

Black carbon is harmful to human health



Ambient air pollution (particles and gases) kills an estimated 4.2 million people worldwide every year.

Particulate matter (PM), including black carbon (BC), can cause premature death and harmful effects on the cardiovascular system

BC consists of very fine, partly carcinogenic particles, which are small enough to enter the bloodstream and reach other organs.

One cruise ship in a port emits as many PM particles as 5,000 cars per second.

Levels of PM including BC on the decks of a cruise ship can be very high.

Arctic communities living close to shipping lanes and ports are at greater risk from Arctic shipping BC emissions due to their proximity to the source.

Action to reduce BC emissions will improve human health and mitigate the near-term warming impacts of climate change.

To view more cards in this series, visit: www.hfofreearctic.org/blackcarboncards

Produced by the Clean Arctic Alliance / Designed by Margherita Gagliardi - March 2021