

The Air We Breathe
Metro East Air & Health Forum

Friday, October 18, 2013

8:30am-3:00pm

Caseyville Community Center
909 Main Street, Caseyville IL

A collaborative effort to highlight the impacts of air quality on health, while showcasing key organizations in our area that continue to work toward improving regional and local air quality through various sustainability initiatives.

— Organized by —



UNIVERSITY OF ILLINOIS



**METRO EAST
COMMUNITY AIR PROJECT**

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**Madison County Illinois
Madison County Partnership for Community Health**

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Southwestern Illinois Asthma Coalition

**Southern Illinois University Edwardsville
School of Nursing**

St. Louis Regional Clean Air Partnership

St. Clair County Health Department

Special Thanks

Special thanks to the **Caseyville Community Center** and the
Village of Caseyville for the use of their facility.

Agenda

- 8:30-9:00 am** Check-in and Resource Tables
- 9:00-9:15 am** Opening Remarks
- 9:15-10:15 am** Asthma: An Important Public Health Issue
Dr. William Kincaid, MD, MPH
- 10:15-10:25 am** Break - Visit Resource Tables
- 10:25-10:55 am** Ozone Season
Mike Coulson, East West Gateway Council of Government
Kelley Belina, St. Louis University
- 10:50-11:30 am** Vision for Clean Air: A Transportation Perspective
Betsy Tracy, Federal Highway Administration
- 11:30-12:00 am** Care for Air Awards, Susannah Fuchs
- 12:00-12:45 pm** Lunch Pick-up and Visit Resource Tables
- 12:45-1:05 pm** Regional Initiatives & Announcements
- 1:05-2:10 pm** Solar in the Midwest: Local Examples and Opportunities
Melinda Kershaw, Day & Night Solar
Matt Asselmeier, City of Alton
- 2:10-2:50 pm** Radon Risks and Reducing Exposures
Gloria Linnertz, Cancer Survivors Against Radon
- 2:50-3:15 pm** Resource Tables

Speakers

Master of Ceremonies

Barb Hohlt, B.S., L.E.H.P., R.E.H.S.

St. Clair County Health Department, Director of Health Protection

Ms. Barb Hohlt is the Director of Health Protection at the St. Clair County Health Department. She has been with the Department for over 27 years and previously worked at Bond County Health Department from 1984-1986, totaling nearly 30 years of public health experience. Ms. Hohlt holds a Bachelor of Science Degree, is a Licensed Environmental Health Practitioner in the State of Illinois and also Nationally Registered as an Environmental Health Specialist. She is currently South Chapter Vice President of IEHA and appointed member of the Southern Regional Groundwater Protection Committee, currently serving on the St. Clair County Special Advocacy Enterprises (SAVE) Board and the Metro East Parks and Recreation District Board. Ms. Hohlt serves on the Dr. Willard Scrivner Public Health Foundation committee, a Volunteer for Hospice of Southern Illinois and Volunteer for Cystic Fibrosis. In 2011, she was awarded the Phenomenal Woman of Metropolitan St. Louis Award by Racial Harmony, 2012 the Cystic Fibrosis Foundation Volunteer Award and in 2013, Ms. Hohlt was awarded the Illinois Public Health Association Distinguished Service Award.

Keynote Speaker

Dr. William L. Kincaid, MD, MPH

Dr. Kincaid has experience in the St. Louis area as a local health officer, hospital board member, managed care medical director, and founding board member of the St. Louis City Mental Health and Children's Services tax board member. Dr. Kincaid served as a local health officer as the Director of Health for the City of St. Louis from 1989 to 1995. He moved into managed care to become the Executive Director and Medical Director of GenCare MC+, one of Missouri's initial Medicaid Managed Care providers. GenCare was purchased by United HealthCare and he remained with United Healthcare until 2003 as a medical director. He retired in 2003 to devote his time to community activities. He briefly returned to the City of St. Louis Department of Health from November 2005 to February 2007.

Dr. Kincaid possesses a long standing interest in a variety of public policy issues. He is particularly interested in public and private investment in community health and the maintenance of public health infrastructure and systems. Other interests include the

development of health education projects for physicians and consumers and nurturing local community collaboratives that address community needs and special at-risk populations. Dr. Kincaid holds this personal mission statement: To make people better health care consumers, and make children better people.

