

## **2020 IEHA VIRTUAL CONFERENCE PRESENTATIONS**

### Making the Connection Between Housing, Hazards and Health

Jerry Freese, Office of Lead Hazard Control & Healthy Homes – Jerry is the Healthy Homes Field Representative for Regions 7 and 8.

This session will address housing related hazards that impact occupants health, such as lead based paint, mold/moisture, pests, radon, ETS, safety hazards (8 Principles and Healthy Homes Rating System). Information will be shared on the funding opportunities available for housing through HUD's Office of Lead Hazard Control and Healthy Homes.

### Prevalence and Distribution of Radium in IA Groundwater: Managing Radionuclides in Private Drinking Water Wells and Small Public Water Systems

Margaret Carolan, University of Iowa – is a Ph.D. student in environmental engineering and NSF GRFP Fellow at the University of Iowa.

A large-scale survey for radium in private wells in ten Iowa counties was completed in fall 2019. Results will be shared with policy recommendations for meeting safe levels of radium in water for private wells and communication strategies applied in engaging with well owners about radium contamination.

### It Can Virtually Be Done

Sandra Long, Environmental Health Manager, Town of Addison, TX, Environmental Health Division – Active member of the Texas Environmental Health Association and currently serving as the NEHA President.

A model on performing virtual health inspections at food establishments to keep staff safe from exposure during the pandemic and assure proper food safety. Town of Addison Environmental Health Division began performing virtual health inspections on March 30, 2020 in response to the need for food safety during a shelter in place order. This model has been shared with the National Environmental Health Association, and various jurisdictions.

### Iowa DNR Time of Transfer Program Update

Cory Frank, BA, REHS, Environmental Specialist Senior, and the Onsite Wastewater Program manager for the Iowa DNR

The session will update participants regarding the upcoming Department of Natural Resources Time of Transfer Database that will launch in 2021. The session will also detail the expectations and roles of DNR, County EH professionals and also individual inspectors related to the new database and engage the audience to comment and provide suggestions related to the current version and also the future of the database.

### Educational Outreach and Inspection Protocols During COVID-19

Amy Illg, Program Administrator and Michael Lee, Field Staff Supervisor, Division of Food and Lodging, North Dakota Department of Health

The North Dakota Department of Health Division of Food and Lodging inspection staff were removed from field work during the yellow risk level of the Coronavirus Pandemic in ND. To continue to provide services and outreach to the establishments licensed by the Division throughout the state, program staff developed a modified educational outreach inspection process. Educational materials were developed in collaboration with the ND Department of Health Division of Disease Control and were distributed through email and mailed communications to establishments licensed by the Division as well as those licensed by local public health units throughout the state who opted in to the process.

### Where's the Beef

Cory Frank, Cory Frank, BA, REHS, Environmental Specialist Senior, and the Onsite Wastewater Program manager for the Iowa DNR, Tim Grotheer Iowa DNR

The session will update participants regarding the Department of Natural Resources role and the local EH role is regarding local meat processors and wastewater treatment requirements. The session will also detail the expectations and roles of DNR, County EH professionals, Time of Transfer Inspectors related to On-Farm Food Processing and the approval process required by the Iowa Department of Agriculture to permit new or existing meat processors.

### Zip Code Matters: Childhood Lead Poisoning Prevention – Let's Look at the Root Cause

Amanda Beckett, Administrative Assistant for the Iowa Plumbing & Mechanical Systems Board and certified EBL lead inspector/risk assessor for the bureau of Environmental Health Service at the Iowa Department of Public Health. Alexa Andrews, Program Coordinator for the Childhood Lead Poisoning Prevention Program project at the Iowa Institute of Public Health Research and Policy at the University of Iowa. Kevin Officer, Community Health Consultant with the Iowa Department of Public Health.

The primary cause for childhood lead poisoning in Iowa is lead-based paint hazards. Using anecdotal evidence from people working in the field of Childhood Lead Poisoning Prevention in Iowa, we will discuss where, geographically, are the most common areas for childhood lead poisoning in Iowa. We will work on creating our own outlines for plans of action and create goals with actionable steps and measureable outcomes. Templates will be provided. Everyone will have different answers and different goals based on their position and location of employment, so sharing ideas will be beneficial, but ultimately unique plans will need to be made to accommodate each agency/ organization.

### Identifying Environmental Health Blind Spots: A local Per-and Polyfluoroalkyl Substances (PFAS) Study in Private Wells

Riley Mullins, Environmental Chemist at Linn County Public Health Department.

