



# Environmental Health Action Team Meeting

Wednesday, February 16, 2022

# Agenda

1. Introductions
2. Radon Project
3. Food Insecurity
4. 2022 Action Team Planning
5. Partner Updates

# Introductions

- Shan Chen - St. Mary's County Health Department (SMCHD)
- Heather Moritz (SMCHD)
- Jacquie Wells (SMCHD)
- Suha Ansari (SMCHD)
- Ben Cohen - Land Use & Growth Management (LUGM)
- Brenda Wolcott - Medstar St. Mary's Hospitals (MSMH)
- Sue Veith - Department of Economic Development
- Courtney Jenkins (LUGM)
- Louis De Monfort (PhysednHealth)
- Thomas Brewer - St. Mary's College of Maryland (SMCM)
- Linda Lyman - Feed St. Mary's

# Radon

- The team discussed the following at this month's meeting:
  - Maryland Department of the Environment (MDE) to host Radon event(s) on April 19 at 5:00 PM
    - Evening event - community members/homeowners (MDE)
    - Daytime event - realtors/home inspectors
      - Rather than live event share the recording?
      - Share with property transfer inspectors (list on MDE website)
    - Jacquie will be providing updates on the event details
    - **Action item:**
      - Flyer & registration to come
  - Other events to promote radon awareness
    - Cherry Blossom Festival (March 26)
    - Easter Egg Festival (April 9)
    - **Action item:**
      - Reaching out to members of Commission on the Environment
      - Share event on County Government FB page
      - Other ways to advertise event?

# Food Insecurity

- Please continue to share the map webpage with other partners and community members!
- Subcommittee meeting discussed Food Insecurity on 1/27/22
  - Bill has data collected on SNAP, WIC, ALICE
  - **Action item:** Still looking to gather data pertaining to the following
    - SMCPS meal distribution, Dept. of Aging & Human Services' home-delivered meals program, food pantries
  - Data to be overlaid on a GIS map (Sue, Shan and Bill)
  - St. Mary's County is planning on hosting a Food Pantry Retreat (like the one held last July)
  - Seeking local agency/representative focusing on food insecurity
    - Potentially local USDA rep or Dept. of Agriculture
- HB179 has been approved by the Steering Committee and has been added to the HSMP Advocacy Agenda
  - **Action item:**
    - Draft letters of support/policy briefs

# 2022 Action Team Planning

- Potential transportation focuses for 2022
  - Transportation Advisory Committee (attended by Sue & Jacquie)
    - Topics discussed
      - Access via STS to food and healthcare.
    - They're willing to work with us. The team will set up a joint meeting to work/discuss
      - TAC meetings are quarterly; Courtney will touch base with TAC to schedule.
      - The team will develop a presentation in advance
  - Safe Routes to Schools Implementation in Leonardtown
    - The team explored other projects from that study that we could look into getting implemented.
      - CDC (community development corporation) looking into this in Lexington Park

## 2022 Action Team Planning (continued)

- Development of a Bike Share Program - Shan reached out to a previous coworker at the Center for Urban Transportation for more information.
  - A vendor program and permit from city/county are needed
    - Examples of vendors near St. Mary's - Capital Bike Share (D.C.) and RVA Share (Richmond, VA)
    - Managing the program (agency) is the biggest task (maintenance, customer service, resetting bikes, etc.)
  - One option could be to implement a pilot program to test out first
  - Work with local municipality and Calvert-St. Mary's MPO
    - A planning study is needed to justify the program
      - 2019 Mobility Planning Study
      - Generally, bike share programs are city-based, with the population density to support the need for the program.
  - The team discussed potential locations to place the bicycles
    - Concentrate bicycles in areas with walking traffic
      - Lexington Park (near base), Leonardtown, Three Notch Trail
    - Bike Share Library
  - Consider sliding-scale payments as a way to help fund the program

# Partner Updates

- Cherry Blossom Festival - March 26th
  - Sue can print a poster if needed, but please give advance notice
- Save the date! The 2022 HSMP Annual Meeting will be on September 29.
  - Please provide your suggestions for topics/speakers [here!](#)
- The Community Garden Subcommittee has been formed.
  - Sue and Suha will be joining existing members Shan and Jacquie.
- Jacquie is working on a new website feature.
  - She will share with the team once it goes live.
- The Environmental Health department is putting out a job posting for 2 seasonal hires for pools/beach monitoring.
- The Health Equity Team is hoping to do more outreach now that call volume at the COVID-19 Call Center is going down.
  - They will be doing door-to-door distribution of at-home COVID-19 test kits.
- LUGM has completed and submitted the Complete Streets plan to the commissioners.
  - There are no talks of them voting it into a regulation at this point.
  - The team discussed potentially advocating for the commissioners to adopt.

# 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

- Wednesday, March 16, 2022 from 10:00 - 11:00 a.m.