

Extreme Heat and Health in Houston: Reducing Future Impacts

August 29, 2013
Rice University, Houston Texas

Agenda

- 8:30 Registration and coffee**
- 9:00 Welcome remarks and workshop goals**
- Representative Sylvester Turner, Texas State Legislature
Todd Hendricks, Policy Advisor, Office of Texas State Senator Rodney Ellis
- Mary Hayden, Scientist, National Center for Atmospheric Research
Deborah Banerjee, Manager, Houston Department of Health and Human Services
- 9:30 Participant introductions**
- 10:00 System for Integrated Modeling of Metropolitan Extreme Heat Risk (SIMMER):
Research results**
- Current and Future Vulnerability of Population to Extreme Heat in Houston
Olga Wilhelmi, Scientist
National Center for Atmospheric Research
- Understanding knowledge, attitudes and practices related to heat risk in Houston:
Results from household and stakeholder surveys
Mary Hayden, Scientist
National Center for Atmospheric Research
- 10:45 Break**
- 11:00 Extreme heat in Houston: response, preparedness, and planning**
- Heat Surveillance: Data and Prevention
Raouf Arafat, Director of the Office of Surveillance and Public Health
Preparedness
Houston Department of Health and Human Services
- The Role of Public Health & Preparedness
Umair Shah, Executive Director
Harris County Public Health and Environmental Services

Forecasting and Warning for Excessive Heat in Southeast Texas
Dan Reilly, Warning Coordination Meteorologist
Lance Wood, Science and Operations Officer
National Weather Service

Adapting to a Changing Environment
Jeff Taebel, Director of Community and Environmental Planning
Houston-Galveston Area Council

12:15 **Working lunch** – *lunch will be provided*

1:15 **Demographic trends in Houston**

Demographic transformations in Houston and in the United States
Stephen Klineberg, Professor, Co-Director of the Kinder Institute for
Urban Research
Rice University

1:45 **Building resilience to heat in Houston**

Moderated break-out sessions to discuss strategies for reducing vulnerability to
extreme heat

3:15 **Reports from the break-out groups**

3:45 **Wrap up and next steps**

4:00 **Workshop adjourns**