Per- and Polyfluoroalkyl substances (PFAS) are a group of man-made chemicals that do not break down in the environment. If consumed, PFAS accumulate in the body over time and can cause various adverse health outcomes. In light of the emerging concern of these chemicals' migration into drinking water supplies, Linn County Public Health (LCPH) and the University of Iowa's Center for Health Effects of Environmental Contamination (CHEEC) initiated a study. Through this study, private wells were identified near a known site where AFFF has been used in the past. Multiple of these wells were tested and found to contain PFAS chemicals, some even over the EPA lifetime health advisory level.

### How to Change People's Behavior

Lisa Pennisi, Human Dimensions Specialist in the School of Natural Resources at UNL.

Have you ever thought, "If people just knew the facts, they would change their behavior?" Or "If I get people to change their attitudes about something, then I can change their behavior?" Sadly, study after study reveals that facts perform poorly at changing behavior, and focusing on attitudes doesn't do much better. It turns out, the best way to plan a behavior change campaign is to start with research. Research barriers and needs, as well as the area and services, for both your particular population and the target behavior. However, if you cannot do the research or you don't have the money to hire an evaluator, you can still make much more effective campaigns by understanding and following some basic principles and methods. We will discuss these methods and the research behind them in this presentation to enable you to lead more effective behavior change campaigns.

### Protecting Public Health and Groundwater Through the Assessment and Promotion of Private Well Reconstructions

Jesse Campbell, Private Wells Coordinator, Midwest Assistance Program

Preventing contamination from entering a well is one of the best ways to ensure safe clean drinking water and groundwater protection. There are administrative codes in place to ensure new wells are constructed properly, but there is very little in place to ensure that wells are kept in that condition. Drawing from well assessments completed across IA we will review the most common issues allowing contamination to enter ageing well and review strategies for correcting these issues with reconstruction.

### Using the USDA Websoil Survey and Beacon to Supplement a Soil Analysis for Chapter 69 Requirements

Aimee Devereaux, Water Environmental Technology (WET) Training Coordinator, DMACC.

This presentation will go over the basics of using the USDA Websoil survey and Beacon by Schneider to supplement a soil analysis to meet Chapter 69 Soil Evaluations (567-69.9(1)b). The presentation will show you how to search for an area of interest and in Websoil Survey and how to interpret the results and how to use Beacon for property/system location and soil identification.

### Wisconsin Standardization Program

Carrie Pohjola, Retail Food Technical Specialist with the Wisconsin Department of Agriculture, Trade and Consumer Protection and current President-Elect for the Wisconsin Environmental Health Association.

I will discuss the WI standardization program, how we track disagreements with candidates and train them on the disagreements. I will also cover the changes and how we will implement them with the adoption of the 2013 FDA Food Code. Finally, I will give a brief overview of the WI Retail food program.

### Climate Crisis and Food Safety; Summary of Findings of the European Food Safety Study Authority

Kevin Atchason, D.O., MPH, Consultant at Atchason Environmental Health Consultants.

The Climate Crisis has an impact on the occurrence of food safety hazards at various stages of the food chain. There are multiple pathways through which climate related factors may impact food safety. Attempting to anticipate potential long-term effects of the Climate Crisis on food safety, the European Food Safety Authority (EFSA) recently completed the "Climate change and emerging risks for food safety" (CLEFSA, 2020). CLEFSA identified several issues that indicated that the Climate Crisis has the potential of causing, enhancing or modifying the occurrence and intensity of some food-borne diseases.

### I AM ENOUGH: A Look at Self-Care and Resiliency

Jennifer Auman, Program Manager, Nebraska-Maternal, Infant and Early Childhood Home Visiting Program, Nebraska Department of Health and Human Services.

Happiness is an attitude that we have to choose every day. Utilizing the theory and many activities in the book *Building Your Bounce, Simple Strategies for a Resilient You* by Mary Mackrain and Nefertiti Bruce Poyner, my presentation takes on the complex emotional state we all find ourselves in when we're trying to manage it all, especially as parents. The differences in the different roles we have to play are examined, signs and symptoms of burnout are identified, and active participation in activities to build resilience through the Protective Factors of relationships, internal beliefs, initiative and self-control are exemplified.

### Situational Awareness and De-escalation of Violent Situations

August "Dutch" Geisinger, Polk County EMA, Safeguard Iowa. Kevin Winker, Iowa Department of Public Safety.

This training will provide participants with information and tools that will help them not only recognize potentially dangerous or threatening situations, but provide them with instruction on what they can do to mentally prepare and potentially avoid these circumstances. This training will also provide them instruction on what the various stages of anger look like and what they can do to de-escalate a potentially violent interaction or safely remove themselves and others from those situations.