

Discussion Guide

Introductions...your name, your county, organization and role, and any initial thoughts about the adaptation project you would like to focus on today.

For county rooms: Please Identify a recorder who will be responsible for completing the “report out” Google Slide at the end of your session. You may also find it helpful to have a facilitator and/or note-taker.

Use the following questions as a guide to discuss your adaptation activity, partners and next steps.

1. Discuss the shared focus in your room
 - a. Please take a few moments to discuss the climate and health adaptation(s) of interest among your group. ****see suggestions at end for examples of adaptations**
 - b. What climate and health adaptation(s) are a priority for you and your partners?
 - c. Are you expanding/progressing on an existing activity or starting something new?
 - If you are expanding/progressing on an existing activity, what accomplishments should be noted that have already made a difference?
 - d. Is this an ongoing, intermittent, seasonal, etc. issue?
2. Partnerships **** see examples at end for examples of partners**
 - a. Are there existing LHD programs, that are **currently** involved in some way on this issue and could be leveraged for progress?
 - b. Who are the external partners, perhaps beyond those in the room, that are *currently* involved in some way on this issue?
 - c. What other partners in the community, who may *not currently* be involved, could or should be involved moving forward?
3. Opportunities and Challenges
 - a. What strengths do you possess to address this issue?
 - b. What challenges do you face to address this issue?
 - c. What are practical next steps? Please think of this in terms of what can be done with existing resources.
 - d. What will require additional funding or state-level technical assistance?

When you get the “10-minute notification” from workshop organizers, the recorder should access the Google Slide and answer these questions:

- What climate adaptation activity/activities did your group focus on?
- Who are your partners for this activity?
- What are your next steps?
- What kind of assistance/support do you need?

****Examples of climate and health adaptations for complete streets, climate smart communities and environmental improvements**

Environmental Improvements/Enhance community resilience

- Conduct a climate hazard/vulnerability assessment
- Develop a heat response plan which can include shade structures and cooling centers
- Develop a flooding response plan which can include watershed-based flood mitigation, flood maps, source water protection, audible flood warning systems, property restoration for flood protection, culvert and drainage improvements, and refrigerated sheds for food recovery
- Develop an outreach and education plan which can include public events, website improvements, social media, and enhancing existing door-to-door programs
- Promote private well testing and maintaining private wells, in flood zones or other areas prone to flooding
- Ensure that community water infrastructure is hardened against possible flooding
- Convene discussions with community water system operators and other stakeholders to discuss and coordinate on steps to reduce the risks of HABs.

Possible partners: University researchers, planning departments, county emergency coordinators, environmental protection, Cornell Cooperative Extension, local weather reporters, etc.

Complete Streets/Smart Growth/Encourage Walking, Exercise and Green Spaces

- Create a pedestrian and bicycle master plan which can include dedicated bike lanes, expanded/connected bike trail networks, new sidewalks, sidewalk extensions and marked pedestrian crossings and multi-use paths
- Increase access to public transportation, especially to enhance service to disadvantaged communities

Possible partners: County, Town or Village departments of planning, transportation, fire and rescue, environmental protection, disability services and advocacy organizations, LHD Chronic Disease/Injury Prevention/Nutrition programs, etc.

Climate Smart Communities

- Convene or participate in meetings with local government and other partners to develop a list of projects that could be funded via CSC grants; from an LHD perspective, consider how to integrate priority climate and health adaptations into this work (note that the following bullets include projects that have public health relevance).
- Create dedicated bike lanes or expand/connect existing bike trail networks
- Add sidewalks and marked pedestrian crossings
- Increase access to public transportation, especially to enhance service to disadvantaged communities
- Add trees, shady spots and pocket gardens
- Develop plans for opening cooling/warming centers
- Conduct a climate and health related (e.g., heat, flooding) vulnerability assessment

Possible partners: County, Town or Village departments of planning, transportation, fire and rescue, environmental protection, Cornell Cooperative Extension, LHD Chronic Disease/Injury Prevention/Nutrition programs, etc.