

## NEHA NEWS

**NEHA Supports National Healthy Schools Day**

National Healthy Schools Day (NHSD) is April 5, 2016. NEHA is pleased to partner again with the Healthy Schools Network ([www.healthyschools.org](http://www.healthyschools.org)) in supporting and promoting this event. NEHA has been a supporter since 2011.

NHSD is coordinated by the Healthy Schools Network in partnership with many agencies and organizations. Together they promote the use of the U.S. Environmental Protection Agency's (U.S. EPA's) IAQ Tools for Schools guidance ([www.epa.gov/iaq/schools/index.html](http://www.epa.gov/iaq/schools/index.html)), as well as other U.S. EPA environmental health guidelines and programs for schools and children's health.

The Healthy Schools Network is the leading national voice for children's environmental health in schools and is an award-winning 501c3 nonprofit environmental health organization. Founded in 1995, the network launched the national healthy schools movement with comprehensive state policy recommendations and a model coalition. It has since fostered reform coalitions in many states and localities.

NEHA's thousands of environmental health professionals recognize children's environmental health as being one of its core priority areas. Our work in the area of school food safety and indoor air quality in schools reflects that concern. We are proud to again join our colleagues in offering strong support of this year's NHSD.

For more information about NHSD, please visit [www.nationalhealthyschoolsday.org](http://www.nationalhealthyschoolsday.org) or follow the conversation on Twitter at #HealthySchoolsDay.

**NEHA's First Ever App Challenge: Innovating for Environmental Health**

NEHA, with the support of Esri and Hedgerow, will be hosting this year its first-ever app challenge, Innovating for Environmental Health. From March–May 2016, individuals will create apps to elevate the field of environmental health. Participants will compete to create apps that help to achieve one of the Healthy People 2020 environmental health objectives as identified by the Department of Health and Human Services.

The Innovating for Environmental Health challenge will bring together technology, government, and environmental health to form a partnership that leads to original solutions to environmental health issues. The goal of the challenge is to inspire environmental health professionals to move towards open data and technology by presenting innovative, data-driven solutions to environmental health concerns that will ultimately serve to promote and protect public health. Participants will have access to Esri's ArcGIS software for app development and the Centers for Disease Control and Prevention's Environmental Public Health Tracking application programming interface (API) for use as a main data source. Other government open data sources will be available to participants.

The top three winners of the app challenge will share a monetary prize. A representative from the first place team will attend the 2016 NEHA Annual Educational Conference & Exhibition and HUD Healthy Homes Conference this June in San Antonio, Texas, to present their app in front of an audience of industry and environmental health professionals.

Please visit <http://innovatingeh.devpost.com> to learn more or to register to participate in the Innovating for Environmental Health app challenge. 🐼

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