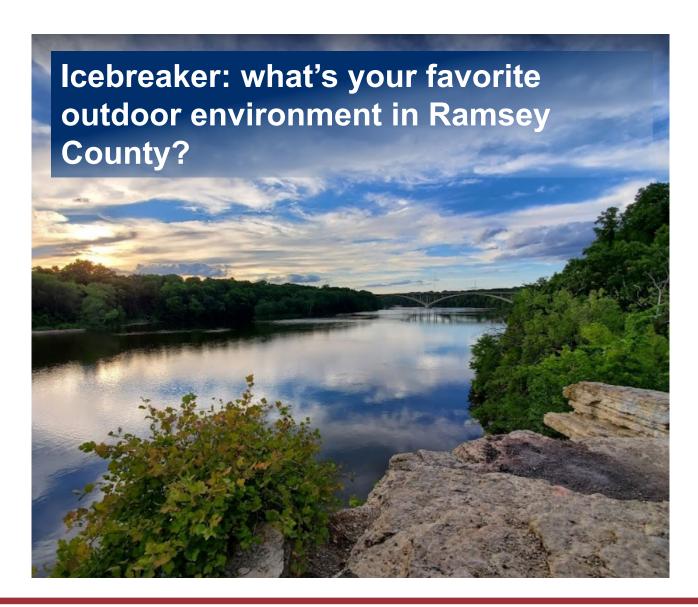
We are standing on the ancestral lands of the Dakota People. We want to acknowledge the Ojibwe, the Ho Chunk and the other nations of people who also called this place home. We pay respects to their elders past and present. Please take a moment to consider the treaties made by the tribal nations that entitle non-Native people to live and work on traditional Native lands. Consider the many legacies of violence, displacement, migration, and settlement that bring us together here today. And please join us in uncovering such truths at any and all public events.

The acknowledgment given in the USDAC Honor Native Land Guide - edited to reflect Minnesota tribes. In review with SIA and endorsed by Shannon Geshick, Executive Director Minnesota Indian Affairs Council



# April 19, 2023

Public Health Presents: Climate Change + Public Health
Guest Speaker: Abi Phillips (She/her)
Climate and Health Planner, Environmental Health
Saint Paul – Ramsey County Public Health



#### **Agenda**

- Earth day!
- Health impacts of climate change
- Vulnerability to impacts
- Environmental justice
  - Ramsey County example
- Ramsey County's climate action response
  - History
  - Community climate action
  - Internal climate action
- Resources



#### **Terms**

- Climate Change long term shifts in temperatures and weather patterns
- <u>Mitigation</u> actions taken to reduce or prevent GHG emissions which contribute to climate change
- Adaptation the adjustments we need to make to thrive in our new climate
- <u>Environmental Justice</u> the right to equal environmental protections and to live, work and play in safe and healthy environments
- Climate Justice a subset of environmental justice which highlights disparities between those contributing to climate change and those burdened by the effects of climate change



## **Earth Day is Saturday!**



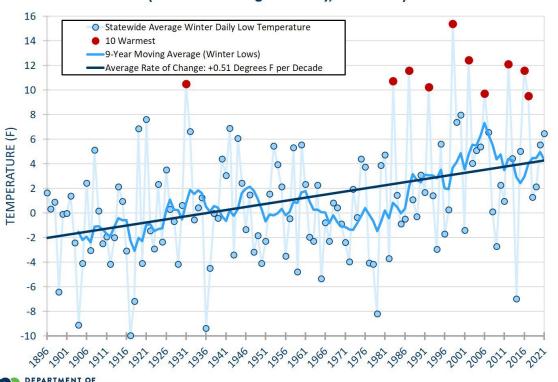
#### Earth Day is an annual event that:

- raises awareness of the need to protect Earths natural resources for future generations
- honors the achievements of the environmental movement
- provides an opportunity to take action or show support for environmental protections



