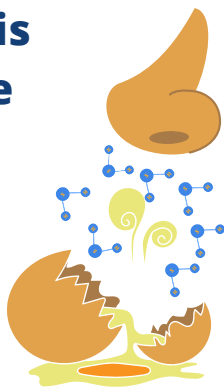


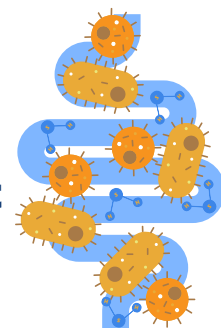
HYDROGEN SULFIDE AND HEALTH

WHAT IS H₂S?

Hydrogen Sulfide (H₂S) is an invisible, flammable gas that smells like rotten eggs that can enter our bodies through the air we breathe



H₂S is produced when bacteria breaks down organic matter without oxygen



SOURCES OF H₂S

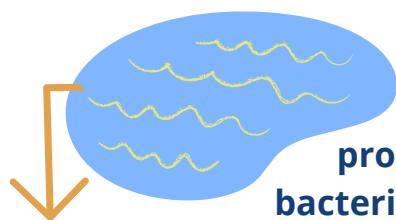
Environmental Sources:



Hot Springs



Volcanic Gases



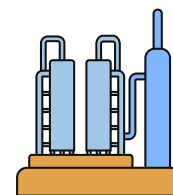
Salton Sea

product of bacteria breaking down matter

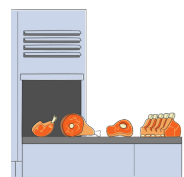
Industrial Sources:



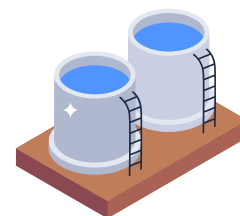
Oil and Gas Extraction



Refineries

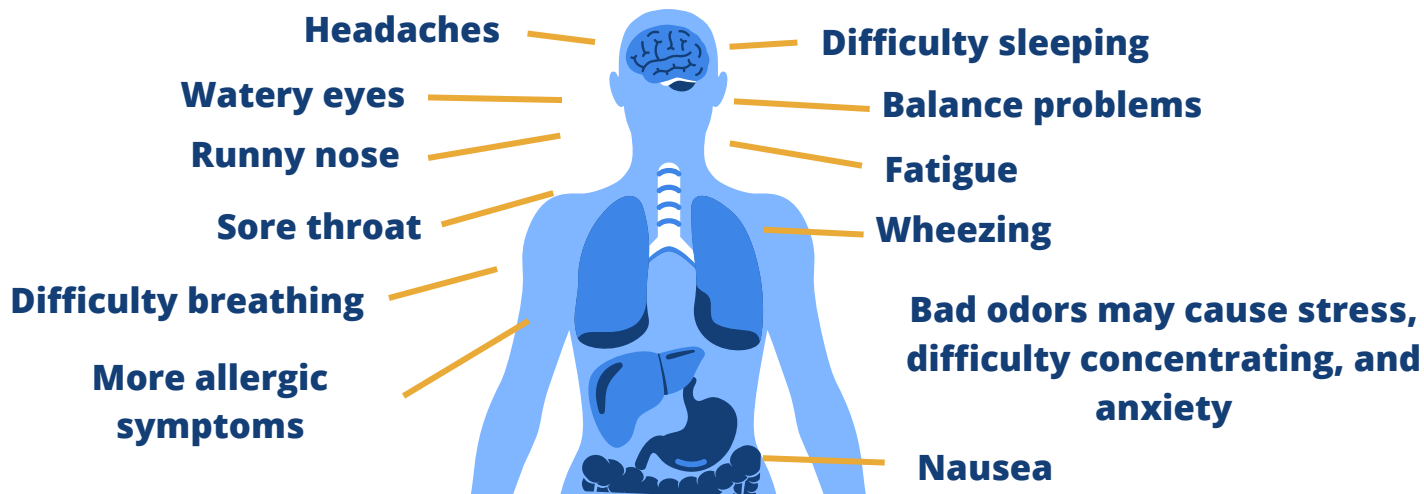


Rendering Plants



Wastewater Treatment Plants

HOW CAN H₂S AFFECT MY HEALTH?



WHAT TO DO?

If there is H₂S outdoors, close all windows and doors



Use air filters with activated carbon



Reduce outdoor exercise when odors are strong



Look at H₂S levels from the AQMD monitors

Call 1-800-CUTSMOG to report odors



UNDERSTANDING LEVELS IN PARTS PER BILLION (PPB)

0.5-1 ppb	People can smell H ₂ S, as a rotten egg odor
20 ppb	U.S. Occupational Safety Health Administration has set an 8 hours average standard for healthy workers
30 ppb	California Ambient Air Quality Standard's one-hour average limit
~ 200 ppb	Peak levels measured near Salton Sea
~ 7000 ppb	H ₂ S levels measured near the Dominguez Channel in October 2021

<https://murdockcommunity.org/>

envhealthcenters.usc.edu

@USCEHC

@USCEnviroHealth



Environmental Health Centers

NIEHS (R21ES034720 and 5P30ES007048)

Infographic: Jennifer Ahumada, USC