Not all sunscreens are created equally

By Alene Dawson, Los Angeles Times

The sizzling summer sun doesn't have to keep you from enjoying California's great outdoors, but be smart about it.

Even though there's growing awareness about the damage sun rays can cause, the rates of melanoma have been rising for the last 30 years, said David Andrews, a senior scientist for the Environmental Working Group, a nonprofit agency that specializes in research and advocacy.

One factor is that sunscreen's efficacy isn't just about using it — but how you use it.

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