## Minnesota is getting wetter and warmer.

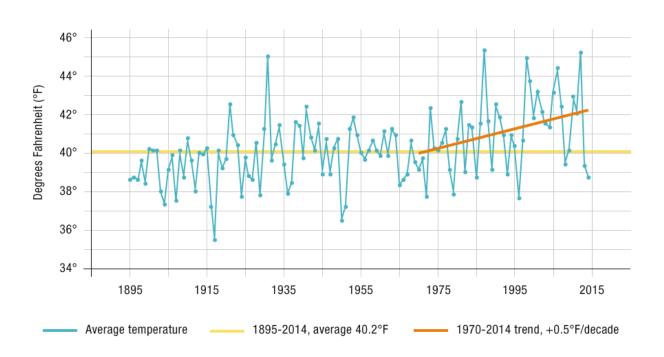
#### Minnesota Average Winter Daily Minimum Temperatures (December through February, 1896-2021)



All data from NOAA and accessed as state-averaged values via Minnesota Climate Explorer

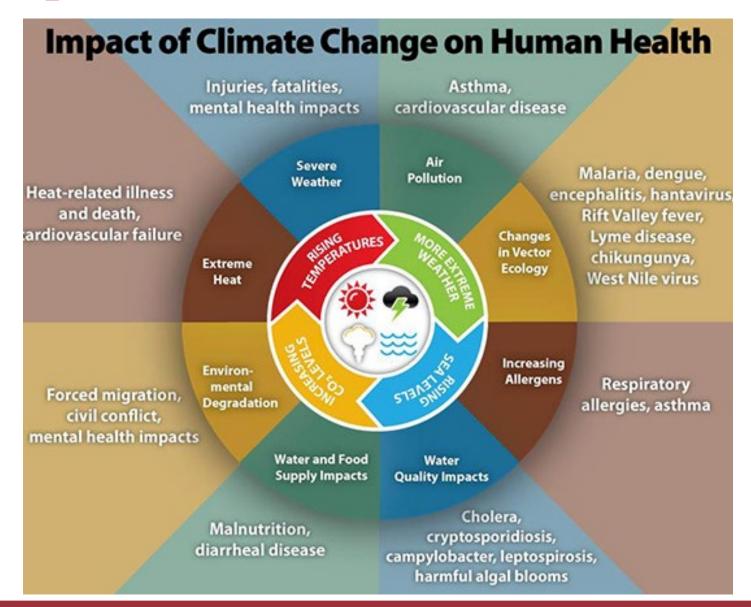
(https://arcais.dnr.state.mn.us/ewr/climateexplorer/main/historical)

#### Minnesota's average annual temperature 1895-2014



Source: National Climatic Data Center





#### Likely Impacts in MN

- Extreme Heat heat stress, stroke, and death
- Severe Weather injury, anxiety and fatality
- Air Pollution cardiovascular disease
- New Allergens asthma
- Vector Ecology disease carrying mosquitoes/ticks
- Water Quality waterborne illness, green-blue algae
- Food Supply Stress malnutrition
- Environmental Degradation anticipate migration to Ramsey County



# **Determining Community Vulnerability/Risk**

#### **EXPOSURE**

Exposure is contact between a person and one or more biological, psychosocial, chemical, or physical stressors, including stressors affected by climate change.

#### **SENSITIVITY**

Sensitivity is the degree to which people or communities are affected, either adversely or beneficially, by climate variability or change.

#### **ADAPTIVE CAPACITY**

Adaptive capacity is the ability of communities, institutions, or people to adjust to potential hazards, to take advantage of opportunities, or to respond to consequences.







