

EDUCATION & PUBLIC OUTREACH Working Group

Charge from Groundwater Management Area Advisory Committee

Working Group Members

Andres Cervantes, Jean Mendoza, Tom Tebb, Rachel Little, Elizabeth Torres, Gretchen Stewart, Mark Nielson, Nieves Negrete, Patricia Newhouse, Tom Eaton, Dean Effler, Joye Redfield-Wilder, Wendell Hannigan, Stuart Turner

Meetings/Calls Dates

Meeting: Wednesday, May 1, 2013 1:30 PM - 3:30 PM

Participants

Andres Cervantes (DOH), Joye Redfield-Wilder (Ecology), Patricia Newhouse (Public); Dean Effler - via phone (Public), Jean Mendoza - via phone (Friends of Toppenish Creek), Gretchen Stewart - via phone (EPA), Rachel Little - via phone (Benton Conservation District); Lisa Freund and Don Gatchalian (Yakima County)

Key Discussion Points

I. Surveys (1. High Risk Well Users; 2. Public Informational Questionnaire and 3. Health Care Professional Questionnaire)

1. High Risk Well User survey:

Need to finalize agreement(s) with the Benton Franklin and Yakima health districts for Survey contractors. Report back to GWAC at its May 16, 2013 meeting.

Work with Data Collection workgroup to identify Survey target areas (data gap areas)

Identify how potential Survey households will be approached.

Ensure training/messaging is provided to contract surveyors (Benton and Yakima health district employees) prior to Survey's launch.

2. Public Informational Questionnaire:

Brainstormed outreach methods for questionnaire. Matrix will be developed to identify potential groups, who will make contact with them and when.

3. All Surveys:

Obtain Spanish translation

Create cover page/talking points for each survey

Resources Requested

List of GWAC members' community group/organization contacts (e.g., Rotary, church groups, volunteer boards). Requesting GWAC members make initial contact with their respective groups to assist EPO's outreach.

Recommendations for GWAC

Deliverables/Products Status

1. Surveys - 1. High Risk Well Users. Approved by GWAC at its April 2013 meeting. EPO has subsequently received a request from the Data Collection Workgroup to incorporate two additional questions. Edits underway.
2. Public Informational Questionnaire and 3. Health Professional Survey. Approved by GWAC at its April 2013 meeting. Both need introductions explaining the goal/purpose of the surveys.
3. GWMA Web links - related agency Web links have been reviewed and organized. Requesting GWAC approval of proposed links. Approved during March 21st GWAC meeting.
4. Letter to health professionals - Approved at March 21st GWAC meeting. Needs signatures and logos.
5. New mother brochure and attachments - text needs to be reformatted for brochure.

Proposed Next Steps

1. Finalize interlocal agreements for Survey #1 (Don Gatchalian)
2. Translate surveys into Spanish (Andy Cervantes, lead; Patricia Newhouse will review)
3. Contact YVCC and Heritage College about student involvement in outreach/surveys (Lisa Freund)
4. Obtain signatures on the cover letter to health professionals for Survey # 3 from Yakima and Benton Health Districts. Create header for letter that incorporates the health district and GWAC logos. (?)
5. Create and complete the outreach matrix and begin contacting community groups to gauge interest/opportunities for outreach. (Joye Redfield Wilder, Patricia Newhouse, Gretchen Stewart,)
6. Create cover page for each survey to include goal/purpose, key messages (Andy Cervantes, Jean Mendoza, Dean Effler)
7. Obtain Ecology's Well Route contact and send to Ali Sedighi. (Note: Joye Redfield Wilder provided contact: Avery Richardson)

Next meeting of the EPO is Wednesday, June 5, 2013 at 1:30 p.m., Yakima County Courthouse Fourth Floor, room 419. The call in number for conference call is (509) 574-2353. PIN - 2353#