Dr. Kincaid graduated from Washington University and St. Louis University School of Medicine. He is Board Certified in Internal Medicine and Rheumatology and holds a Master's Degree in Public Health from the University of Texas School of Public Health in Houston. He served in the U. S. Navy Medical Corps from 1972 to 1979.

Speakers

Mike Coulson

Environmental Services Manager, East West Gateway Council of Governments

Since the 1977 amendments to the Clean Air Act, the East-West Gateway Council of Governments has been the lead air quality and transportation planning agency for the St. Louis metropolitan region. Mike Coulson, Environmental Services Manager at East West Gateway Council of Governments will speak to these efforts and the role they play in supporting air quality improvements throughout the Metro area along with opportunities for local government leaders and citizens to participate in the process. Mr. Coulson is also chair of the East-West Gateway Coordinating Council Air Quality Advisory Committee (AQAC). The AQAC has an advisory role to the East-West Gateway Board of Directors and serves as a public forum for discussion and dissemination of information on air quality issues. This Committee is also responsible for the coordination of air quality and transportation planning activities in the region.

Kelley Belina

St. Louis University

Kelley Belina manages the St. Louis Ozone Garden Project based in Saint Louis University's Center for Environmental Sciences. The Ozone Gardens around the St. Louis, MO metro area are public education and outreach exhibits that demonstrate the impact of ground-level ozone (O₃) air pollution on living systems and provide data on O₃ air pollution and O₃ leaf injury in plants. Prior to this position, Kelley led a research and outreach extended-season vegetable production program at the University of Minnesota's Southwest Research and Outreach Center. She has also worked in wine grape production research for the USDA-ARS in California, and in gardening and nutrition education in Guatemala. Kelley is originally from Minneapolis, MN and received a Master of Science degree in Agronomy and Plant Genetics from the University of Minnesota, Twin Cities, and Bachelor of Science degrees in Botany and Conservation Biology from the University of Wisconsin, Madison.

Betsy Tracy

Transportation Planning Specialist, Federal Highway Administration

Betsy Tracy is employed by the Federal Highway Administration Illinois Division as a Transportation Planning Specialist, and has held that position since early 2010. As a Transportation Planning Specialist for the Illinois Division, she oversees all transportation planning and air quality activities for the East West Gateway Metropolitan Planning Organization (MPO) for the Saint Louis area, as well as the planning activities for the Peoria, Quad Cities, East Dubuque, Champaign, Danville, Carbondale and Cape Girardeau metropolitan areas.

In addition to working with MPOs, Ms. Tracy is the Division point person for Functional Classification and Urban Boundary Changes, Strategic Highway System Changes, Motor Fuel Tax Reporting, Congestion Mitigation Air Quality for the Saint Louis area, and Climate Change issues. Ms. Tracy serves on several MPO regional Air Quality Task Forces including St. Louis, Peoria and the Quad Cities.

Prior to working for FHWA, Ms. Tracy served as an Air Quality Specialist with the Illinois Department of Transportation. She also managed the Illinois Vehicle Emission Test Program and was responsible for Air Quality Education and Outreach activities for the Illinois Environmental Protection Agency.

Susannah Fuchs

Lead Coordinator, St. Louis Regional Clean Air Partnership

Susannah Fuchs works for the American Lung Association for 15 years. She works on the fight for air, focusing on indoor and outdoor air pollution issues for the St. Louis metro area and in eight other states in the Plains-Gulf region. Ms. Fuchs is also lead coordinator of the St. Louis Regional Clean Air Partnership (SLRCAP), which works to increase awareness of regional air quality issues and to encourage activities to reduce air pollution emissions. SLRCAP operates as a public-private partnership consisting of 1,500+ area businesses, organizations, schools, hospitals and government agencies that are currently working with The Partnership to aid in this mission. For more information on the St. Louis Regional Clean Air Partnership go to www.cleanair-stlouis.com.

Melinda Kershaw

Day & Night Solar

Melinda Kershaw is currently the Director of Marketing at Day & Night Solar, LLC. The business grew to be a national resource to the Fortune 1000 and was recognized as one

of the fastest growing integrators nationally. Day & Night Solar assists our multitude of national accounts from coast to coast including Hawaii.

