

Children's Environmental Health Working Group  
Collaborative on Health and the Environment – WA (CHE-WA)  
Thursday, February 11, 2016 9:30 AM – 11:30 AM  
Location: LHWMP, 130 Nickerson Street, Room 105, Seattle  
Host group: Local Hazardous Waste Management Program in King County  
Speaker: Dave Waddell, Health and Environmental Investigator with LHWMP  
Topic: Hazards to children and adults from chemicals in art supplies

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CHE-WA Children's Environmental Health Working Group: Our mission is to work collaboratively with diverse groups to eliminate children's harmful environmental exposures in the Puget Sound region and beyond during their most critical developmental years: preconception to age 8.

**Attendees:**

Shirli Axelrod

Nancy Bernard	UW School of Environmental Safety
Megan Dunn	NW Center for Alternatives to Pesticides
Gail Gensler	Local Hazardous Waste Management Program in King County
Steve Gilbert	Institute of Neurotoxicology and Neurological Disorders
Carolyn Gleason	U.S. Department of Health and Human Services Health Resources and Services Administration
Marilyn Hair	UW Center for Ecogenetics and Environmental Health (CEEH)
Rachel Koller	Community K-8
Emily Polstein	American Lung Association
Fran Solomon	Evergreen State College - Tacoma
Gretchen Stewart	U.S. EPA Region 10
Nicole Thomsen	Seattle-King County Public Health
Nancy Uding	Washington Toxics Coalition
Lorelei Walker	Health Equity Circle
Dennis Weaver	Change Your Food Change Your Life™

**Opening**

Gail welcomed attendees and called meeting to order. Next meeting is March 10, 2016 at the UW Center for Ecogenetics and Environmental Health. The topic is *the WA Poison Center*.

**Group Discussion**

1. Update by Lorelei on Seattle Home Show at Safeco Field (Feb. 24 2:30-3:30pm).  
Goal is to educate public on lead exposures through modelling and interactive sessions. Will include a testimonial by Dr. Karr on lead exposures. Working group stations will provide audience with lead test kits once trained. Audience will learn about lead test kits and how personal protection equipment works. Currently recruiting volunteers for outreach. Lead test kits have been obtained for use in the session and to hand out. Looking for volunteers. Home Show admission is not free for volunteers but might be reimbursed. Note to be prepared for questions arising from lead contamination in water and water pipes a la Flint, Michigan. Plan to have fact sheet to hand out.
  
2. Reminder: Meeting host schedule for 2016  
January: Rhonda, ATSDR (Completed)  
February: Gail, LHWMP (Completed)  
March: Marilyn, UW-CEEH  
April: Gretchen, EPA  
May: Nancy Bernard and E. Long, WA DOH in Kent  
June: Aileen, ALA  
July - August: No meeting  
September: Katie, UW Superfund Research Program  
October: Nicole, PH-S&KC  
November: Megan, NCAP (Nicole will help with space.)  
December: Carolyn Gleason, HRSA

### **Members Update**

1. Rachel Koller  
-Cleaning for Health met with Seattle School District lunchroom nutrition managers since kids are using bleach sanitizer on rags to clean lunch tables. They will shift toward soap and water.  
-Problem of quats proposed for use by children (not legal). The SPSDS kitchens are moving away from bleach toward use of quats in kitchen instead of bleach. Their OASIS quat-based product report says it's safe for the kids to use their product; however, Nancy Bernard says this is not allowed by law. -Port Townsend School District nurse is talking to their facilities staff leadership. She showed them the new Cleaning for Health DOH guidelines (Rachel created the original) about toxicity. That this conversation is happening is a huge step!
  
2. Carolyn Gleason - (no updates)

3. Marilyn Hair  
Center is awaiting renewal of their 5-year grant. Hosting March meeting. Holding quarterly public health cafes.
4. Dennis Weaver  
CD's for sale blues, jazz, and pop. [www.changeyourfoodchangeyourlife.com](http://www.changeyourfoodchangeyourlife.com)  
Access code:66dy65tfwm Gift card offered.
5. Gretchen Stewart  
Increase in public calls about children's exposure to chemicals from cannabis production. State building code Technical Advisory Group convened, with Dr. Marty Cohen participating. PEHSU, ATSDR, and EPA holding a clinicians boot camp March 31-April 1, 24 spaces available, open to the 4-state EPA region.
6. Steve Gilbert  
[Poster on women peacemakers](#) backed with toxicology milestones. Translating in several languages. Book [Small Dose of Toxicology](#) being translated also.
7. Fran Solomon  
Leading 1 day course February 27 on endocrine disruptors at Bastyr Kenmore campus. Professional level geared towards environmental and healthcare professionals. Help publicize this.
8. Nancy Uding  
Working on state legislation to ban 5 toxic flame retardants from children's products and furniture, and authorize DOH to act further to avoid regrettable substitutions. Chemical industry vigorously opposing. Asks people to contact their state senators.
9. Emily Polstein  
Explained MHE Healthy Home visits and upcoming March Master Home Environmentalist training available (35 hours). MHE visits are mainly available to Seattle residents because of city funding; limited availability outside Seattle.
10. Nancy Bernard  
-Recommends people get on her listserv. See her School Environmental Health Program info [here](#). Subscribe to her [School Environmental Health and Safety Information Listserv](#) to receive timely information. -The Cleaning for Health website is up. -She is writing something elating to fragrances. -Cautions about new products that combine quats and peroxide— bad janitorial injury to eyes has resulted at least once. -Hand sanitizers adding bad ingredients— even hexane! — to address inefficacy against norovirus. -Attended (virtually) excellent workshop on particulate matter; she'll send links to online presentations. -For more info on good home air purifiers that do not generate ozone, see the [CA Air Resources Board](#) info.
11. Gail Gensler  
Reminder: looking for a new administrator for CHE-WA to replace herself within the next few months, 11 months at the longest but likely sooner that she will be unavailable for the function. Will be providing information and marketing for LHWMP, next with Spanish-speaking

organizations. New handout on reading product labels, available for childcare providers and others at [www.hazwastehelp.org](http://www.hazwastehelp.org) [here](#).

12. Megan Dunn

Testified on House Bill 2339 on pesticide-related children's illnesses. Addressing agricultural pesticide drift; there are some interesting statistics about children's exposures. Bill is not succeeding. Working now on a budget proviso to fund related work at WSU.

**Art Chemical Hazards.** Presentation by Dave Waddell

See slides. Main points: many home studios, high and varied exposures to families in addition to artists. Best action is to choose less toxic products; least effective is to rely on PPE (personal protective equipment), although it seems widely but mistakenly believed to be a good choice. See Monona Rossol's book, [The Artist's Complete Health and Safety Guide](#) for much useful advice and information.