VULNERABILITY of Human Health to Climate Change



#### **HEALTH IMPACTS**

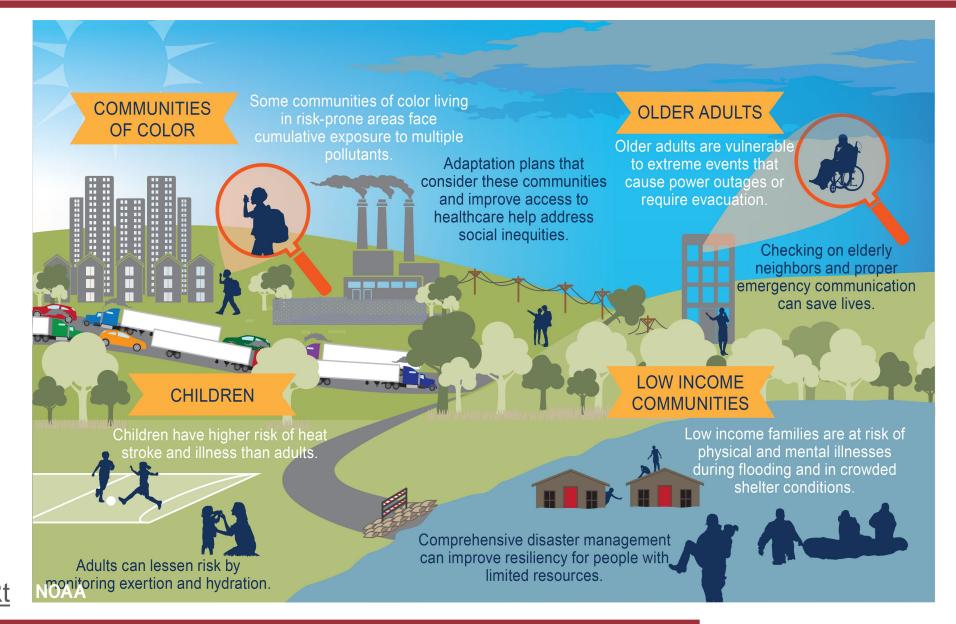
Injury, acute and chronic illness (including mental health and stress-related illness), developmental issues, and death



# Higher Risk Populations

- Consider the compounding affects of additional health impacts on highlighted population
- Consider additional vulnerable populations, such as people who do not have stable shelter or have limited mobility.
- Learn more: <u>JEDI and</u>

   the Health Impacts of
   Climate Change and
   https://www.youtube.co
   m/watch?v=Eu7d0BMRt





#### **Environmental Racism Is Nothing New** Race is the most significant predictor of a person living near contaminated air, Are water, or soil. 56% more likely to Have live without of the population near 38% toxic waste sites are potable water and people of color. higher modern nitrogensanitation. dioxide exposure. People of color: of their claims against polluters Have denied by the EPA. seen

