

Environmental Health Action Team Meeting

Wednesday, March 16, 2022

Agenda

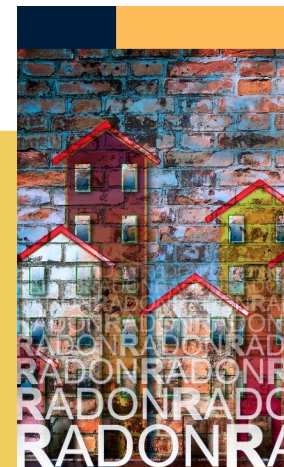
1. Introductions
2. Radon Project
3. Food Insecurity
4. Transportation
5. HSMP Planning Tool
6. Partner Updates

Introductions

- Shan Chen - St. Mary's County Health Department (SMCHD)
- Jacquie Wells - SMCHD
- Ben Cohen - Land Use & Growth Management (LUGM)
- Courtney Jenkins - LUGM
- Brenda Wolcott - MedStar St. Mary's Hospitals (MSMH)
- Donnie Mills - Department of Public Works & Transportation (DPW&T)
- Stacey Morgan - SMCHD
- Christina Bishop - St. Mary's County Recreation & Parks (SMCR&P)
- Linda Lymas - Feed St. Mary's
- Christie Taylor - Seedco
- Thomas Brewer - St. Mary's College of Maryland (SMCM)

Radon

- The team discussed the following at this month's meeting:
 - Hosting joint radon event with Maryland Department of the Environment (MDE) on April 19 at 5:00 PM
 - Registration
 - Facebook Event
 - Postcard sharing April 19 Radon event with QR code
 - Please share the event flyer (if you want a version to print with QR code to registration let Jacquie and Shan know)
 - Other places to promote radon awareness event
 - Cherry Blossom Festival (March 26)
 - Easter Egg Festival (April 9)
 - St. Mary's County Gov Page
 - HSMP Social Media pages
 - Southern Maryland Realtors
 - Jacquie shared with Commission on the environment



Get the Facts About Radon

04 19 22

LIVE at 5:00 p.m. on
Facebook and Youtube

Learn more about the health risks of radon, the Maryland radon test kit program, and what to do if high radon levels are found in your home.



Food Insecurity

- Please continue to share the map webpage with other partners and community members!
- Food insecurity mapping
 - Shan, Bill and Sue met to discuss data needed
- MDH issued a grant opportunity for local health improvement coalitions to focus on food security. Jacquie and Shan are working on an application.
 - Ideas to include
 - Potential partners for community garden: Sierra Club
 - Education component on how to cook and safely store produce
 - Grant deadline: April 4th - feel free to send in any ideas you have!
- HB179
 - Policy Brief
 - Has not been voted on by the committee after the hearing. Will continue to monitor.
 - Partners can reach out to local officials to indicate support.

Transportation - TAC meeting

- Potential transportation focuses for 2022
 - Joint TAC/EHAT Meeting: April 21st at 1pm
 - Action team members attending
 - Shan, Jacquie, Donnie, Courtney, Ben, Brenda
 - The team will put together a short presentation and discuss potential partnerships
 - **Action item:**
 - Create presentation to be shown at next meeting (April 20), action team to review and make changes

Transportation - Bike Share Program

- Development of a Bike Share Program - Shan reached out to a previous coworker at the [Center for Urban Transportation Research](#) 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](#) (study done on base)
 - 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
- Next Steps
 - We will plan a design thinking activity for the program with key partners for our May action team meeting.
 - Looking for supporting data to justify bike-share program. Please send existing data/information that would support a bike share program to stmaryspartnership@gmail.com, including:
 - Sue's bike routes
 - Safe Routes to School report
 - LUGM Interconnectivity studies
 - Transportation Plan
 - R&P Land Preservation Plan

HSMP Planning Tool



- Jacquie demonstrated the new HSMP website feature to the team.
- Please take a moment to register for an account on the website.

Partner Updates

- Feed St. Mary's has the option for a farmers market in their parking lot included in their lease with Uhaul. Planning has not begun. They do currently have 2 interns from St. Mary's College working on establishing a standard data collection method from the pantries.
- St. Mary's County Recreation & Parks is hosting the Cherry Blossom Festival on March 26 from 12pm-4pm at Lexington Manor Passive Park. After that, the next event will be the Easter Festival on April 9th. R&P is continuing to work on the community gardens project with new partners joining frequently.
- LUGM has meetings starting in March, running through October.
- Open enrollment is closed, but Seedco can still enroll Medicaid and anyone that is eligible for a special enrollment period.
- DPW&T's Transportation plan update will be completed near end of year. Passive Park roads have been redone. DCIP sidewalk project with the base has been submitted to the state for approval. South Shangri La is currently undergoing a water replacement plan, but once finished, they will start on sidewalk construction there.
- SMCHD is distributing Pack & Play kits to mothers & babies to promote their safe sleeping initiative. Contact [Stacy](#) for more information.
- Save the date for our in-person [HSMP Annual Meeting](#) on Sept 29th. More information will be coming soon!
- Current HSMP grant projects:
 - Community Garden grant & Gestational Diabetes grant

Communications

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

Upcoming Meetings

- Wednesday, April 20, 2022 from 10:00 - 11:00 a.m.