

Kalamazoo County
ENVIRONMENTAL HEALTH ADVISORY COUNCIL
August 12th, 2009

Present: Fran Bell, Kathy Buckham, Deb Cardiff, Leroy Crabtree Patricia Crowley, Jeanne Himmelein, Pat Krause, Dan Moyle, Margaret O'Brien, Carolyn Rutland, Tom Pederson, Aud Wierenga, Bill Schwartz

Absent: Jeff Balkema, Greg Nichols, Dawn Potter-Williams

Environmental Health: Kim Finkbeiner, Carolyn Hobbs Kreiger, Heather Nicholas

TOPIC	DISCUSSION	ACTION	FOLLOW-UP
1. Citizen Comments	None		
2. Review / approval of Minutes	Pat Krause motioned to approve. Leroy Crabtree supported motion. Passed via oral vote.	Minutes approved.	
3. EH Updates – Deb Cardiff	<p>HHW- The prescription medication collection June 20th was a success. There was a 32% increase in amount of medications collected last year. The next collection will be September 19th, location has yet to be determined, awaiting confirmation of availability of Loy Norrix parking lot. Overall participation in HHW is up 24% since last year, with the 1st Quarter of 2009 up 53% over the same period in 2008.</p> <p>TYPE II – There were no monitoring violations during the last quarter. Carolyn, who is the Type II Manager, has offered four operating training sessions for Type II operators. These sessions are required by the state for operators to maintain licensing. They have been very successful. She will be offering classes again in the future.</p> <p>SURFACE WATER – Unfortunately EH did not receive the grant for the bacteria source tracking. However, the information compiled will be kept on file, EH will attempt to obtain funding should another source of grant money become available. There have been 2 closings of the beach monitoring, so far this year, with a current ongoing closure at Robert Morris Park (Campbell Lake), which will be re-sampled this am.</p> <p>LWW – EH has had to adjust some of the LWW staff responsibilities as a result of an employee moving to a different department within HCS, and due to the uncertainties of the state budget. The sanitarian position is being held open, there are currently two active LWW permitting staff in this position, however this is not enough. To meet the needs of the department, responsibilities have been readjusted for the Surface Water Specialist, the Type II Coordinator, and the Ground Water Specialist. They are being cross trained as back up for the LWW sanitarians in the water and sewage programs and well help as need be. In the meantime, surface water sampling has been cut back. It will be resumed as time allows.</p> <p>METH- There have been 425 busts total for the past 2 ½ - 3 years, in 2009 we have had 96 so far. 220 have been cleaned, 57 are currently condemned (25 are experiencing long term condemnation, some are in foreclosure). Efforts are continuing, even with the loss of the coordinator position. All of the LWW staff continues to do follow-up on this program.</p> <p>LEAD/H2K – EH is awaiting word on the CDC grant for the H2K initiative, we thought we would hear around 8/1, but so far no word. We have completed 7 EBLI inspections, and 7 clearance inspections have been performed. 5 cases have been referred to the attorney for prosecution due to no remediation action on the part of the property owners. Of the 5 we are anticipating the first warrant issued. 3 of the cases we referred are moving in the right direction; 1 has been cleaned and cleared, 1 has been condemned and is on the city list for destruction, and 1 is in foreclosure, with the bank wanting to clean up.</p> <p>GROUNDWATER – The water main project in the Orchard</p>		

