Background
The National Environmental Health Promotion Network (NEHPN) is a Centers for Disease Control and Prevention (CDC) and Agency for Toxic Substances and Disease Registry (ATSDR) funded project. This project has established a network of subject matter experts in environmental health and emergency preparedness. The role of these network members includes but is not limited to:

- Assisting with development of trainings and resources for use by public health professionals in environmental health response and all-hazards emergency preparedness
- Receiving training in environmental health, all-hazards emergency preparedness, risk communication and outreach to vulnerable populations
- Serving as a liaison to the ATSDR regional offices, offering training and technical assistance as deemed necessary

Mission and Vision
Mission: The National Environmental Health Promotion Network is dedicated to disseminating environmental health and all-hazards emergency preparedness tools and resources through training and education.

Vision: The National Environmental Health Promotion Network is a nationally recognized partnership striving to improve the environmental health and all-hazards emergency preparedness of our communities.

Goals and Objectives
- Be a leader in the creation of trainings, resources, and educational materials for environmental health and public health preparedness professionals
- Create innovative practices for communicating environmental threats and risk’s to the public health
- Utilize training and education to build community resilience in the face of environmental threats or emergencies

Need for training for health educators
The Society for Public Health Education (SOPHE) partnered with CDC’s Community Health Education Team (CHET) in 2007 to perform a needs assessment of health educators regarding their role during emergency events. Results from this assessment demonstrate a need for further training and education for health educators regarding their role in preparing for and responding to environmental threats and disasters.

Making Emergency Preparedness training a priority for health educators
Which of the following best describes why you have not participated in any training programs for emergency preparedness/response? (Only for those answering no to Q#10)

- a. There are no risks or exposures in my community 1 1%
- b. Emergency events are not a priority health threat overall 0 0%
- c. Emergency events are not a priority health threat in my community 0 0%
- d. I don’t have the time 5 5%
- e. I’m not interested in the subject 2 2%
- f. I’m already well-trained in the subject 1 1%
- g. My work focuses on a different health issue 35 37%
- h. My employer does not provide training opportunities for me 34 36%
- i. N/A 3 3%
- Other, please specify 14 15%

Total 95 100%

Many health educators believe that their work does not intersect with emergency response or environmental threats. However, principles of health education and promotion can be utilized to educate individuals on aspects of preparedness and information regarding environmental threats such as toxic substances.