

A School Nearby?

What are they thinking?

- children who attend school near CAFOs have a much higher risk for asthma (1 in 5).
- children take in 20-50% more air than adults, making them more susceptible to lung disease and health effects

BUFFALO RIVER WATERSHED
ALLIANCE

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No study was done to assess the impact of the swine waste on the residents of Mt. Judea, the people living downstream on Big Creek, or the people recreating within Buffalo National River

Fact Brochure #1 of 4

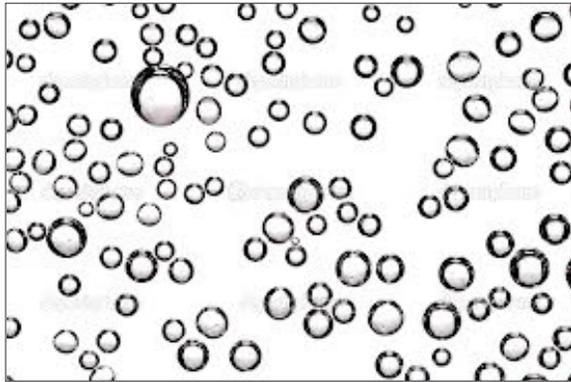
HEALTH

FACTORY HOG FARM

More than **70** scientific papers have documented **adverse** health effects of swine CAFOs on workers and factory farm neighbors, especially on **children**.

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ILLNESSES RELATED TO AIR POLLUTION



The air around CAFOs can contain unhealthy concentrations of hydrogen sulfide, ammonia, inhalable particulate matter, and endotoxins.

- Hydrogen sulfide gas is known to be a potent neurotoxin that can cause damage to the brain and nervous system
- those residents located near hog operations reported increased occurrences of headaches, runny noses, sore throats, excessive coughing, diarrhea, and burning eyes
- people living near hog CAFOs reported more confusion, tension, depression, and fatigue than did those not living nearby

Odors have health effects too

- Odor pollution, even at low concentrations, can cause gastrointestinal, stress-related, and respiratory symptoms, and may negatively impact the brain and organ systems.
- CAFO odors can be smelled from as much as 5 or 6 miles away, although 3 miles is a more common distance.
- Mental health deterioration and an increased sensitization to smells can also result.
- Odor can cause negative mood states, such as tension, depression, or anger, and possibly neuropsychiatric abnormalities, such as impaired balance or memory.
- Neighbors subjected to odors exhibited higher rates of tension, depression, anger, and fatigue than did the control group.
- One of the most significant social impacts of CAFOs is the disruption of quality of life for neighboring residents.

Water Quality health issues



Elevated nitrates in drinking water can be especially harmful to infants, leading to blue baby syndrome and possible death.

CAFO runoff can also lead to the presence of fecal bacteria or pathogens in surface water. One study showed that protozoa such as *Cryptosporidium parvum* and *Giardia* were found in over 80% of surface water sites

Wells and cisterns could easily be contaminated!

Who will want to swim down stream?