Ms. Kershaw holds over 25 years of experience in sales, marketing, and operational management. Her key focus has been business development, targeting sales and operational infrastructure for emerging technologies. Now, she is working on development and production of pultruded composite solution for the energy industry. Ms. Kershaw lectures nationally to utility providers, architectural and engineering firms, home builders and construction companies, business chambers & trade associations, and is often a featured presenter at many national, energy trade shows, conventions and seminars. She is also the National representative for Habitat for Humanity, an ECB Network Member with Bayer Material Science, and actively participates in the National Electrical Contractors Association Women's Peer Group, and is a Certified Installer for Ygrene Energy Fund.

Summary of Previous Positions:

Facilities and Operations Management with top 10 Fortune 500 financial conglomerates (Citigroup); one of the largest system integrators (Worldwide Technologies Inc.); one of the largest information management firms (Anacomp Inc).

Matt Asselmeier
City of Alton

Matt Asselmeier is currently the Deputy Director of Development and Housing for the City of Alton. Previously he served as Associate Director of Public Relations/ City Council Liaison for the City of Alton, Illinois from 2009-2013. Mr. Asselmeier is responsible for all special use permit applications and zoning text amendment requests. He serves as the ADA Coordinator for the City.

Mr. Asselmeier served as the Economic Development Planner for the Village of Godfrey, Illinois from 2006-2009. His duties included updating the Village's Comprehensive Plan, business retention and expansion activities, among other responsibilities. From 2004-2006, Mr. Asselmeier worked as a Planner for Jefferson County, Missouri. He wrote Jefferson County's first Analysis of Housing Impediments Study and Barriers to Affordable Housing Study. Mr. Asselmeier also worked as a consultant to the City of Waterloo, Illinois, assisting them in updating their Comprehensive Plan.

Holding a bachelor's degree from Southern Illinois University Edwardsville (SIUE), Mr. Asselmeier earned a Master of Public Administration degree from SIUE. He is a member of the American Planning Association, (including the Illinois Chapter and St. Louis Metro Section), the American Institute of Certified Planners, the Illinois Development Council, and the Rotary of the Riverbend.

Gloria Linnertz
Cancer Survivors Against Radon (CanSAR)

Gloria Linnertz is a Radon Advocate and the Vice President of Cancer Survivors Against Radon (CanSAR). In 2005, her husband was diagnosed with lung cancer, and the oncologist told them radon was a known cause. Her husband Joe died 6 weeks after his diagnosis. One month later, she discovered they had been living with high levels of radon for 18 years. Since the death of her husband, Ms. Linnertz devotes her life educating others on the dangers of radioactive radon gas. She works to reduce exposures to radioactive particles in homes, schools, and work environments by reaching out to everyone including the general public, professionals, community groups, medical students, and all levels of government and policy makers.

Over the past six years, Ms. Linnertz worked closely with individuals who were diagnosed with cancer due to exposure of high levels of radioactive radon gas. She worked to reorganize CanSAR into a 501C3 nonprofit organization in 2010 and continues efforts to influence legislative action in Illinois and other states, while increasing radon awareness, acceptance, and action. Ms. Linnertz was elected to the AARST board for three 2-year terms. She continues to present at numerous conferences and home shows. For the last five years, she has participated in the Radon Leaders Saving Lives booth at the National Conference of State Legislators. Ms. Linnertz holds a Bachelor of Science from Western Kentucky University and a Master of Science from Southern Illinois University Carbondale.

Partner Organizations & Agencies

Our mission is to promote, protect, and assure conditions for optimal health through leadership, partnership, prevention and response.

In March 2011, the 2011-2016 Madison County Health Needs Assessment and Community Health Plan was adopted by the Madison County Board of Health as the support and roadmap for Madison County Health Priorities to be addressed as an entire community over the next 5 years.



The 2011-2016 Madison County Health Priorities include: Obesity, Teen Pregnancy, Mental Health, Substance Use and Abuse, and Air Quality/Environment. Madison County Partnership for Community Health (MCPCH) forms committees based on each health priority area for collaboration on larger efforts to impact these health concerns.

MCPCH Air Quality Committee plays a key leadership role in coordinating efforts and strengthening collaboration as they implement the community health plan. For information on the assessment data and community health plan for Air Quality, visit www.madisonchd.org and click on the link 2011-2016 Madison County Health Needs Assessment Community Health Plan.

