



EXTREME HEAT

DELAWARE'S CLIMATE ACTION PLAN

Extreme heat can be dangerous to public health in many ways. In addition to direct heat-related illness such as heatstroke, heat can also exacerbate common health conditions such as heart disease and asthma. In urban areas, surfaces such as concrete and asphalt can retain heat, and a lack of shade trees can make temperatures even hotter. Good urban design and planning can help reduce our risk and make it easier to beat the heat.

UNDERSTAND DELAWARE'S RISKS



Improve statewide data on extreme heat risk, such as urban heat mapping.



Work with partners in agriculture, public health and transportation to understand the risks of future heat waves.

EDUCATE AND PREPARE



Distribute heat safety information and tips in multiple languages to help people recognize the warning signs of heat illness.



Educate visitors to state parks, wildlife areas, and public lands about preventing heat illness in outdoor recreation.

BUILD HEAT-READY COMMUNITIES



Coordinate cooling centers: public spaces where anyone can go to cool off during heat waves.



Support heat-ready infrastructure and designs, such as urban trees, cool roofs, cool pavement and shade structures.

PROTECT OUTDOOR WORKERS



Review and improve existing policies and regulations for outdoor workers and heat safety.



Provide local businesses with educational materials on heat safety, especially for outdoor workers.

HOW WILL THIS BENEFIT MY COMMUNITY?



Walkable Cities



Increased Shade Cover



Improved Public Health



Community Wellbeing

A full list of draft strategies is available at the tables in the center of the room.

