



# **Environmental Health Action Team Meeting**

Wednesday, May 15, 2024

# Agenda

1. Introductions
2. Partner Updates
3. Walking Groups
4. Food Security
5. Community Clean Up
6. Meeting Poll

# Introductions

**Welcome!** Please click here to access the [attendee list](#).



# Partner Updates

- HSMP and St. Mary's County Public Schools (SMCPS) are hosting the “Surf the Mental Health & Wellness Wave” Resource and Education Fair this Saturday, May 18, at the James A Forrest Tech Center, from 10 AM-3 PM. This event will feature local food trucks, vendors, health resources, games, prizes and more! FREE transportation will be available from Lexington Park, George W. Carver, and Greenview Knolls Elementary Schools. Share the transportation flyer!
- St. Mary's County Community Development Corporation (CDC) is seeking volunteers for its Third Annual Great Mills Road Community Clean-Up! The first 100 registrants will receive a free t-shirt! Please register by May 25.
- After installing an irrigation system, the Lexington Manor Passive Park Community Garden will partner with Ben Beale of UME's Master Gardeners Program to provide irrigation system and watering training.
- HSMP, SMCHD's Health Equity Team and community partners are hosting a month-long period product supply drive in observance of Menstrual Health Awareness. View the flyer for more information on where you can donate!
  - Temeria Wilcox, CRNP of NP Family Practice will be providing FREE Vitamin B12 injections to those who donate at their office in Leonardtown!

# Walking Groups

- HSMP's FREE Walking Groups are expanding to include additional days!
  - Walking Groups at Lancaster Park will now meet every Wednesday from 6-7 PM! Meet at the basketball courts.
    - Upcoming walks: May 15 (today), 22, and 29.
    - To sign up, email Mark at WARcycle!
  - Walking Groups at Leonardtown Wharf Waterfront Park meet once a month on Saturday at 9:30 AM. Meet at the compass by the water.
    - Upcoming walks: May 18 (this Saturday)
    - To sign up, email Amanda at Peaktop Wellness!
- HSMP will be leading a walk through the LMPP Community Garden, during the 2024 Juneteenth Celebration on Saturday, June 15.
  - Carla will provide a table with seed packets and resources to event attendees.
  - We will request for UCAC event organizers to make an announcement about our garden walk during the event.

# Food Security

Our action team is interested in partnering with St. Mary's CDC to promote the LMPP Community Garden by addressing food security through:

- Food distribution initiatives
  - Shan reached out to Three Oaks Center to see if they would be interested in a community fridge (SOMD Fridges) program! Other locations like Good Samaritan and Mt. Zion were also considered.
  - The garden is now partnering with Feed St. Mary's to donate excess produce.
    - They are considering harvesting in the mornings, twice a week to teach community members how to harvest and pack.
- Providing education
  - The LMPPCG educational committee is hosting the following upcoming food/produce education classes:
    - Companion Planting - tomorrow, May 16, 5:30-6:30 PM - if it rains, it will be at the library and start at 6:30. Check the [Facebook page](#) for updates.
    - Storytime at the Garden - Friday, May 24, 10-11 AM
- EHAT's [Food Connection Map](#) was updated to include the newly opened Patuxent Harvest Market+. Submit your edits/additions to the map [here!](#)

# Community Clean-Up

- Volunteer for the Third Annual Community Clean Up of Great Mills Road on Saturday, June 1, 2024 (rain date - June 8)
  - Join St. Mary's Community Development Corporation (CDC) from 9AM-12PM to remove litter, pull weeds, and clean up Lexington Park. Share the flyer!
  - Email Carla to help sponsor the clean up event. St. Mary's CDC is in need of:
    - Extra trash grabbers, leaf blowers, wagons, etc.
    - Heavy duty reusable bags from Waste Management or Lowes. The cost of using the bags will need to be figured out, because it takes a special type of truck to pick them up. The action team will follow-up in July.
- The team discussed partnering with St. Mary's CDC for a potential second community clean-up event in the fall.
  - We will continue researching to see which companies can provide dumpsters for future community clean-ups.



# Communications

The Healthy St. Mary's Partnership Newsletter is distributed every two weeks and highlights information on the four health priority areas for St. Mary's County. Sign up or share information with our members.



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# Upcoming Meetings

- **Our next meeting is on Wednesday, July 17, 2024 from 10:00 - 11:00 a.m.**
  - The team voted to skip the meeting for the month of June, due to SMCHD and HSMP being closed in celebration of Juneteenth.
  - Interested in being in our next Partner Spotlight? [Sign up here!](#)
- Save the Date! The HSMP Annual Meeting is on Thursday, September 26, 2024 from 8:30AM-2PM, featuring Tony Stewart - YMCA of the Chesapeake, as our featured keynote session speaker. Vendor registration is currently open!

