

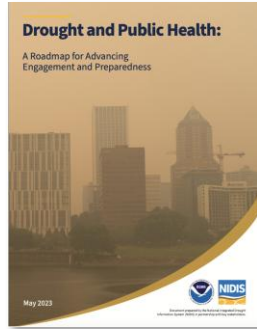
Enhancing Drought and Health Engagement and Preparedness

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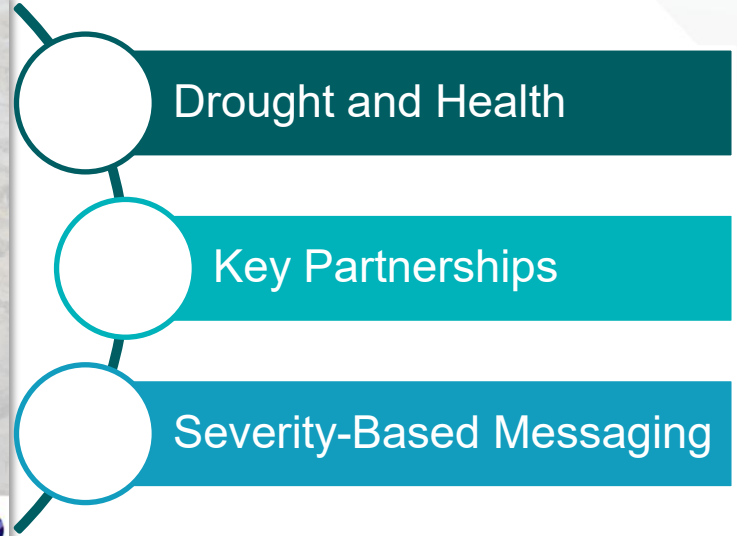
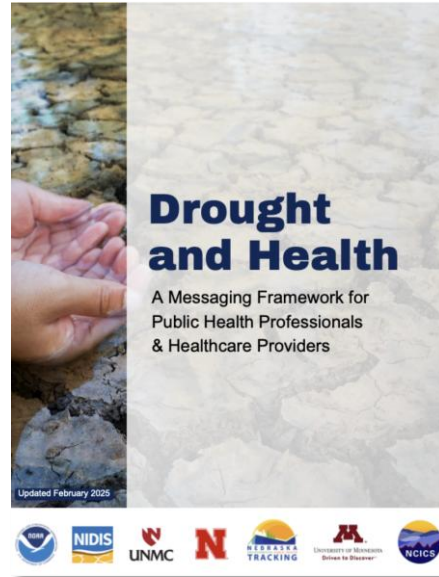
Daugherty Water for Food Global Institute

Drought and Health Engagement and Preparedness



How Does Drought Impact Health?

- 1 A Drought Event Occurs**
- 2 The Drought Event Causes Secondary Impacts:**
 - Changes in mosquito and tick habitat and range
 - Decreases in water quality and quantity
 - More frequent and more intense heatwaves
 - Loss of agriculture and food security
 - More frequent wildfires
 - Increase in dust and dust storms
- 3 Secondary Impacts Increase the Risk of:**
 - Mental Health Consequences
 - Gastrointestinal Illnesses
 - Infectious Disease
 - Injuries
 - Heat Illnesses
 - Hunger or Famine
 - Respiratory Issues
 - Allergy-Related Illnesses



DROUGHT AND HEALTH NATIONAL WORKSHOP

September 30 - October 1, 2025
St. Paul, MN

Connect • Collaborate • Learn • Contribute

go.unmc.edu/droughtworkshop

Stay Drought Safe

Drought Can Impact Your Health

- Heat-Related Illness**
Drought can cause or worsen prolonged periods of extreme heat which can cause dangerous heat-related illnesses.
- Mental Health**
Severe droughts can increase stress, anxiety, and suicidal ideation, particularly for people living in remote or rural areas, older adults, farmers, and others working in agriculture.
- Respiratory Issues & Allergy-Related Illness**
Dry, dusty conditions and wildfires are common with more severe drought events, which can worsen respiratory illnesses or infections like asthma or bronchitis.
- Gastrointestinal Illnesses**
Drought can limit access to water for cleaning, sanitation, and hygiene, which helps prevent gastrointestinal illnesses such as E. coli or salmonella.
- Hunger or Famine**
Smaller crop yields due to drought events can result in rising food prices and shortages, potentially leading to malnutrition or famine.
- Infectious Diseases**
Droughts can increase the risk of illnesses spread through insects such as West Nile virus, dengue, Lyme disease, and Rocky Mountain Fever.

Learn more about steps you can take to reduce your risk at <https://go.unmc.edu/droughthealth>

University of Nebraska Medical Center

Missouri River Basin



Tailored Messaging

Integrating regional science & perceived challenges

Local community groups



Resource Access



<https://go.unmc.edu/droughthealth>

