



Michigan Association of Local Environmental Health Administrators MALEHA

Representing Local Environmental Public Health Departments in Michigan

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Forum Report May 2019

For May, MALEHA's top three priorities remain the statewide onsite sewage disposal code, cannabis products as they intersects local health department programs and updates to the food law/food code. There are two additional areas I want to cover, including our new meeting location and PFAS foam messaging.

Statewide Onsite Sewage Disposal Workgroup: This joint group between MALPH and MALEHA meet on May 2 and will report out at our May forum meeting. They are reviewing and finalizing the core principles document and will have it for our review and a vote on Thursday.

Cannabis Workgroup: This group, comprised of members of LARA, MDHHS, MALEHA and MDARD met in May and will continue to have quarterly meetings to discuss items and build relationships.

Food Code/Food Law: MDARD will be hosting a large group meeting for the stakeholders on Friday May 31. I'm still waiting for more information on the agenda. I plan to attend.

On Thursday May 9, MDHHS held a PFAS foam phone call. This was to address messaging around foam that is found on surface water lakes and rivers that may or may not contain PFAS. MDHHS will be putting out a press release, reorganizing the information on the MPART website and is recommending that people "avoid all foam". This is a different message than last year's "do not eat the foam". To be clear, the water under the foam is not the problem, but that the foam has been found to concentrate the PFAS.

Finally, we had positive feedback on our new meeting location at the Michigan Nature Association at 2310 Science Parkway. We will continue to meet at this new location at a significantly reduced cost to our organization.

Respectfully Submitted,
Kristen Schweighoefer, May 14, 2019