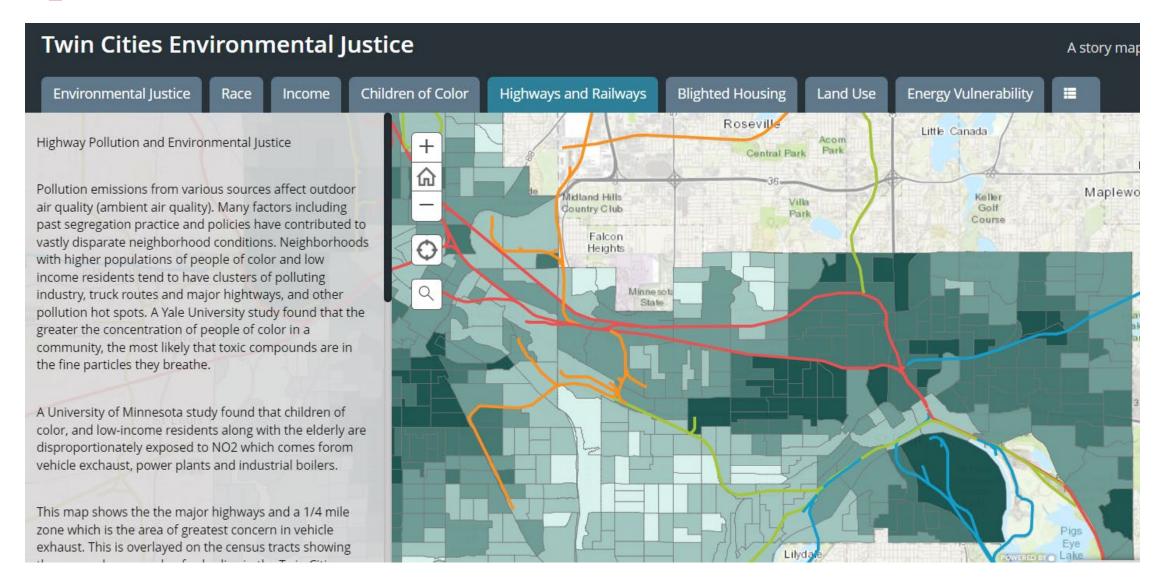
# Compounding Injustice

Decades of systemic racism and oppression in planning and policy making have resulted in communities of color being exposed to environmental hazards with health impacts that will worsen due to climate change...

Learn more:

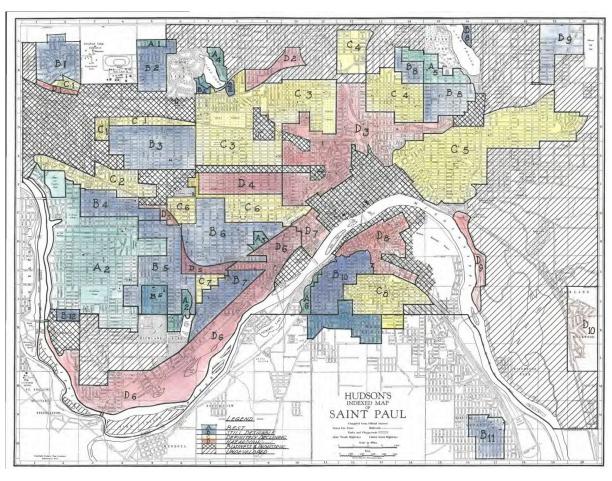
<u>Environmental racism</u>
<u>in the Twin Cities</u>

