

Loren Raun, PhD



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Loren Raun, PhD, is the Chief Environmental Science Officer for the Houston Health Department (HHD) and holds a research faculty position in the Department of Statistics at Rice University where she teaches classes in her areas of expertise: human health risk assessment from environmental exposure and environmental statistics. She has been involved in all aspects of human health risk assessment, including as a practitioner in the private sector, regulatory reviewer, policy developer, and instructor. In 2009 Dr. Raun served on the U.S. EPA Science Advisory Board and Risk and Technology Review Methods Panel, and in 2014 she served as a visiting scientist on the Centers for Disease Control and Prevention (CDC) Air Pollution and Respiratory Health Branch, Division of Environmental Hazards and Health Effects, National Center for Environmental Health in Atlanta, Georgia.

Since 1998, she has conducted research relating Houston air pollution to human health effects. This air research includes ozone exposure modeling, detection and investigation of dioxins, trends analysis and risk from benzene examination of the association between cardiac arrest/asthma attacks and air pollution, and risks from metal recyclers. Her current research involves estimating the cost of air pollution triggered asthma attacks and identifying city-specific high-risk asthma days in Houston.