

RFF Connection



March 10, 2010

RFF Connection is a regular newsletter from Resources for the Future that alerts subscribers to new RFF research and policy analysis on environmental, energy, natural resource, and public health issues, forthcoming events, and selected media highlights.

IN THIS ISSUE:

Hospital-Acquired Infections: Costly Killers



Sepsis and pneumonia - caused by deadly microbes picked up in hospitals - take the lives of 48,000 patients annually - adding to more than \$8 billion in health care costs. [Read the full feature here.](#)

Can a Price Collar Unleash the Power of Offsets?

Emissions offsets are expected to play a big role in cap and trade, but controlling costs will be crucial to making these markets work. [Read the full feature here.](#)

Reforming the National Flood Insurance Program



RFF Fellow Carolyn Kousky proposes changes to save America's federal flood insurance system before it gets washed away in a rising tide of debt. [Read the full feature here.](#)

Designing Fishing Quota Programs to Net the Biggest Gains

Kailin Kroetz and RFF Nonresident Fellow James Sanchirico assess the trade-offs involved in designing market-based individual transferable quota (ITQ) programs for fisheries. [Read the full feature here.](#)

New Research from RFF

[Reassessing the Oil Security Premium](#)

[Adaptation of Forests to Climate Change: Some Estimates](#)

[Climate Policy Design with Correlated Uncertainties in Offset Supply and Abatement Cost](#)

Media Highlights

Hospital Infections Kill 48,000 in U.S. Each Year

February 23, 2010, ABC News Online

RFF Senior Fellow Ramanan Laxminarayan, commenting on a study finding that hospital-acquired infections killed nearly 50,000 patients in 2006, says "It's something that deserves a much stronger response from public health authorities than it has [received] so far. We've known for a long time that people who go into hospitals for reasons other than an infection pick up an infection during the course of hospitalization and possibly die from that infection." In addition to ABC News Online, this study was [highlighted](#) in several other outlets including the *Wall Street Journal*, NPR's *Marketplace* and CNN. [Read the full story.](#)

Flawed Bay Cleanup Plan

February 22, 2010, *Baltimore Sun*

In this op-ed, RFF Resident Scholar Len Shabman argues against selling "pollution credits" to encourage farmers to reduce agricultural runoff into the Chesapeake Bay, saying "It is possible to design programs that use market-like principles to secure meaningful and certifiable reduction in all sources of pollution. Properly designed trading programs can ensure more water quality benefits at lower cost." [Read the full op-ed.](#)

Save the Date

March 24, 2010

NGOs, Corporate Behavior, and the Environment

Weekly Policy Commentary

Reducing Emissions While Promoting Green Power: A Look at the Options by Carolyn Fischer

weathervane

RFF's Climate Policy Blog

Check out Weathervane's new daily updates on climate and energy news, and follow Weathervane on Twitter.

Natural Gas: A Better Bridge than Destination by Alan J. Krupnick

Will Courts Set Climate Policy Through Nuisance Suits? by Nathan Richardson

Publications



Economic Analysis for Ecosystem-Based Management: Applications to Marine and Coastal Environments

Coastal Environments

Researcher Spotlight



Ramanan Laxminarayan discusses RFF's growing body of work in public health, with a focus on combating antibiotic resistance. [Watch the video.](#)

About RFF

RFF improves environmental and natural resources policymaking worldwide through objective social science research of the highest caliber.

