

Learning Laboratory Session Descriptions

National Environmental Health Association (NEHA)
72nd Annual Educational Conference & Exhibition

Drinking Water Quality

Tuesday, June 24

8:00 – 9:30am

Well Drilling and Private Water Wells: Answers to Your Public Health Questions Regarding Well Placement, Product Use, Management and Geothermal Loop Systems

Russell Tell, Iowa Dept. of Natural Resources, IA

This learning laboratory session will provide a hands-on look at the common products used in the construction of a water supply wells and ground coupled geothermal heat exchange loops, and how they relate to public health. The participants will have a chance to view/handle various well-related components and participate in a forum regarding well/water system installations. There will be opportunities for a wide range discussion on the subject of water supply wells along with a Q&A session for the participants.

Food Safety and Protection

Tuesday, June 24

8:00 – 8:50am

1:30 – 2:20pm

9:30 – 10:20am

3:00 – 3:50pm

11:00 – 11:50am

4:30 – 5:20pm

Food Safety Training & Education Needs?: Speak Up!

With inspections dominating the day, how does one find the time and resources for educating and communicating with operators? Educating foodservice operators and staff has become an important part of health department objectives, but financial resources are tight and time is tighter. The Retail-Foodservice Food Safety Consortium (RFSC) and NEHA want to help. This "listening session" will allow you to express your food safety training and education needs so that NEHA and the RFSC can help. Come pool your resources, learn from others, and find existing food safety resources.

General Environmental Health

Tuesday, June 24

8:00 – 8:50am

Stories from the Field: Impromptu Stories from the “Small Wares: How to Tell a Memorable Story” Session

We don't know who will be presenting, but at the end of the Small Wares session on Monday, several of the participants will be chosen to share their newly-learned skills and tell their stories. The Learning Laboratory is all about acquiring skills that can be used immediately, and what better way to showcase this than through this session!

9:30 – 10:20am

Pecha Kucha: A Different Presentation Format—Experiment #2

Please see the conference addendum for a list of this session's presentations and speakers.

Who says there's only one way to give a PowerPoint presentation? The Japanese have proved this wrong through the creation of a new presentation format called Pecha Kucha (which means “chatter” in Japanese). This 20-slides-with-just-20-seconds-per slide format delivers content in a quick and succinct way, and only last six minutes and 40 seconds! You don't want to miss this format debut and see if the presenters can keep up. After the presentations, attendees will then have the opportunity to sit down with presenters to ask questions and get more in-depth information.

9:30 – 11:30am

Inspector Idol

From Atlanta to Zanesville, Chicago to LA—health inspectors are in the news! Inspector Idol is a fun, interactive session that will teach you how to deal with reporters and the ever-growing media spotlight on health inspections. Participants will face an on-camera interview where they'll be evaluated by a panel of experts. All attendees will receive information and tools (like a custom-produced DVD) to assist them in knowing what reporters are looking for, what's the best way to answer questions about inspection results, and what's the *wrong* way to deal with reporters.

11:00 – 11:50am

Don't Ever Do This!—Session #2

They say we learn from our mistakes...why not learn from the mistakes of your colleagues from across the country. For this session, the attendee becomes the expert and presenter. Attendees are encouraged to share stories of their unsuccessful moments for the benefit of the others in attendance. Learn what hasn't worked, avoid the same pitfalls, and possibly come up with solutions that could work.

1:30 – 2:20pm

Inspector Idol Rewind

This session will wrap-up some of the best things attendees have learned during the Inspector Idol sessions. With all the information, tools, and tips provided, attendees should be ready to go home and use their new-found skills in their day-to-day jobs.

1:30 – 2:20pm

Addressing Community Concerns with Facilitative Methods

Twyla Z. Benally, RS, MPH, Service Unit Sanitarian, IHS, NM

In 2004, following the death of nine people along a rural, nine-mile stretch of road, a cry from the community was heard. In an amalgamation of epidemiologic and facilitative methods, the community rallied. In this session, participants will learn the basics of these group facilitation methods and will learn how to apply them to their jurisdictions.

3:00 – 3:50pm

Designing Public Health Messages

LCDR Richard E. Skaggs, Jr., RS, District Injury Prevention Specialist, USPHS, IHS, NM

In three seconds, your audience will decide if they are going to stop, look, and read your public health advertisement. Will your media message get their attention? How do public health messages compete with other media messages? If your message is not competitive, your public health campaign may not achieve the goals that you set. In this session, you will learn one method in the design of media messages that counter public health vices. Attendees will work in groups to design a public health poster.