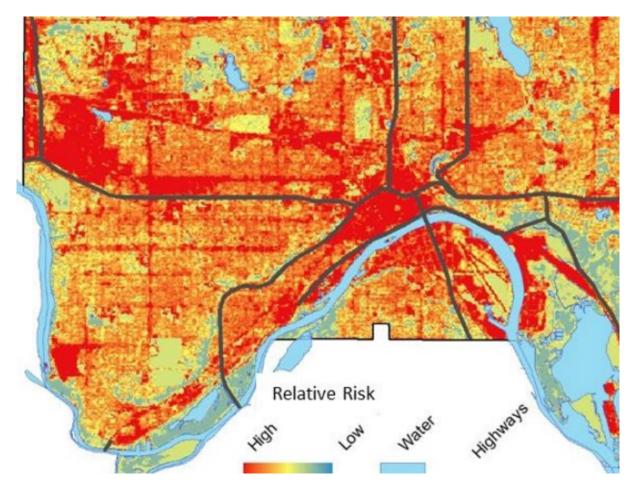






# **Redlining x Extreme Heat**

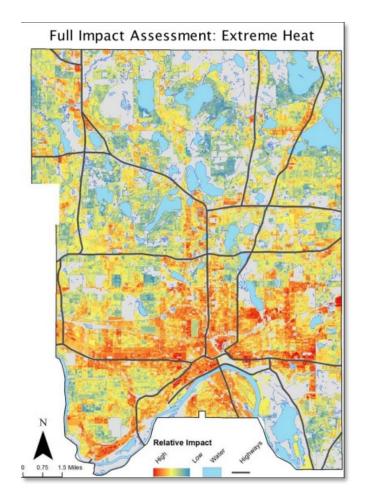




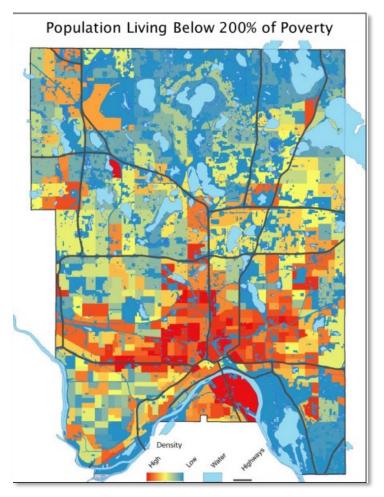
Video: A Tale of Two Zip Codes



# **Climate Change Vulnerability Assessment**







Video: A Tale of Two Zip Codes



# **Compounding Effects**

## High heat and air pollution are even deadlier combined

Scientists at USC found the excess risk of death on the hottest days with both high heat and extreme levels of PM2.5 air pollution was about three times higher than for either alone.

High air pollution only

5%

High temperature only

6%

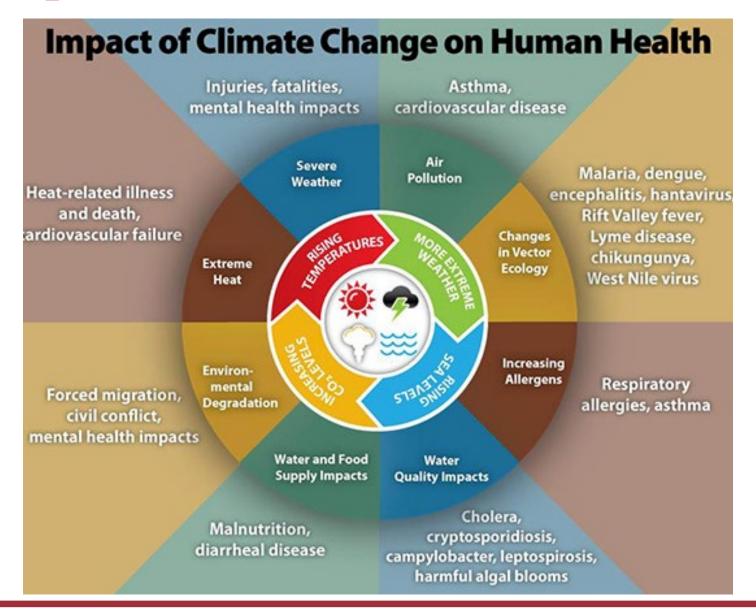
Both high temperature and air pollution

21%

Study examined 1.5 million deaths during 2014-2020 in California

Chart: The Conversation/CC-BY-ND • Source: M. Rahman, et al., 2022 • Get the data • Download image





#### Recap

- Extreme Heat heat stress, stroke, and death
- Severe Weather injury, anxiety and fatality
- Air Pollution cardiovascular disease
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- Vector Ecology disease carrying mosquitoes/ticks
- Water Quality waterborne illness, green-blue algae
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# Ramsey County's Climate Work



- Strategic Priority: Responding to Climate Change and Increasing Community Resilience
- 2040 Comp Plan <u>Resilience</u> <u>Section</u>
- Strategic Energy Plan and Environmental Governance Team Work
- 2016 Climate Change Vulnerability Assessment
- A Changing Climate Story Board

Image: Tamarack Nature Center 19



#### **RC's Internal Climate Action**



#### Carbon-neutral

By 2050, Minnesota substantially reduces greenhouse gas (GHG) emissions and balances any GHG emissions with carbon storage, especially in our landscapes.



#### Resilient

Minnesota communities, businesses, and the natural environment can prepare, respond to, and recover from the impacts of climate change so all Minnesotans can thrive in the face of these challenges.



#### **Equitable**

Minnesotans acknowledge and address inequitable and inaccessible systems that contribute to some communities experiencing disproportionate climate change impacts; ensure fair distribution of the costs and benefits of action now and to future generations; and ensure meaningful participation in planning.

