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### **IES to present panel on emerging contaminants at Colorado Environmental Partnership Conference**

The panel will discuss state-of-the-art research on emerging contaminants (ECs), with a special focus on approaches to prevent ECs from contaminating water. Speakers include Professor Thomas Borch of Colorado State University; Dr. Kristen Keteles, a toxicologist with U.S. EPA Region 8; and our very own Ms. Sara Klingenstein, EC project coordinator. The conference, sponsored by the Colorado Environmental Partnership with support from Roche Colorado Corporation and MillerCoors, will be held on April 30, from 1:00 - 4:00 p.m. at Boettcher Mansion on Lookout Mountain west of Golden. Advance registration is required. For more information, please contact [Sara@i4es.org](mailto:Sara@i4es.org).



### **Colorado Urban Forestry Climate Coalition to form steering committee**

The steering committee will provide guidance and oversight to IES's Colorado Urban Forestry Climate Coalition (CUFCC) initiative, which will assist Colorado municipalities in developing and selling high-quality carbon credits based on urban tree planting. The steering committee will serve a crucial role: to identify and communicate with stakeholders and ensure that the initiative is implemented effectively. Colorado Nursery and Greenhouse Association (CNGA) Board members Les Ratekin, Kent Broome, Matt Edmundson, and Wayne Anderson volunteered to be founding members of the steering committee after a presentation to the CNGA Board by IES Senior Research Associate Ryan Moore. Visit [www.i4es.org/climatecoalition.html](http://www.i4es.org/climatecoalition.html) for more details.

### **IES advancing ozone mitigation project**

Developing a project to harness the ozone air pollution mitigation potential of strategic tree planting and maintenance is the focus for IES graduate intern, Graham Hill. Trees are among the largest sources of volatile organic compounds - ozone air pollution precursors - in Colorado. Trees also reduce urban ozone pollution formation by destroying it and moderating air temperature. By selecting the right tree species and maintaining them correctly, trees can be an effective tool for mitigating ozone air pollution. Ozone is an important issue for Coloradans since the U.S. EPA designated portions of the state as nonattainment for the federal 8-hour ozone standard. Hill will prepare a tutorial on tree-ozone interactions as a first step in the project.

### **IES's Emerging Contaminants Project Steering Committee forms, meets twice**

IES assembled an esteemed and enthusiastic group of academic researchers, business leaders, and government representatives to serve as the Emerging Contaminants Project Steering Committee. All IES projects have steering committees, the role of which is to provide expertise and guidance, and to serve as the project's Board of Directors. The steering committee held its first meeting in December 2008, and met again in February 2009. The agenda included discussion and brainstorming on key project issues: water sampling and analysis, community surveys, education, and outreach. The committee will meet every two months, with e-mail updates between meetings. The committee brings together vast knowledge about all aspects of ECs, from chemical properties to policy efforts. The [IES Web site](http://www.i4es.org) has a complete list of members. For more information, please contact [Sara@i4es.org](mailto:Sara@i4es.org).

## **Tree mortality on the rise in western U.S. old growth forests**

A recent study by U.S. Geological Survey scientists revealed that trees in the western United States' old growth forests are dying at roughly double the rate observed in the 1970s. No compensating rise in recruitment - the number of seedlings that survive to become mature trees - was detected. Forest ecologists point to climate change as the likely cause of the increase in mortality. Other factors, such as species, elevation, location, and air quality, were ruled out as possible causes. The rise in mortality will eventually result in thinner, smaller stands. This will affect carbon sequestration and storage as well as wildlife. To find out how IES encourages community-based climate change mitigation and expanding tree canopy, see our [Colorado Urban Forestry Climate Coalition project Web page](#).

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