



# Environmental Health Action Team Meeting

Wednesday, December 15, 2021

# Agenda

1. Introductions
2. Radon Project
3. Food Mapping Project
4. Future Action Team Planning
5. Partner Updates

# Attendance

- Heather Moritz - St. Mary's County Health Department (SMCHD)
- Jacquie Wells - SMCHD
- Stephanie Freeman - SMCHD
- Ben Cohen - Land Use & Growth Management (LUGM)
- Courtney Jenkins - LUGM
- Thomas Brewer - Community member
- Sue Veith - Department of Economic Development
- Christie Taylor - Seedco
- Christi Bishop - Recreation & Parks

# Radon

- The team reviewed the Local Resources for abatement. Jacquie will work to make this document ready for sharing.
- Radon Awareness Month Event
  - The team agreed that we should work to plan an event for later in January to give time to advertise. The event will be 1 hour long in an evening and the goal will be to provide education on what radon is, the health effects of high radon levels, and information on testing and remediation.
  - Jacquie will work to solidify speakers.

# Food Mapping

- The team reviewed the landing page for the map and agreed that it is ready to begin sharing in the community.
  - The webpage is now available at <https://healthystmarys.com/food-connection-map/>
- The team discussed organizations to targeted outreach when the page launches.
  - Jacquie will share the webpage with:
    - Office on Aging, Feed St. Mary's, Social Services, Schools, Dr's offices, Economic Development Newsletter, Faith Based Leaders, Libraries
  - Courtney will share with:
    - Human Relations Committee
    - County Gap Analysis Group

# Future Action Team Planning

- There seemed to be interest last month in a transportation focus. We will continue the discussion of what we would like to move forward with in 2022 at the January meeting. Potential projects discussed:
  - Advocate for additional transfer sites, Sunday route expansion and targeting education to those who frequent STS.
    - Their next committee meeting is January 20th
  - Encourage active transportation such as walking, biking, etc.
  - Consider a bike sharing program. Companies previously showed interest in partnering with the county.
    - Resources that Jacquie found:
      - <https://betterbikeshare.org/2019/11/13/a-look-into-bike-share-in-rural-communities/>
      - <https://www.myacpl.org/bikes/>
      - <https://betterbikeshare.org/>

# Partner Updates

- SMCHD Environmental Health team is working with limited computer access currently.
- Many of the public drinking water supplies have gone through another round of PFAS sampling and so far all have come back non-detect. They are testing for more variants of PFAS than they have in the past. MDE has now provided materials and information for health departments to share in the communities on PFAS.
- The schools are currently going through additional lead testing of their water supply (part of MDE program which is on a 3 year cycle).
- Sue attended the bicycle infrastructure meeting last week they are talking about potentially using the planned decommissioned coal plants (Morgantown and Chalk Point) connector rails for bike trails.
  - Air pollution tracking as something to monitor of the plant sites. We can reach out to Dr. Malisch about potentially doing some monitoring of these areas with the air quality monitoring trailer.
- Lexington Manor Passive Park continues to have construction going on. The park officially opened on the 4th. There are plans for wellness stations, a pavilion, picnic tables, benches, lighting, and a community garden.

# Partner Updates

- Snow Hill & Shannon Farms master plans are in the works as well as development plans for the boat & kayak launch. Three Notch Trail phase 7 drawings have been submitted and they are working on specs so construction bids can happen next fiscal year. Swim lessons will start at the Leonardtown Wellness and Aquatics Center in January.
- LUGM is going through their comprehensive plan update. They are looking to form element groups for the 10 elements of the plan. Ben put together a survey monkey that they are sending out to have people sign up for groups. Hoping to launch these in January.
- HSMP is gearing up to start gathering updates to the Healthy St. Mary's 2026 plan. To collect organization updates, HSMP is launching surveys focused on each of the health priority areas in Healthy St. Mary's 2026 plan. The surveys can be accessed below.
  - [Behavioral Health](#)
  - [Chronic Disease](#)
  - [Environmental Health](#)
  - [Violence, Injury, and Trauma](#)
- The Healthy St. Mary's Partnership is holding elections for the positions of HSMP Co-Chair and Vice-Chair for the 2022-2023 term. Individuals serving in these roles provide overall leadership for HSMP. Click [here](#) for candidate biographies and to cast your vote. The deadline for voting is 5:00 p.m. on December 30, 2021.

# Communications

- **Submit event and news updates/information at:**  
<http://healthystmarys.com/newsletter/> or email  
[stmaryspartnership@gmail.com](mailto:stmaryspartnership@gmail.com)
- **Follow HSMP on Social Media**
  - Facebook: Healthy St. Mary's Partnership
  - Twitter: @HealthyStMarys

# Upcoming Meetings

- The team agreed to keep the same meeting schedule as 2021 (3rd Wednesday at 10 a.m.).
  - Our next meeting will be on Wednesday, January 19, 2022 from 10:00 - 11:00 a.m.
- Have a wonderful holiday season!