**Kalamazoo County
ENVIRONMENTAL HEALTH ADVISORY COUNCIL
August 12th, 2009**

TOPIC	DISCUSSION	ACTION	FOLLOW-UP
	<p>Street/Douglas Avenue neighborhood is underway, construction has begun, the state has released funding to pay for this. Heather is developing an arsenic project. She will be working on this through 2010, creating a brochure to increase awareness, and doing testing on the east side of the county to enhance our data for this part of the county. There will most likely be an arsenic collection day, funds are available for provide a quick test and encourage homeowners to have a formal test. She will be coordinating/advising local units of government when this will take place, which most likely will be sometime in June. Testing through the State of Michigan Lab is \$20.00.</p> <p>BODY ART – MDCH has been creating the rules, application forms, inspection forms, etc to get this program going. They want an October 1st startup date for the Local Health Departments (LHD) to do the inspections. The cost to the LHD is expected to be \$200-300. A memo is being sent to the BOC at the next Committee of the Whole meeting, that they support a movement to create a body art inspection fee. We are hopeful that this will be passed around the beginning of September. MDCH is hosting training opportunities for LHD; they have requested that Kalamazoo host a training on September 12th.</p> <p>Pat Crowley inquired if the monitoring wells were still be tested. Deb indicated that these are being done, with some scheduled for next week.</p>		
4. Solar Winds Power Systems	<p>Mike Linsea, a local installer of solar panels, gave an overview of what his company is doing in the community in regard to alternative energy sources. They install solar panels, and advise on the use of wind turbines. Solar panels are rated on how much power they can extract from a square meter of energy absorbed. They are currently up to being able to extract 15% - 19% of the power per square meter. Systems are set up in a home situation, based on the size of the power consumption of the home. You place the panels in a string; each panel can generate 175 watts. The units are added on until you get the amount of power you want produced. The energy goes into an inverter, which creates DC power; it then goes through the convertor, which changes it to AC power. The IBEW is currently educating the public on how to install these systems, and get the maximum efficiency from each system. You can install a grid tied system which is connected to your local energy company,(not connected to batteries), where you sell the energy you create to the power company. The cost is \$.09-.10 per kilowatt. So a 1,000 kilowatt system costs about \$10,000. The average house runs on 3-7 Kilowatts. Currently there is a 30% federal dollar for dollar tax credit. With the "Feed in Tariff" pilot program you can get 8-9% back from your energy company. They systems are warranted for 25 years at 80% power; however, many have operated for up to 40 years. The Feed in Tariff helps offset the cost of the system. In Michigan we average 4 hours per day of sunshine. The systems are very sensitive; they produce in snowstorms, and thunderstorms. The sensitivity of the systems continues to improve.</p>		
5. Member Comments	<p>Jeanne Hemmilein – will be replacing Steve Yanni, as the MSU Extension representative. She is the interim director until the end of the year. She also advised that the 37th MSU Alumni Club will be getting together on August 19th,</p> <p>Kathy Buckham – the County Fair is happening this week, they are looking for a good turn out. Tomorrow is the live stock auction.</p> <p>Tom Pederson – Thanks to Mr. Linsea for his presentation</p> <p>Aud Wierenga – The Southwest Michigan Sustainable Business Forum will be holding a quarterly event on August 20th. It will be at KVCC's M-Tec Center. The focus will be their</p>		

**Kalamazoo County
ENVIRONMENTAL HEALTH ADVISORY COUNCIL
August 12th, 2009**

TOPIC	DISCUSSION	ACTION	FOLLOW-UP
	<p>new Wind Energy Training Program, and the collaboration between WMU and KVCC. The Cost is \$20.00 if you are a member, slightly more if you are a non-member. Green Drinks are happening on August 25th at Charlie Fosters, starts at 5:30. Brief presentation by Paul McNelles who is the leader of the local stewardship network, which is group which does a lot of hands on work around the community. National Pollution Prevention Week is from September 21-27th. Resources are available, if you want to plan activities for that week. On the DEQ website. Lastly anything that deals with government grants has been crazy. Last month I mentioned a grant opportunity, however, the time has past. It may be available at the end of 2009 or the 1st quarter of 2010, updates will be forthcoming.</p> <p>Carolyn Rutland – City of Kalamazoo passed an ordinance regulating Outdoor Wood Burners. The KECC investigated a citizen lodged complaint; they looked at the Texas Township ordinance, also ordinances in Portage and Kalamazoo Township. The ordinance requires set backs, smoke stack heights, operators must be at least 15 years of age, and they cannot be used during summer months.</p> <p>Dan Moyle – Thanks to Leroy for arranging the presentation, and thanks to Mike for the information.</p> <p>Patricia Crowley – The Drain Commission did not get the grant they applied for to study Davis Creek. A local mobile home park has people living on the creek easements. They will continue to attempt to eliminate some to the issues related to the impact on the creek.</p>		