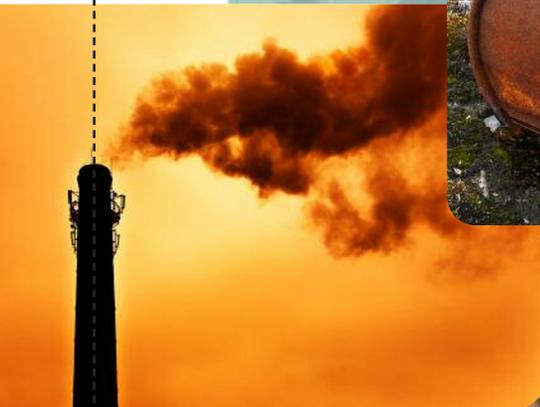


**NATIONAL
CONVERSATION
ON PUBLIC HEALTH
AND CHEMICAL
EXPOSURES**



**CHEMICAL
EXPOSURES:**

**Community
ideas for
safeguarding
health**

Community Conversation
TOOLKIT

The National Conversation on Public Health and Chemical Exposures is a 2-year project to create a national action agenda for strengthening the United States' approach to protecting the public from harmful chemical exposures. The Centers for Disease Control and Prevention and Agency for Toxic Substances and Disease Registry are project sponsors.

National Conversation partners have developed this Community Conversation Toolkit to assist community leaders in hosting local meetings to gather input on public health and chemical exposure issues. We are seeking people interested in hosting a community conversation between April and June of 2010.

This Toolkit includes:

- Outreach tips for recruiting participants
- Instructions for hosting and guiding a community conversation
- A brief background paper on the issue of public health and chemical exposures
- A discussion guide to prompt conversations, and
- Instructions and materials for providing the *National Conversation* team a summary of the conversation's major outcomes

Who should host a community conversation?

Community leaders, health department officials, business leaders, members of faith-based groups, neighborhood associations, and anyone else with an interest in environmental or public health issues can use the toolkit to host a community conversation.

You do not need to be an expert. The *National Conversation* team wants input from anyone with a personal and/or professional interest in environmental or public health issues.

How will the community conversations be used?

Summarized community conversation results will appear on a public Web site and a report. The summaries will contribute to the overall *National Conversation* process.

Thank you for your interest in holding a community conversation! We value your contribution to this project and look forward to hearing your ideas. If you have questions about this toolkit, please email nationalconversation@cdc.gov.

Sincerely,



Nsedu Obot Witherspoon
Co-Chair, Leadership Council
National Conversation on Public Health and Chemical Exposures