What a year! EHS has so much energy and activity right now. We published two groundbreaking investigative reporting series – “Fractured” and “Pollution’s Mental Toll.” We helped the world’s leading expert on male infertility extend the reach of her book and research. We developed and explained science about toxic plastics and harmful additives like DEHP and PFAS.

We’re working to make medical products safer. There’s so much activity that I want you to hear from EHS staff directly. It’s strong work. We’re fired up. Your support is the wind at our back.

Douglas Fischer, Executive Director

A YEAR OF GROWTH, EXCITEMENT AND CHALLENGE

“Where does the weekend editor get his attitude? We need more of it.”
- reader survey comment

KEY STATS

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Key Stat</th>
<th>Description</th>
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<tbody>
<tr>
<td>295 original stories and commentary</td>
<td>- 57% by women</td>
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<tr>
<td></td>
<td>- 32% by people of color</td>
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<tr>
<td>17,729 environmental news stories, opinions &amp; editorials aggregated</td>
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<tr>
<td>5.75 million page views served up</td>
<td>4,255,000 emails sent</td>
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<tr>
<td>23 Agents of Change fellows, 50+ podcasts</td>
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EHN EN ESPAÑOL

I grew up in a small California farming community in the throes of a major transition. By the time I was a teenager, industrial agriculture had displaced many local farmers, and I awoke nearly every morning to the sound of low-flying crop dusters spraying pesticides over the fields near my home.

That’s a big part of my origin story as an environmental journalist. I want to make good science and storytelling accessible to those most affected by environmental challenges.

This guiding principle inspired an exciting project for EHN: a Spanish-language section featuring stories from the EHN newsroom alongside a comprehensive daily aggregation of environmental health, justice, and climate news from Spanish-language news sources in the U.S. and abroad.

Why does this matter?

In the U.S, Spanish-speaking immigrant communities are often among those most heavily impacted by pollution and other environmental injustices. In Latin America, environmental defenders face violence and worse for trying to protect their lands from extractive industries.

These stories matter, and we’ve been missing important audiences and angles by only featuring news in English.

For 20 years now, EHN has sought to produce the best, most scientifically rigorous environmental journalism.

We’re starting a new chapter with EHN en Español that extends that work to new audiences.

Autumn Spanne, Researcher and EHN en Español lead

“You take research and news to an entirely different level. The organization of news is so helpful to groups like ours.”

— Patricia Taylor, Environment & Human Health, Inc.
There’s a bottom line to our plastics-infused lifestyle: Toxic dimensions of plastic make it very unlikely that today’s plastics can become part of a truly circular economy. That’s the theme I spent 2021 hitting. Most recycled plastics contain toxic elements, including endocrine disruptors. If you don’t test for safety, you don’t know. I don’t want to leave that kind of a world to our kids.

The other trouble ahead of us? Infertility.

I worked with a good friend, Shanna Swan, one of the world’s leading experts on declining male fertility, to draw public attention to her best-selling book, “Count Down.” She scored big-time in public attention with appearances on the Daily Show, BBC and in the New York Times.

The good news? Europe is about to functionally ban BPA from food contact materials. I’ll be out in 2022 with a series of essays exploring the need for a more robust, protective regulatory structure. The working title: “Pervasive regulatory science fraud means we don’t get no protection.”

Credit to Rodney Dangerfield.

Pete Myers, Founder and chief scientist
I’m proud to have covered a wide variety of topics in 2021 critical to environmental health:

- Fracking pollution and radioactive oil and gas industry waste
- Appalachian petrochemical development
- The Regional Greenhouse Gas Initiative
- PFAS regulations
- Air pollution, drinking water contamination & childhood lead exposures
- Emerging links between environmental pollution and mental health.

The project I’m most proud of? “Fractured,” my two-year investigation into the health effects of fracking. I uncovered shockingly high levels of exposure to harmful chemicals in young children living near fracking wells and challenged politicians to keep their constituents safe.

The investigation garnered international attention, prompted 35 state lawmakers to issue a public letter to the governor demanding action, and empowered the families who participated in the research to advocate for their communities in a new way—armed with scientific proof of their exposures.

Kristina Marusic, Reporter

AGENTS OF CHANGE

For decades Environmental Health News has operated at the intersection of science and journalism. In the last two years I’m proud to have blurred that line and amplified the stories, voices, and science of researchers from historically oppressed backgrounds.

The Agents of Change in Environmental Justice program, a partnership with George Washington University, empowers these future leaders to put forth solutions borne from the combination of their lived experiences and scientific discoveries.

We’ve published more than 50 podcasts and essays. Our fellows’ words and work are now part of universities’ coursework. They are in high demand for talks and lectures. Our program has become one of the premiere national fellowships for science communication and environmental justice.

My mission as senior editor is driving science into public discussion and policy on environmental health issues. Agents of Change achieves that goal while injecting much-needed diversity into conversations, ideas, and leadership roles.

Brian Bienkowski, Senior editor
We spent 2021 developing a unique collaboration with a multi-national, multi-billion-dollar medical devices manufacturer that set an ambitious goal of having only safe materials in their products. They’ve enthusiastically received education in Green Chemistry, are rigorously evaluating the current materials in their products, and are working with us to identify “low hanging fruit” opportunities to substitute safer materials. Along the way, we’re waking up the healthcare sector to the necessity of safer products.

The work is unique: EHS’ deepest relationship with a business enterprise, made possible by their commitment to material safety. In service to this work, we’ve launched Code Green, a newsletter on health care sustainability.

Matt Kayhoe, Chief strategist

WHEN YOU SUPPORT US, YOU SUPPORT SCIENCE

Help us close the door on harmful, unsustainable markets and policies ... and open the door to a clean, safer future.

Together we will:
- Reform antiquated rulemaking and policies with modern science.
- Promote broad-based projects to heighten public awareness, activity and pressure.
- Bring economic risks and costs to bear on corporations reliant on dirty chemistry and energy.

DRIVE THE CHANGE!

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Environmental Health Sciences is a program of Virginia Organizing, a grassroots 501(c)(3) organization focused on social justice and that also helps us keep overhead costs extremely low.

Environmental Health Sciences, 614 W. Lamme St., Bozeman, Montana 59715

REIMAGINING HEALTHCARE, SUSTAINABLY
“The most important thing that arrives in my inbox.”

- Louise Washer

I get up close and personal with birds to record things a casual viewer will never witness. The crispness of plumage, the magic of a feather, extraordinary light drawing out colors. I want these images to astound, so that you, too, take a much closer and more careful look at the wonder of natural selection to which you are a witness.

A sanderling preens at Point Reyes National Seashore. Photo and text by Dr. Pete Myers.

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