Madison County Sustainability

Madison County is currently working on a County Sustainability Plan. The purpose of the Madison County Sustainability Plan is to formulate a strategic process that promotes the education of officials, residents, and businesses to create more livable communities, preserve or restore the local habitat, and improve human well-being.



The plan will assess a framework of sustainability in Madison County, determine a valid structure for future efforts, and implement methods to improve and measure impacts. An integrative approach with a strong public engagement process will ensure that the plan achieves social equity, accommodates for financial opportunities, and maintains ecological integrity. The elective objectives set forth will aid and act as a reference for local governments, residents, and businesses in achieving a more sustainable development course in their long-term vision for Madison County. For more information contact Leah Dettmers at 618.692.7040 or lddettmers@co.madison.il.us.

Memorial Hospital

THE CLEAN AIR HOTLINE 618-257-6265

Providing exceptional health care and compassionate service. Local air quality can change from day to day. To help the public better understand local health risks associated with poor air quality, the EPA has established the Air Quality Index. The elderly, young children and people with heart and lung diseases are at greater risk. Metro East residents can call THE CLEAN AIR HOTLINE for daily reports on the air quality in the Metro area. The hotline is a collaborative effort between Memorial Hospital and the St. Clair County Health Department.



Metro East Community Air Project

A Community-Based Initiative to Protect Healthy Living

The Metro East Community Air Project (MECAP) is part of Action Research ILLINOIS, a community engagement program within the College of Fine and Applied Arts at the University of Illinois at Urbana-Champaign. MECAP aims to promote community-based efforts to address air pollution and health through community engagement, education programs and air monitoring research throughout the Metro East. This community oriented project will focus on drawing awareness at the neighborhood level to the health risks associated with air pollution, while providing community with the tools to address local air quality and public health concerns.



To find out more about this project, contact Amy Funk at amyfunk@illinois.edu or 618-514-7854. Visit us at www.meairproject.org.

St. Clair County Health Department

The St. Clair County Health Department, established in 1986 by the St. Clair County Board, is charged with carrying out basic health protection and disease prevention services, as well as serving as a resource to work collaboratively with health providers, community organizations, and the public. Our mission is to prevent disease, promote healthy lifestyles and protect the health of the people we serve.



The St. Clair County Health Department along with Memorial Hospital, the American Lung Association and KMOV-TV Channel 4 jointly bring the residents of St. Clair County a daily OZONE HOTLINE. The telephone number for the hotline is (618) 257-6265. St. Clair County Health Department also reports the Air Quality forecast to its Ozone Alert Partners via Email, Fax & Social Media.

Ozone air pollution is formed when emissions from motor vehicles, power plants, industrial solvents and other sources react together in hot, sunny weather. Ozone has been linked to crop damage; and is a pulmonary irritant that affects the respiratory mucous membranes, chest tightness, coughing, wheezing, irritation to the eyes and throat and even headache or nausea. Long term exposure to ozone can result in reduced resistance to infection and reductions in lung function.

For questions about the Ozone Hotline or to join the Ozone Alert Partners contact the St. Clair County Health Department Environmental Protection Division at (618) 233-7769 or email the Environmental Protection Manager at Kristy.Mullins@co.st-clair.il.us.

Visit us at: www.health.co.st-clair.il.us or contact us by phone at 618-233-7769.

RideFinders

RideFinders is the regional rideshare program, operated by Madison County Transit since 1994 to improve air quality and reduce traffic congestion in the nine-county St. Louis region.

RideFinders fulfills this mission by providing a free ridematching service to help commuters carpool or vanpool, partnering with employers, local municipalities, higher education post-secondary, tertiary, or third level education to promote the program to their employees, residents and students. RideFinders also offers a FREE SchoolPool program to help parents of K-12 students carpool, develop a walking school bus or bike train to school. Madison County Transit operates RideFinders as a free public service through funding from the Federal Highway Administration of the U.S. Department of Transportation.



Email: ridefinders@mct.org

Phone: (800) 847-7433 (800-VIP-RIDE)

Visit us at www.ridefinders.org

St. Louis Regional Clean Air Partnership

ST. LOUIS REGIONAL
CLEAN AIR
PARTNERSHIP

Since it debuted in 1995, the St. Louis Regional Clean Air Partnership has held steadfast to its mission:

to increase awareness of regional air quality issues and to encourage activities to reduce air pollution emissions. Operating as a public-private partnership, 1,500+ area businesses, organizations, schools, hospitals and government agencies are currently working with The Partnership to aid in this mission.