#### To get there, we all have a role to play.

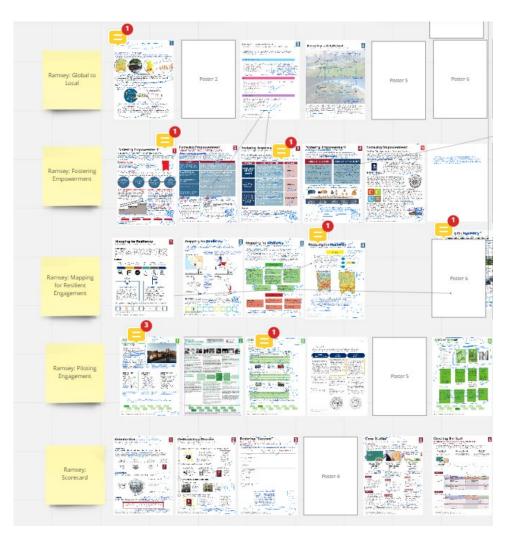
This Climate Action Framework outlines priorities and next steps to help Minnesota achieve this vision. The framework also invites you, your organization, and your community to join us to achieve a shared vision.

- Internal Capacity Building
  - Resilient Communities
     Partnership completed gap
     analysis for public health
     and two parks divisions
  - Development of <u>Climate</u>
     <u>Action Framework</u> Review teams and Climate Justice Advisory Council (or similar)
  - Climate Pollution
     Reduction Grant pursuit

     with Met Council



# RC's Community Climate Action



- Engagement
  - Resilient Communities Partnership Project to expand on initial engagement
    - Presentation May 4 from 6 to 9 at the U of M Liberal Arts Engagement Hub – contact <u>Abigail.Phillips@co.ramsey.mn.us</u> for more information
  - Virtual survey <u>share with your contacts!</u>
  - Summer summit stay tuned for details!
  - Collaboration with RC cities
- Education
  - Website coming soon!
  - On Climate Justice articles in <u>Green Ramsey</u>
  - Update to the Climate Change Vulnerability Assessment

Image: RCP student boards in progress



#### Resources

#### Learn More

- CDC Climate + Health
- Minnesota Climate
   Adaptation Partnership
- Intersectional Environmentalist
- Yale Climate Connections
   Website
- US Climate Resilience Toolkit

#### Take Action

- Compost your food scraps
- Use public transit
- Measure air quality as a citizen scientist
- Reduce energy use at home
- Prepare for extreme weather
- Sign up for updates and stay tuned for opportunities to contribute to Ramsey County's Climate Action Plans



#### **Additional Questions?**

Email: RHELT@co.ramsey.mn.us

To learn more about future sessions please visit: <a href="https://www.ramseycounty.us/residents/health-medical/public-health-initiatives/public-health-presents">https://www.ramseycounty.us/residents/health-medical/public-health-initiatives/public-health-presents</a>



## Ramsey County Public Resources

• Ramsey County is hosting a household hazardous waste collection event in the parking lot of Aldrich Arena, located in Maplewood, on Fridays and Saturdays throughout April. The site is open Fridays from 10 a.m. - 6 p.m. and Saturdays from 9 a.m. - 4 p.m.

Information about reuse, recycling and disposal can be found on our website: ramseyrecycles.com

• Ramsey-Washington Metro Watershed District Citizen Advisory Committee Earth Day cleanup Date: Thursday, April 20, 4 - 6 p.m.

Location: Ames Lake (1380 Magnolia Ave E, Saint Paul, MN 55106) & Sackett Park/Boys & Girls Club -

Eastside (1620 Ames Ave, Saint Paul, MN 55106)

Sign up: Contact Stephanie Wang at <a href="mailto:swtwincities@gmail.com">swtwincities@gmail.com</a>



# **Discussion: Questions & Comments**



# Thank you!