

Dear Kentucky AAP Chapter Members,

- 1. In light of the devastating floods in San Antonio, TX, it's a good time to remind pediatricians that you can help your patients prepare for natural disasters. The American Academy of Pediatrics offers <u>disaster preparedness resources</u> for families, including how to sign up for emergency alerts, build a preparedness kit, and complete an emergency information form to provide first responders with critical information about your child's health.
- 2. Summer is hot, and with increased heat, there is increased ozone and worse air quality that may worsen lung diseases for sensitive groups. Help your patients sign up for <u>air quality alerts</u> and avoid extended time outdoors during poor air quality days. I highly recommend you watch <u>Something in the Air</u>, which is a documentary from PBS that explains the negative health impacts of air pollution, including increased respiratory diseases, epigenetic changes to our DNA, and increased dementia.
- 3. Bernheim Forest is hosting <u>Free Play Saturdays</u> to encourage children and parents to experience the <u>benefits of outdoor play</u>. The next free play date is July 19th, 11 am -4 pm. This is a free program for your patients, and no registration is required.
- 4. May Climate Task Force meeting:
 - Julia Finch from Sierra Club Kentucky Chapter gave a legislative update.
 - Eboni Cochrane from Rubbertown Emergency Action discussed her organization's recent work and recommendations for physicians.
 - Click here to review the meeting minutes.
- 5. The next Climate Advocates Task Force meeting will be October 20th, 2025 at 3 pm. Please email <u>juliaricherson@gmail.com</u> to be added to the task force quarterly meeting invite.

Sincerely,

Libby Mims, MD, FAAP Julia Richerson, MD, FAAP KCHCA Co-Chairs