The St. Louis Regional Clean Air Partnership

<http://www.cleanair-stlouis.com/about-us.html>

(314) 645-5505 ext. 1007.

Mailing Address:

St. Louis Regional Clean Air Partnership

1118 Hampton Avenue

St. Louis, MO 63139

SIUE School of Nursing

The SIUE School of Nursing strives to create a dynamic learning environment that prepares students for a fast-paced, rapidly evolving career

in health care. The School's fully accredited programs are committed to creating excellence in nursing leadership through innovative teaching, quality research, community service and compassionate care in this diverse and complex world.

SOUTHERN ILLINOIS UNIVERSITY
EDWARDSVILLE
SCHOOL OF NURSING

Students experience nursing through learning in active classroom settings, in a high technology simulation laboratory and in clinical agencies in the metro St. Louis area. One-on-one mentoring ensures the preparedness necessary to advance successful nursing careers.

For more information visit: <http://www.siue.edu/nursing/>

Southwestern Illinois Asthma Coalition

The Mission of the Southwestern Illinois Asthma Coalition is to improve the quality of life for people with asthma, whether they are in a home, school, or workplace environment. We seek to discover how to solve various problems associated with asthma for children, adults, and older adults who have asthma. Coalition members represent a variety of local health care agencies and community organizations. In addition, individual asthma champions work to ensure healthy environments in schools and communities. Contact Rhonda W. Comrie, PhD., R.N., SIUE School of Nursing, Coordinator of SIAC
Email: rcomrie@siue.edu - Phone: 618-650-3935
Website: <http://www.illinoisasthma.org/southwestern-illinois>



HeartLands Conservancy

HeartLands Conservancy is a nonprofit organization that works in partnership with landowners and community leaders to permanently protect the lands that we value in Southwestern Illinois -the farms, forests, wetlands, wildlife habitat, open spaces, and scenic vistas. We are dedicated to our mission of advancing the conservation of our environmental resources to ensure a sustainable quality of life through our two program areas of conservation of open space and fostering livable and sustainable communities. Through our program area of Conservation of Open Space HeartLands Conservancy holds conservation easements, accepts land donations, promotes partnerships, and fosters innovative land conservation techniques to protect farmland and other natural areas. We also provide strategic leadership that contributes to a healthy and sustainable future for our communities.



Through our program area of Building Greener Communities HeartLands Conservancy is committed to assisting the communities of southwestern Illinois in protecting their environmental resources. We believe that innovative planning, prior to development, can lead to healthier and more sustainable communities in the future. Assistance may be in the form of planning, (watershed/natural resources, bicycle – pedestrian, parks and recreation, and green site design), GIS mapping and analysis, green ordinance development, grant development and management, and public engagement on resource-based issues. Our website is www.HeartLandsConservancy.org.

Air & Health Forum Planning Committee

Laura Barton, RideFinders

Janet Burnett, Nature Preserve Foundation

Rhonda Comrie, SIUE School of Nursing

Mary Cooper, Madison County Health Dept.

Leah Dettmers, Madison County

Susannah Fuchs, St. Louis Regional Clean Air Partnership

Amy Funk, University of Illinois

Barb Hohlt, St. Clair County Health Department

Jennifer Meyer, St. Clair County Health Department

Scott Pursell, Madison County Health Dept.

Megan Riechmann, HeartLands Conservancy

Shirley Schultz, Memorial Hospital

Paul Williams, RideFinders

Resource Tables

Asthma & Allergy Foundation of America-St Louis Chapter

Cool Cities, Piasa Palisades Group of the Sierra Club

Day & Night Solar

Emerson Park Development Corporation

Get Up & Go!

HeartLands Conservancy

Madison County Health Department

Memorial Hospital

Metro East Community Air Project

Metro East Park & Recreation District

OneSTL-Regional Plan for Sustainability

RideFinders

Southern Illinois University Edwardsville, School of Nursing

Southwestern Illinois Asthma Coalition

Southern Regional Groundwater Protection Planning Committee

St Louis Regional Clean Air Partnership

St. Clair County Health Department

St. Louis Clean Cities

US Green Building Council-Missouri Gateway Chapter