4:30 – 5:20pm

Environmental Health Applications and Diversity of Haddon's Matrix

Tish Ramirez, RS, MPH, District Sanitarian, IHS, NM

Behavior and education are usually the primary go-to's for resolution of environmental health concerns and the mainstays of environmental health campaigns. Expand your horizon for solutions utilizing Haddon's Matrix. Learn methods of brainstorming so that you can expand upon environment change and you don't have to rely upon selling the public on a behavioral change. In a group, attendees will apply Haddon's Matrix to environmental health concerns they bring to the table.

4:30 – 5:20pm

Discussion Session: Regulating the Body Art Industry—The Challenges Regulators Face

Gina M. Vallone Hood, Environmental Manager, Florida Dept. of Health, FL

Body art is a growing industry, from basic tattoos and body piercings to extreme body art, such as suspension, implantation, tongue splitting, labia reduction, and dermal punching. Regulators across the country face challenges as they regulate body art. In this discussion session, attendees will have the opportunity to share their challenges and solutions, which will benefit all in attendance. Come join in on this interactive session that will be facilitated by an expert in the regulation of body art in Florida.

4:30 – 5:20pm

Stories from the Field: Experience NEHA's 2007 Sabbatical Exchange

Dixie Fullerton, CP-FS, EH Specialist, Cerro Gordo County Dept. of Public Health, IA

It's time to take a trip across the pond! Dixie Fullerton, NEHA's 2007 Sabbatical Exchange Award winner, will share with attendees her stories and experiences from her sabbatical that took her to England in October 2007. Attendees will embark upon an audio and visual journey that will

highlight the differences and similarities between health inspections and regulations in the U.S. and U.K.

Hazardous Materials and Toxic Substances

Tuesday, June 24

9:30am – 11:30am

Helping Communities Combat Clandestine Methamphetamine Laboratories: A Hands-On Exercise

Eleanor Dixon-Terry, MPH, CHES, Assistant Executive Director, Society for Public Health Education, Washington, DC

The illegal manufacture of Methamphetamine (Meth) in the U.S. is a serious public health concern. The Society for Public Health Education (SOPHE) has developed a toolkit for health professionals, which can be used to raise awareness of the dangers of Meth and respond within local communities. Attendees in this hands-on session will receive an introduction to the toolkit, and respond to the increasing Meth threats in a hypothetical community by applying various problem-solving skills in small group exercises.

Onsite Wastewater Systems

Tuesday, June 24

1:30 – 3:30pm

Onsite Wastewater Systems Panel Discussion

Panelists:

Joyce Hudson, Environmental Engineer, Decentralized Program Manager, EPA, Washington, DC

Daniel Olson, RS, Senior EH Specialist, Iowa Dept. of Natural Resources, IA

Bruce J. Lesikar, MS, PhD, PE, Associate Professor, Extension Specialist, Associate Dept. Head and Extension Program Leader, Texas A & M University, TX

Richard J. Otis, PhD, PE, DEE, Senior Association, Ayres Associates, WI

Anthony Smithson, MS, RS, EH Director, Lake County Health Dept., IL

A panel of onsite wastewater experts will lead a discussion on several of the top issues, as identified by attendees that are occurring in this field. Possible solutions will also be discussed so that attendees will leave the roundtable discussion with tools and ideas to implement in their programs when they get back to the office.

Sustainability

Tuesday, June 24

11:00 – 11:50am

We Are in a Draught! Steps to Conserve Water in Your Community

LTJG James Speckhart, MS, MLCPAC–Safety & Environmental Health, U.S. Coast Guard, AK

Attendees will engage in active learning regarding practical steps they can take to conserve water in and around their communities. Scenario questions will be presented in small groups for creative problem solving. Come prepared to be challenged and share ideas with others.

Vector Control and Zoonotic Diseases

Tuesday, June 24

3:00 – 3:50pm

Building a Better Rat Trap: Developing a Rodent Control Program

Mario Merlino, MS, MPH, Environmental Surveillance and Planning Director, New York City Dept. of Health, NY

Learn about the efforts undertaken by the New York City's Department of Health and Mental Hygiene on how to build a more effective rodent control program. Attendees will then apply this knowledge in several group exercises to create, supplement, or improve upon their own jurisdiction's rodent control program.